



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

**This privacy statement provides information about
the processing and the protection of your personal data.**

Processing operation: *Interactive Web Tool – European Maritime Policy Forum*

Data Controller: *European Commission, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries,
Unit A1*

Record reference: *DPR-EC-03710.1*

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1. Introduction

The European Commission (hereafter ‘the Commission’) is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1725](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data (repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001).

This privacy statement explains the reason for the processing of your personal data, the way we collect, handle and ensure protection of all personal data provided, how that information is used and what rights you have in relation to your personal data. It also specifies the contact details of the responsible Data Controller with whom you may exercise your rights, the Data Protection Officer and the European Data Protection Supervisor.

The information in relation to processing operation “*Interactive web tool – European Maritime Policy Forum*” undertaken by *services of the European Commission DG MARE unit A1 or authorised administrators of communities that you may belong to* is presented below. A community is a subset of stakeholders who wish to communicate amongst themselves on a specific topic.

2. Why and how do we process your personal data?

Purpose of the processing operation: services of the European Commission DG MARE unit A1 or authorised administrators of communities that you may belong to collect and use your personal information to allow

- 1) stakeholder groups to communicate with each other and to disseminate their views.
- 2) other stakeholders to comment on EU maritime policy or on the output of the stakeholder groups.

The individual's personal data is only be used for legitimate reasons, i.e. to manage memberships or to contact members of the Interest Groups. Interest Group Members may subscribe or unsubscribe to messages from their Group.

The username, name, e-mail address and password are stored in the Commission's ECAS system. This is connected through a look-up table to the Maritime Forum. This links the user with the interest groups to which he or she belongs in databases hosted in DIGIT data centre.

Visitors to the Maritime Forum have the possibility to send questions or observations via a feedback form to communities that use this function. The e-mail goes only to the person who is designated to make the reply. The questioner provides an e-mail address for the purposes of receiving the reply. This e-mail is used only for the purposes of making the reply and not retained afterwards. Your personal data will not be used for an automated decision-making including profiling.

3. On what legal ground(s) do we process your personal data

Communications within the Maritime Forum are necessary for the management and functioning of the Commission, as mandated by the treaties, and more specifically Article 5 of TEU, Article 13 TEU and Articles 244-250 TFEU, and in accordance with Article 1 and Article 11 of TEU. These processing operations are necessary for collecting the views of stakeholders or the public at large in developing new or existing policies and for the implementation of the successive Work Programmes of the Directorate General for Maritime and Fisheries Affairs.

Public consultation contributes to regulatory quality and transparency and increases the involvement of stakeholders and the public at large in the frame of better regulation.

Consequently, those processing operations are lawful under Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the Union institution or body).

Your consent is required for the processing of your data when you publish on the forum your articles or comments.

Your consent for these services can be withdrawn at any time.

Consequently, those processing operations are lawful under Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (the data subject has given consent to the processing of his or her personal data for one or more specific purposes).

4. Which personal data do we collect and further process?

In order to carry out this processing operation the services of the European Commission DG MARE unit A1 collect the following categories of personal data:

- name,
- photograph (if user wishes)
- user name and interest groups to which user belongs
- e-mail address (only visible by the system administrators).

5. How long do we keep your personal data?

No personal data are stored permanently within the Forum. The only exception is the contributor's name, which remains attached to content or comments provided through the web. The contributor gives consent prior to posting a content or comments on the Maritime Forum. These posts can be deleted at any time by the site administrator upon request of the contributor.

Personal data entered into the ECAS (European Commission Authentication System) are covered by the data protection policy of that system.

Names are kept with the articles and comments and are visible for logged-in members of the same community until the consent of author of the article or comment is withdrawn. In that case the article or comment is deleted.

6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal data?

All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data, etc.) are stored on the servers of the European Commission. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to the [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2017/46](#) of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission.

The Commission's contractors are bound by a specific contractual clause for any processing operations of your data on behalf of the Commission, and by the confidentiality obligations deriving from the transposition of the General Data Protection Regulation in the EU Member States ('GDPR' [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/679](#).)

In order to protect your personal data, the Commission has put in place a number of technical and organisational measures. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online

security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorised access, taking into consideration the risk presented by the processing and the nature of the personal data being processed. Organisational measures include restricting access to the personal data solely to authorised persons with a legitimate need to know for the purposes of this processing operation.

7. Who has access to your personal data and to whom is it disclosed?

Access to your personal data is provided to the Commission staff responsible for carrying out this processing operation and to authorised staff according to the “need to know” principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements.

Persons can see all their personal data when logged in.

Logged-in members in a community can see the name of content providers of their community alongside any content that they have provided. Logged-in members in other groups and public can see name or provider alongside any content that has been provided as open access. Outside ECAS, the only people who have access to personal data for maintenance purposes are the system administrators. These are external contractors whose contracts include data protection clauses.

Members of Maritime Forum communities may be official of Commission or externals.

8. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?

You have specific rights as a ‘data subject’ under Chapter III (Articles 14-25) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, in particular the right to access, your personal data and to rectify them in case your personal data are inaccurate or incomplete. Where applicable, you have the right to erase your personal data, to restrict the processing of your personal data, to object to the processing, and the right to data portability.

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller, or in case of conflict the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you can also address the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is given under Heading 9 below.

Where you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please provide their description (i.e. their Record reference(s) as specified under Heading 10 below) in your request.

9. Contact information

- The Data Controller

If you would like to exercise your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if you have comments, questions or concerns, or if you would like to submit a complaint regarding the collection and use of your personal data, please feel free to contact the Data Controller, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and fisheries, Unit A1 (mare-a1@ec.europa.eu).

- The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu) with regard to issues related to the processing of your personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

- **The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)**

You have the right to have recourse (i.e. you can lodge a complaint) to the European Data Protection Supervisor edps@edps.europa.eu if you consider that your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the Data Controller.

10. Where to find more detailed information?

The Commission Data Protection Officer (DPO) publishes the register of all processing operations on personal data by the Commission, which have been documented and notified to him. You may access the register via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register>.

This specific processing operation has been included in the DPO's public register with the following Record reference: DPR-EC-03710.1.