



Privacy statement regarding the EIT Awards

The personal data of the nominees for the EIT Awards are processed in line with Regulation (EU) N° 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 Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data¹ ("Data Protection Regulation of the European institutions").

What is personal data and what is a personal data processing operation?

Personal data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ("data subject"). An identifiable person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, and identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.

Processing means any operation or set of operations which is performed on personal data or on sets of personal data, whether or not by automatic means, such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction.

Who is the controller of the data collection?

The data controller, performing the personal data processing operation is the Head of Strategy and Impact Unit responsible for the [EIT Awards](#).

Who are the data subjects?

All the nominees who have submitted an application for the EIT Awards (i.e. EIT CHANGE Award, EIT INNOVATORS Award, EIT VENTURE Award, EIT WOMAN Award, EIT PUBLIC Award).

¹ 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, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002 (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39)

The data subjects in the framework of the EIT PUBLIC Award voting are also all the persons who take part in the online voting and the voting at the venue of the INNOVEIT event.

What is the purpose of the personal data collection?

The purpose is the assessment of the nominations for the EIT Awards and awarding of the prizes, including the awarding of the EIT PUBLIC Award.

What types of personal data are processed?

Within the context of the EIT Awards, the following types of personal data are processed:

- in relation to the nominees: name; date and place of birth; gender; address; contact details; website and social media profiles (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn); nationality; data related to the identity document (number, issuing country), data related to education and prior employment; innovations and achievements; photo and video of the nominee; pictures, audio- and video recordings during the EIT Awards event;
- in relation to prize winners: in addition to the above, legal identification data, copy of the identity document, and financial identification data such as banking details are also collected;
- within the context of the EIT PUBLIC Award, the online voting website collects the e-mail addresses of the voters.

Who has access to the personal data of data subjects and to whom can they be disclosed?

Within the EIT:

The personal data of the nominees are processed by the EIT staff responsible for the EIT Awards and by the members of the international jury (external high-level experts with possible participation of the EIT Governing Board Members appointed by the EIT Director) who will evaluate the nominees.

Within the Commission and other EU institutions/agencies/bodies:

The personal data of participants may be registered in the Early Detection and Exclusion System (EDES) if they are in one of the situations mentioned in Article 136 of the EU Financial Regulation². For more information, see the Commission's privacy statement on http://ec.europa.eu/budget/explained/management/protecting/protect_en.cfm.

² Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014 and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012

In case of an audit or complaint/appeal, the personal data can be disclosed to the auditors in the Commission, and to other EU institutions such as the European Court of Auditors, the European Ombudsman, the European Data Protection Supervisor, the General Court of the European Union and the European Court of Justice.

If requested, personal data can be disclosed to the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF).

Third parties subject to the GDPR³ and third parties not subject to the GDPR:

The personal data of the nominees may also be processed, in connection with the media and pitch/presentation training and the EIT Awards event, by the external contractor(s) of the EIT, in line with EU and national legislation and their relevant contractual requirements.

For visibility purposes, the photographs/pictures, presentations, audio and video recording and live streaming of the EIT Awards event will be reproduced in various media including EIT publications, the EIT website, social media networks, TV channels and the press, in connection with the event, or for further institutional purposes as well as for promotional activities of the EIT. In this context, the pictures and audio or video recordings of EIT Award nominees will be published with specific mention of the persons concerned.

EWORX S.A. is an external contractor of the EIT responsible for the maintaining the EIT PUBLIC Award online voting website. The personal data indicated above is collected, uploaded and stored on its servers based in Europe, consulted and transmitted to the EIT, used and finally erased at the end of the retention period. The written framework contract between the EIT and EWORX S.A. contains several provisions on the personal data protection.

How long do we keep your data?

1) Data of prize winners (i.e. awarded nominees): the personal data of the prize winners is retained for a period of *five years* after the prize budget is discharged in accordance with the EU Financial Regulation and the EIT Financial Regulation.⁴

Once the above five-year period is completed, only the data necessary for historical records, i.e. information on the name of the winner, the nominating KIC, information on the achievement, the award received and the amount of the prize are stored for 50 years.

Any further data required for statistical purposes should be kept in an anonymous form.

³ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation)

⁴ Decision of the EIT Governing Board of 27 December 2013 on adopting the Financial Regulation of the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (currently under revision).

2) Data of non-awarded nominees are kept for a period of *two years* from the date of the notification letter to the non-awarded candidates for the purposes of potential review procedures and for budgetary or audit purposes. In case the length of the review procedure exceeds the period of two years, the relevant data are kept for the duration of the ongoing review procedure.

After this period, only the data necessary for historical records, i.e. the names of the nominees, the nominating KICs, and information on the achievement is stored for 50 years.

3) Data collected at the EIT PUBLIC Award online voting website: The EIT PUBLIC Award online voting website collects e-mail addresses of the voters. The retention period for this data is 1 month after the end of the INNOVEIT event. This period may be extended in case of a complaint regarding the voting procedure.

What are your rights as being a data subject?

Nominees have the **right for information** and the **right to access** their personal data, as ensured by Article 15 and 17 of the Data Protection Regulation of the European institutions. In addition, the nominees have the **right for the rectification** of inaccurate personal data concerning them without undue delay; and the right to have incomplete personal data completed, in accordance with Article 18 of the Regulation. The exercise of such rights may not result in unequal treatment of the nominees and may not be contrary or harmful to the aim of the prize contest or to its confidentiality.

Prize winners may, on written request, gain access to their personal data and request the rectification of any personal data that is inaccurate or incomplete, as long as it does not call into question the award decision and result in unequal treatment.

Data subjects have the right to obtain the **erasure** of their personal data in accordance with Article 19 of the Regulation and in particular in the cases when the personal data are no longer necessary in relation to the purposes for which they were collected, if the data subject withdraws its consent, or in case of unlawful processing.

Data subjects have the **right to restriction** of processing of personal data in accordance with Article 20 of the Regulation, and the **right to object** on grounds relating to their particular situation in accordance with Article 23 of the Regulation.

After the deadline for submitting nominations, personal data related to the admissibility, eligibility, exclusion and selection criteria cannot be rectified or erased with the exception of obvious clerical errors, while personal data related to the identification of the nominee can be rectified at any time during the award procedure and while the data is kept by the EIT.

Any issues with regard to the evaluation procedure may be addressed by means of the available review procedures (see Call for Nominations⁵).

The rights of data subjects can be exercised only based on a written request. In case of any queries concerning the processing of personal data, nominees may send their written requests to EIT-Awards@eit.europa.eu. As a general rule, the requests for information, access, rectification, erasure restriction are handled without undue delay and in any event within one month of receipt of the request; this period may be extended by further two months where necessary, taking into account the complexity and number of requests. In case the data subject contests the accuracy of the data, upon request, the data is restricted immediately for the period of verification of the accuracy of the data, not exceeding one month.

Nominees have the **right of recourse** at any time to the Data Protection Officer of the EIT (EIT-DPO@eit.europa.eu) and to the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS@edps.europa.eu) for matters relating to the processing of their personal data.

Restrictions to the rights of data subjects may be applied by the EIT, in accordance with Article 25 of the Data Protection Regulation of the European institutions and the EIT internal rules on restrictions⁶.

Website security and cookie policy regarding the EIT PUBLIC Award online voting website

Website security

The EIT PUBLIC Award 2019 voting website uses Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS). This is the secure version of HTTP, the protocol over which data is sent between web browsers and websites. The “S” at the end of HTTPS stands for “Secure”. It means all communications between your browser and the website are encrypted.

Due to the encryption process, information, such as personal data, is protected. Encryption guarantees the confidentiality of personal data, even if it is intercepted.

Web browsers such as Internet Explorer, Edge, Firefox, Opera, Safari and Chrome, also display a padlock icon in the address bar to visually indicate that an HTTPS connection has been established.

Cookie policy

A cookie is a small text file placed on a computer, browser or server.

The EIT PUBLIC Award 2019 voting website does not use cookies or similar technology and does not retain browsing data related to the behaviour of visitors for statistical use.

⁵ For 2019: see <https://eit.europa.eu/our-activities/eit-awards/2019-eit-awards>

⁶ Currently under adoption. The final version will be published at the following link: <https://eit.europa.eu/who-we-are/legal-framework/data-protection>

The EIT PUBLIC Award 2019 voting website does not permit third parties, including LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter, to install cookies on your computer or browser, and does not permit third parties to access your personal data.

Legal basis of the processing operation

- Decision 42/2018 of the Governing Board⁷ of the EIT Programming Document (2019-2021) of the EIT, as amended by Decision 6/2019 of the Governing Board⁸;
- Decision No 1312/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT): the contribution of the EIT to a more innovative Europe;
- Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 laying down the rules for the participation and dissemination in “Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)” and repealing Regulation (EC) No 2906/2006;
- Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014 and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (“EU Financial Regulation”).
- Decision of the EIT Governing Board of 27 December 2013 on adopting the Financial Regulation of the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (note: currently under revision).

Lawfulness of the processing operation

In line with Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation 2018/1725, the 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 EIT. In particular, the provision of the EIT awards contribute to the attainment of the objectives of the EIT as laid down in the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the EIT.

Furthermore, the processing is also lawful based on Article 5(d) of Data Protection Regulation of the European institutions: the data subjects are free to give their data on a voluntary basis.

⁷ Ares(2018)6606516

⁸ Ares(2019)2433045