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.

What types of 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

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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.

Who are the ‘data subjects’?

All the nominees who have submitted an application for the EIT Awards.

Who is the ‘data controller’?

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

Purpose of data processing operation

Assessment of the nominations for the EIT Awards and awarding of the prizes.

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

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.

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 Regulation. For more information, see the Commission’s privacy statement on http://ec.europa.eu/budget/explained/management/protecting/protect_en.cfm.

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

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European Ombudsman, the European Data Protection Supervisor, the Civil Service Tribunal, 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).

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.

**How long do we keep your data?**

1) **Data of prize winners:** 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.³

Once the above five years 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.

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.

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³ Decision of the EIT Governing Board of 27 December 2013 on adopting the Financial Regulation of the European Institute for Innovation and Technology.
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.

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

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.

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 on 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.
Legal basis of the processing operation


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;


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.

Data subjects are free to give their data on a voluntary basis.