



## **PRIVACY STATEMENT**

regarding the processing of personal data by the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations ('Authority').

### **1. WHO PROCESSES PERSONAL DATA?**

The Authority processes personal data to perform its tasks in the public interest.

The Authority acts as a controller within the meaning of 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/EC ("Regulation (EU) 2018/1725")<sup>1</sup>.

In case of queries regarding processing of personal data, you can send an email to: [contact@appf.europa.eu](mailto:contact@appf.europa.eu).

### **2. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA?**

The Authority processes personal data in the course of its administrative procedures aimed to register European political parties and foundations, supervise their activities and, where appropriate, impose sanctions. The processing is not used for automated decision-making, including profiling.

#### **2.1. Registration of European political parties and foundations**

To obtain registration as a European political party or foundation, applicants must provide the Authority with, among other things, information about their organisations. This information contains, for example, personal data about members of their governing bodies, executives, employees and members.

Following registration, European political parties and foundations must keep the Authority informed of any changes to their registration details so that the Authority can ensure that the information it holds in its register, including personal data, is accurate.

In addition, the Authority publishes information regarding applications for registration and updates thereof on its website, including personal data, to comply with transparency-related obligations.

#### **2.2. Review of financial information**

European political parties and foundations must submit, among other things, their financial statements to the Authority on a yearly basis, including details regarding donations and

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39.

contributions. This information contains, for example, personal data about donors and members.

In addition, the Authority publishes information regarding donations on its website, including personal data, to comply with transparency-related obligations.

### **2.3. Administrative investigations**

In order to discharge its tasks and, where appropriate, determine if a sanction should be imposed, the Authority launches administrative investigations. In that context, the Authority may request European political parties and foundations to submit information, including document productions, through formal requests. The information requested may include, for example, personal data about members and donors.

If a sanction is ultimately imposed, the Authority must publish the details of and reasons for its decisions, which may, in certain cases, identify natural persons.

## **3. LEGAL BASIS FOR THE PROCESSING**

The Authority processes personal data to perform its tasks in the public interest assigned to it by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (“Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014”)<sup>2</sup>. Processing activities are therefore based on Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 is further complemented by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2015/2401 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2246<sup>3</sup>.

## **4. CATEGORIES OF PERSONAL DATA COLLECTED**

The information processed by the Authority may include, for example, name, nationality, date of birth, domicile and function of members of governing bodies, possibly executives, employees, members and potentially donors of European political parties and foundations. That information may also contain indications regarding a data subject’s political views. The Authority may also process other categories of personal data (*e.g.*, national identification numbers), taking into account the concrete circumstances of a specific case and the need to carry out particular checks and verifications.

## **5. HOW LONG DO WE STORE PERSONAL DATA?**

The Authority retains personal data gathered in the context of the registration of European political parties and foundations for the duration of the processing operations and until five years following the year of deregistration of the European political party or foundation concerned, or following the year in which the legal entity concerned ceases to exist. The

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<sup>2</sup> OJ L 317 4.11.2014, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2015/2401 of 2 October 2015 on the content and functioning of the Register of European political parties and foundations, OJ L 333, 19.12.2015, p.50; and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2246 of 3 December 2015 on detailed provisions for the registration number system applicable to the register of European political parties and European political foundations and information provided by standard extracts from the register, OJ L 318, 4.12.2015, p.28.

information - and personal data - contained in the Authority's Register is, however, stored without time limit pursuant to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2015/2401.

The Authority retains personal data gathered in the context of the review of financial information for the duration of the processing operations and until five years following the year of discharge of the relevant Union budget by the European Parliament.

The Authority may retain personal data for longer time periods in case of legal proceedings or administrative investigations.

Regardless of retention periods, personal data published on the Authority's website are erased from that website at the latest 24 months after publication.

## **6. WHO HAS ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND TO WHOM IS IT DISCLOSED?**

Access to personal data is generally limited to the Authority's staff only.

Pursuant to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Authority must, however, cooperate and occasionally share information with public institutions, bodies, offices and agencies for verification and control purposes. The relevant exchanges would primarily take place with the European Parliament, the European Anti-Fraud Office, the European Court of Auditors, as well as the competent departments of the Member States.

In addition, information, including personal data, is disclosed to the general public to comply with transparency-related obligations.

## **7. HOW DO WE PROTECT AND SAFEGUARD INFORMATION?**

In order to protect personal data, a number of technical and organisational measures have been put in place. Those measures include restricting access to the data to authorised personnel on a need-to-know basis, as well as using secure electronic environments for electronic files and locked cupboards and safes for physical files.

## **8. WHAT ARE THE RIGHTS OF DATA SUBJECTS AND HOW DATA SUBJECTS CAN EXERCISE THEM?**

Pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, data subjects can exercise the following rights: right to be informed; right to access their personal data; right to rectification, in case their personal data are inaccurate or incomplete; where applicable, the right to restrict the processing of their personal data; and where applicable, the right to erasure of personal data and the right to object to the processing of personal data on grounds relating to particular situation.

If data subjects would like to exercise their rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if they have comments, questions or concerns, or if they would like to submit a complaint regarding the collection and use of their personal data, they can send an email to [contact@appf.europa.eu](mailto:contact@appf.europa.eu).

Please note that exceptions, derogations and restrictions based on Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 and Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 may apply. In particular, the Authority may not be able to inform data subjects or erase, rectify or stop processing personal data held or published, where processing activities are carried out to discharge a legal obligation imposed on the Authority by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, or where the Authority conducts administrative investigations that would be jeopardised by the exercise of those rights. Restrictions remain applicable for as long as the reasons justifying them exist.

Data subjects may, however, address queries to the European political party or foundation that submitted their personal data to the Authority.

### **The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Authority**

Data subject may contact the Data Protection Officer at [data-protection@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:data-protection@europarl.europa.eu) with regard to issues related to the processing of its personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

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

Data subjects have the right to lodge a complaint to the [European Data Protection Supervisor](#) if they consider that their rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of their personal data by the Authority.

Before they do so, it is recommended that they first try to obtain a remedy for the handling of personal data by contacting the [Authority](#) and/or [Data Protection Officer](#) of the Authority.

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