PRIVACY STATEMENT - DATA PROTECTION NOTICE

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCESSING PERSONAL DATA RELATED TO

SURVEYS IN RELATION TO THE SCHUMAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE FORUM 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

The protection of your personal data and privacy is of great importance to the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the European Commission, in particular the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI). You have the right under EU law to be informed when your personal data is processed [e.g. collected, used, stored], as well as about the purpose and details of that processing. When handling personal data, we respect the principles of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and in particular Article 8 on data protection. Your personal data are processed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 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, aligned with Regulation (EU) 2016/679, the General Data Protection Regulation. In this privacy statement you find information about how the EC, the EEAS and EU Delegations process your personal data and what rights you have as a data subject.

2. PURPOSE OF DATA PROCESSING: Why do we process your data?

The EEAS and the Foreign Policy Instruments Service (FPI) of the European Commission collect and further process your personal data to ensure proper organisation and management of the **Schuman Security and Defence Forum 2026**.

The purpose of the survey is to provide, ahead of the Schuman Forum, EEAS Headquarters with up-to-date information on the peace, security and defence challenges faced by your countries of accreditation, as well as an assessment on the current state of cooperation with the EU in the field of peace, security and defence and possible additional opportunities (or constraints).
This information is for internal use only, and will not be shared with any external parties.

You are also requested to share videos and pictures relevant to this cooperation in the field of peace, security and defence which could be used in the communication activities of the EEAS. You have to guarantee via a form that you have the right to share the materials and entitle the EEAS to disclose, publish, transmit or quote or otherwise use and share the content and other personal data in the communication activities of the EEAS and EU Delegations, including through social media channels. (i.e. that the copyright and data protection rights are respected). Shared content may be published in the context of the *Schuman Security and Defence Forum* at https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/schuman-security-and-defence-forum-2026_en, on social media or on the websites of the EEAS and/or FPI.

Finally, we will process the contact details of the Delegation's focal point for peace, security, and defence matters. This will enable us to streamline communication and coordination effectively, including beyond the Forum. This data will be stored and used to engage in future intitiatives in the field of peace, security and defence.

Your personal data will not be used for any automated decision-making including profiling.

3. DATA PROCESSED: What data do we process?

Personal data will be collected, handled and kept only to the extent necessary for the purposes above. Data, including personal data, that may be processed, are the following:

- Contact details of the Delegation's focal point for peace, security and defence matters (name, email)
- Name of the country's Representative invited to the Forum
- Audiovisual material illustrative of the cooperation between the EU and your country of accreditation.
- Assessment on the peace, security and defence partnership between the EU and your country of accreditation.

4. DATA CONTROLLER: Who is entrusted with processing your data?

The data controllers determining the purpose and means of the processing are
the **European External European External Action Service, Secretariat-General of the EEAS, Service of Deputy Secretary General CSDP and Crisis Response, Common Security and Defence Policy, Security and Defence Policy Action Service (EEAS)**
and the **European Commission, Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI)**,
FPI.3 Unit, Crisis Response Europa, Asia and Americas

5. RECIPIENTS OF THE PERSONAL DATA: Who has access to your data?

Access to your personal data is provided to the FPI and EEAS staff responsible for carrying out this processing operation and to other authorised Commission and EEAS staff according to the "need to know" principle. This includes, in particular, staff of EEAS staff in the Security and Defence Policy Directorate and Commission staff of the Foreign Policy Instruments Service of the

European Commission (FPI.3)

Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements. Where necessary, we may also share your information with service providers for the purposes of organising the *Schuman Security and Defence Forum.*

Service provider: Stantec SA Rue de la Loi 42 2nd Floor, 1040 Brussels

We will not communicate your personal data to third parties, except to the extent and for the purposes described above or when we are required to do so by law. Service providers abide by contractual clauses for the protection of your data and will process data on documented instructions and on behalf of the EEAS/EU Delegation in accordance with Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

The EEAS and FPI use social media to promote and inform about events and meetings through widely used and contemporary channels. In addition to the EEAS Website, information, images and videos may be uploaded to the EEAS YouTube channel and links from our website or information about our activity and links from our website can appear on Twitter/X, Instagram, LinkedIn, Flickr, Facebook and Threads The use of social media does not in any way imply endorsement of them or their privacy policies. Your use of social media implies that the providers of social media channels, which may be located in countries outside the scope of the EU data protection legal framework, process your personal data you share according to their own privacy policies. We recommend that users read the Twitter/X, Instagram, LinkedIn, Flickr, Facebook, Threads and YouTube privacy policies which explain their data processing policy, use of data, users' rights and the way how users can protect their privacy when using these services.
Social media accounts that will be used for communications about this survey are:

- Twitter: @EUSec_Defence; @eu_eeas; @EU_FPI
- Linkedin:
  https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-external-action-service/mycompany/
  https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-union-security-and-defence/
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/EuropeanExternalActionService/
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/eudiplomacy/

6. ACCESS, RECTIFICATION AND ERASURE OF DATA: What rights do you have?

You have the right of access to your personal data and the right to correct any inaccurate or incomplete personal data. The right of rectification can only apply to factual data processed. You have the right to ask the deletion of your personal data or restrict their use as well as to object at any time to the processing of your personal data on grounds relating to your particular situation. We will consider your request, take a decision and communicate it to you without undue delay and in any event within one month of receipt of the request. That period may be extended by two further months where necessary. For more detailed legal references, you can find information in Articles 14 to 21, 23 and 24 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. In specific cases, restrictions under Article 25 of the Regulation may apply. If you have consented to recording a session, you have the right to withdraw your consent to its use by notifying the data controller. In this case, the FPI will make every effort to remove your contribution from the recording. The withdrawal of your consent will not affect the lawfulness of the processing carried out before you have withdrawn the consent. If you wish to exercise your rights or have questions concerning the processing of your personal data, you may address them to the Data Controller via the functional mailbox:

To contact the data controller, please use the following functional mailbox:
SCHUMAN-FORUM-2026@eeas.europa.eu

7. LEGAL BASIS: On what grounds we collect your data?

Lawfulness of the data processing
The processing of your personal data, linked to the organisation, management, follow-up and promotion of *Schuman Security and Defence Forum* (including web-streaming, photos, audio-visual recording) are necessary for the management and functioning of the EEAS, as mandated by the Treaties. Those provisions are in particular Article 11 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 15 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. 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 by the EEAS in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the EEAS, in particular for the management and functioning of the EEAS [Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 1725/2018] as referred to in Recital 22 thereof).

The processing is also necessary for archiving purposes. Archiving shall be proportionate to the aim pursued, respect the essence of the right to data protection and provide for suitable and specific measures to safeguard the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject.

Further references:
Treaty on European Union (Lisbon Treaty), Article 2, Official Journal of the European Union C 83/17, 30 March 2010
Article 1 (Nature and Scope), 2 (Tasks) and 3 (Cooperation) of the Council Decision of 26 July 2010 establishing the organisation and functioning of the EEAS (2010/427/EU) (OJ L 201, 3/8/2010, p. 30)
Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe - A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy of

June 2016 and Council Conclusions of October 2016 where the Council of the European Union emphasises *"the need of joining up efforts in the field of public diplomacy including strategic communication, inside and outside the EU, to speak with one voice and ultimately promote its core values*".
The European Union's objectives in its external relations are defined in Article 3(5) of the Lisbon Treaty as follows: "*In its relations with the wider world, the Union shall uphold and promote its values and interests and contribute to the protection of its citizens. It shall contribute to peace, security, the sustainable development of the Earth, solidarity and mutual respect among peoples, free and fair trade, eradication of poverty and the protection of human rights, in particular the rights of the child, as well as to the strict observance and the development of international law, including respect for the principles of the United Nations Charter*".

8. TIME LIMIT - DATA STORING: For what period and how we process your data?

Our aim is to keep your personal data not longer than necessary for the purposes we collect them.
The Data Controller only keeps your personal data for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing.

Security of data:
All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data, etc.) are stored either on the servers of the European Commission and the servers of B&S Europe SA, contractor.
All processing operations are carried out pursuant to Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2017/46 of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission.
The contractors are bound by a specific contractual clause for any processing operations of your personal data on behalf of the Commission, and by the confidentiality obligations deriving from the General Data Protection Regulation ('GDPR' - Regulation (EU) 2016/679)
In order to protect your personal data, the Commission and the EEAS have put in place a number of technical and organisational measures.
Appropriate organisational and technical measures are ensured according to Article 33 of Reg. (EU) 2018/1725. The collected personal data are stored on servers that abide by pertinent security rules. Data is processed by assigned staff members. Access to specific files requires authorisation. Measures are provided to prevent unauthorised entities from access, alteration, deletion, disclosure of data. General access to personal data is only possible to recipients with a UserID/Password. Physical copies of personal data are stored in a properly secured manner.

9. EEAS/FPI DATA PROTECTION OFFICER: Any questions to the DPO?

If you have enquiries you can also contact the EEAS Data Protection Officer at data-protection@eeas.europa.eu. or for the FPI, the Data Protection Officer of the European Commission at data-protection-officer@ec.europa.eu.

10. RECOURSE

You have, at any time, the right to have recourse to the European Data Protection Supervisor at edps@edps.europa.eu.