DATA PROTECTION NOTICE

on the living and working in the EU survey

19.03.2025

Eurofound embraces the need to protect your personal data. We, therefore, undertake to process it, as data controller, with respect to the applicable law[1].

If after reading this notice you still have questions on the processing of your data, please contact us at dataprotectionofficer@eurofound.europa.eu. We will reply to you within one month.

Why do we need to process your data?

Eurofound is conducting a research project aiming to chart the latest developments and challenges of living and working in the EU Member States, with a particular focus this year on environmental behaviours and experiences. It is designed for a general population of 16 years or older living in the EU Member States. The outcomes of the study (in the form of statistical data[2]) will be published in publications on Eurofound's web and social platforms.

Processing of your data is, as such, necessary for the performance of tasks which have been entrusted to Eurofound under its Founding Regulation[3], and which are carried out in the public interest[4]. The processing of your email address (for follow-up purposes) will be done only if you have given your consent[5]. With regard to any data which you provide when contacting us (e.g., when exercising your data protection rights), it is necessary to comply with the legal obligation to answer your request[6].

[1] Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council 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 (or the EUDPR).
[2] Statistical or aggregate data is considered anonymous data which, in turn, is not considered personal data.
[3] Regulation (EU) 2019/127 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 establishing the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions (Eurofound), and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 1365/75, in particular Articles 1 and 2.
[4] Article 5(1)(a) of the EUDPR.
[5] Article 5(1)(d) of the EUDPR
[6] Article 5(1)(b) of the EUDPR

No decision will be made without any human intervention.

Who is responsible for this survey?

The survey will be done entirely in-house by Eurofound's staff members. Eurofound is responsible for collecting and further processing the data (including email addresses) of the EU's participants. Only statistical data will be shared with researchers.

What data do we need from you?

Personal data concerned are:

- Country of survey respondent, gender, age, level of education attainment, country of birth;
- Answers to surveys questions on wide variety of life situation, labour market status, environmental attitudes and behaviours and society related topics; and
- Email address, should you agree to be recontacted for follow-up purposes[7].

Who will process your data?

Duly authorised staff members within Eurofound, which abide by statutory confidentiality obligations, will have access to your email address should you decided to provide it for follow-up purposes. The remaining data to be collected and processed through our processor, SoSci, which abide by contractual confidentiality obligations.

Researchers at Eurofound as well as at the European Environment Agency[8] (EEA) will have access exclusively to anonymised data[9].

No other third parties will have access to your personal data, except if required by law.

[7] Exclusively processed by Eurofound
[8] Given the focus of the survey in environmental issues, which is at the core of the EEA mandate, the Agency will promote the survey via its YouTube channel and will be given access exclusively to statistical / aggregate data which will be used in their own research projects. Please be informed that aggregate / statistical data is considered anonymous data and, therefore, is outside the scope of the EUDPR. For more information on the EEA, please read here.
[9] See footnote no. 2.

How do we protect your data?

Several security controls have been put in place to protect your personal data from unauthorised access, use or disclosure. Your data will be stored on servers, located in the European Union hosted by www.soscisurvey.de with access permitted uniquely for authorised research staff.

Your responses will be stored separately from your email address. Your answers will be used solely for research purposes. Your participation, together with your individual responses to the questions, will be kept strictly confidential. The results of the research will be anonymised and used for statistical information only. It is not possible to directly or indirectly identify you from these data.

For how long will we retain your data?

Personal data collected on the www.soscisurvey.de servers will be retained for the duration of the research until 30 September 2026, after which they will be deleted.

If you have agreed to be re-contacted for further research, your email address will be kept by Eurofound exclusively for up to five years before being securely deleted.

Do we transfer your data to outside the EU/EEA territory?

No.

What are your rights?

Within the limits set by the EUDPR, you have the right to access, rectify, erase and/or port your personal data, to restrict or object to the processing of your personal data, and to withdraw your consent (if obtained). Just note that withdrawal of your consent does not affect the lawfulness of processing while your consent was valid.

You may contact us at dataprotectionofficer@eurofound.europa.eu with your requests. Your request is free of charge. However, if it is manifestly unfounded or excessive, Eurofound may refuse to act on it.

You also have the right to raise a complaint with the European Data Protection Supervisor should you consider that this processing is in violation of the law. You will find more information here.