

DATA PROTECTION NOTICE

for the 2025-2026 European Working Conditions Survey follow up interviews

Last updated: 29 January 2026

As an EU Agency, the [European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions](#) (or Eurofound), embraces the need to protect your personal data. We, therefore, undertake to process it, as data controller, with respect to the applicable law¹.

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.

What are the 2025-2026 European Working Conditions Survey follow up interviews?

These interviews are a [follow-up](#) to the European Working Conditions Survey (or EWCS) which last took place in 2024. The [EWCS 2024](#) is a regular survey which covers different aspects of working life, such as working time, work organisation, work-life balance and work-related health issues. In 2024, over 50,000 workers across 35 European countries were interviewed about their working conditions.

The data collected provides invaluable, up-to-date, and objective information for European policy makers and researchers about working conditions and the quality of work and employment in Europe, to help improve working lives for everyone. The first results from this study are available [here](#).

You can find further information about the EWCS [here](#).

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 GDPR).

These follow-up interviews will look at comparing respondents' working life between now and the last time they were interviewed in 2024, in order to dig deeper into the latest developments and challenges of working in their country and in the EU Member States.

The outcomes of the study (exclusively in the form of statistical data²) will be published in publications on Eurofound's website and social platforms (e.g., LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram).

How have you been chosen?

In 2024, when you participated in the last European Working Conditions Survey, you very kindly agreed to be re-contacted for some follow-up questions about your working life and provided contact details so that we would be able to get in touch with you about this follow-up research.

Why do we need to process your data?

Processing of your data is necessary for the performance of tasks which have been entrusted to Eurofound under its Founding Regulation³, and which are carried out in the public interest⁴ to improve working conditions and enhance the quality of work and employment across Europe.

 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 request⁵.

No decision will be made by Eurofound without any human intervention with regard to this survey.

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)(b) of the EUDPR.

Who is responsible for this survey?

Eurofound is the data controller and is responsible for collecting and further processing the data (including email addresses) of the survey's participants.

The survey will be done entirely in-house by Eurofound's staff members. Data will be collected using the [SoSci Survey](#) platform, who acts as our data processor.

What data do we need from you?

Personal data concerned are:

- your gender and age will be processed in order to ensure that we are contacting the right person;
- your postcode will be processed to collect geographical data in case you have moved house since the last survey;
- any personal data which you may provide while answering the survey which focuses on the different aspects of working life, including participation in employment, working conditions and job quality, quality of life and quality of housing, work career to date;
- information on whether or not you have been discriminated against at work on several different grounds, or whether or not you have been faced with undesirable conduct at work (a simple 'yes' or 'no' question). Please note you will NOT be asked to provide personal data or factual information related to these experiences; and

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 decide to provide it for follow-up purposes, as mentioned above.

The remaining data to be collected and processed through our processor, SoSci, which abides by contractual confidentiality obligations.

Researchers at Eurofound will have access exclusively to pseudonymised data and will not be able to identify you.

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

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 Sosci, 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 will not be possible to identify you directly or indirectly in the published results.

For how long will we retain your data?

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

As you were informed by Eurofound in 2024, the personal data which you have provided to be re-contacted for further research purposes will be kept exclusively until October 2026, after which will it be 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 Sophia.MacGoris@eurofound.europa.eu with your request. 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](#).