



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

This privacy statement provides information about the processing and the protection of your personal data.

Processing operation: Simpl Annual Community Event (29/01/2026)

Data Controller: European Commission, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, DG Connect (hereinafter referred to as “Data Controller”).

Data Processors (contractors):

- Capgemini Nederland B.V., Reykjavikplein 1, 3543 KA, Utrecht, Netherlands
- Onetec.B.V., Leuvensesteenweg 542/C4, 1930 Zaventem, Belgium
- Indra Sistemas S.A., Avenida de Bruselas 35, 28108 Alcobendas, Madrid, Spain

(hereafter referred to as “Data Processors”)

Record reference: DPR-EC-06847.1

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1. Introduction

The European Commission is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to [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.

This privacy statement explains the reason for the processing of your personal data in the context of the Simpl Annual Community Event taking place on 29 January 2026. It explains the way we collect, handle and ensure protection of all personal data provided, how that information is used and what rights you have in relation to your personal data. It also specifies the contact details of the responsible Data Controller with whom you may exercise your rights, the Data Protection Officer and the European Data Protection Supervisor.

The information in relation to this processing operation, undertaken by Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, DG Connect of the European Commission, is presented below.

The objective of this hybrid event is to bring together stakeholders and practitioners to share best practices, lessons learned on how semantic interoperability ensures data exchange cross border and cross sector.

2. Why and how do we process your personal data?

Purpose of the processing operation: The Data Controller collects and further processes your personal data to provide you with information about the event (before, during and after), to manage communication, to process your application for participation, and to assist with any follow-up activities related to the Simpl Annual Community Event.

Live web-streaming and audio-visual recording of the speakers, organisers and participants will take place during the event. Photographs of the speakers and panoramic photographs of participants and organisers may also be taken. The organiser will record the plenary sessions and workshops, including any question-and-answer sessions or panel discussions. The recordings may be used for the creation of post-event materials and published on web pages in relation to the Simpl Programme.

Broadcaststream.eu is used to livestream the event. Broadcaststream.eu is approved by the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) as a fully data compliant tool. For more information, please consult <https://broadcaststream.eu/privacypolicy/>.

Video camera function will be disabled for online participants' in the web-streaming. In-person participants who do not wish to be recorded or photographed will be provided with a different colour lanyard to indicate their preference. All participants have the right to withdraw their consent at any time by contacting the organising team at CNECT-SIMPL@ec.europa.eu.

During the event, participants may be invited to take part in polls, quizzes, or submit ideas and questions to the organisers. Personal data may be collected through the polling tool Sli.do, which is covered by the Record of Processing DPR-EC-06847 and aligned with the applicable provisions of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

This data will be collected anonymously and processed solely to ensure that participants respond only once to each question, and to recover session data in case of technical issues. Aggregated and anonymised results may be published in the context of the event on the official event website or other relevant platforms associated with the Simpl Programme.

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

DG Connect shall not be held accountable for any processing of personal data that you might carry out on your own initiative during or after the event. For instance, if you decide to take photographs/audio-visual recordings of participants of the event and/or publish them online, you assume full responsibility for these actions.

3. On what legal ground(s) do we process your personal data?

The processing operations on personal data, linked to the organization, management, follow-up and promotion of the event (including web-streaming, photos, and audio-visual recording), are part of the Simpl Annual Community Event activities. These are based on Communication from the Commission COM(2017)134 and are necessary for the management and functioning of the Commission, as mandated by the Treaties — in particular, Article 11 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 15 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Consequently, these 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 in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the Union institution or body).

If applicable, the use of digital tools for video conferencing and event management may also fall under Article 33.1 (a)(b)(c) of Regulation 2018/1046, which refers to the principles of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness, and aligns with the European Commission's Digital Strategy 2018.

We also process your personal data based on your explicit consent under Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. Your consent is required for the following purposes:

- Registering for and managing your participation in the event (fields collected: first name, last name, email address, country, city, job title, organisation, and organisation type);
- Organising catering related to the event;
- Participating in polls, quizzes, or submitting questions and ideas during the event using Sli.do;
- Displaying your name and surname to other participants during online sessions;
- Inviting you to future events organised by the Data Controller;
- Sharing content from the event (e.g. audio-video recordings and photographs) via communication channels such as social media and the Simpl website.

You can give your consent via a clear affirmative act by ticking the box(es) on the online registration form.

Your consent for these services can be withdrawn at any time:

- To withdraw consent for other services, contact the organising team at CNECT-SIMPL@ec.europa.eu.

4. Which personal data do we collect and further process?

The following personal data will be processed:

- personal details (first name, last name, name of organisation, organisation type, country, e-mail address, dietary requirements) will be collected on the event platform only;
- The following categories of personal data of the participants may also be collected: participant identifiers; preferred conference content; date of session (determined by user decision, only on anonymised reports), photograph images and audio-visual recordings. In case of web streaming or recording, your photograph image is also considered as personal data.

5. How long do we keep your personal data?

The Data Controller only keeps your personal data for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing.

For each category of personal data processed, please find below the retention details and the reference to the relevant Record of Processing:

- Personal data processed for the organisation and management of the event (including registration details and communications before, during, or after the event) will be deleted one year after the last action related to the event. All personal data related to the organisation and management of the event will be deleted five years after the last action in relation to the event.
- Recordings of the Simpl Annual Community Event will be published on YouTube, social media, and EC-owned websites, and retained for five years. More information is available in the Record of Processing DPR-EC-01937 (Audio-visual recording of meetings).
- Personal data shared for future mailing purposes (e.g., newsletters or invitations to similar events) will be processed in line with the Record of Processing DPR-EC-03928.1 and retained until the data subject unsubscribes from the mailing list.
- Selected service providers (e.g., caterers, event management organisations) are contractually bound to process personal data on behalf of and in line with the instructions of the Data Controller. They are required to keep such data confidential and protect it from unauthorised access, use, or retention.
- When using third-party IT services during the event, personal data will be retained for the duration of the event and for an additional period of up to five years in anonymised format (e.g., conference identifier, start time, duration). The content of the video/audio conference (documents, links, files, etc.) will be deleted after the session ends.
- Personal data used to enable participation via Sli.do will be retained only for the duration of the online event. More information is available in the Record of Processing DPR-EC-06687 (Sli.do – Audience Interaction Software).
- Dietary information will be deleted one month after the end of the event.

6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal 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 or of its contractors. 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 Commission's contractors are bound by specific contractual clauses 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 has put in place a number of technical and organizational measures. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorized access, taking into consideration the risk presented by the processing and the nature of the personal data being processed. Organizational measures include restricting access to personal data solely to authorized persons with a legitimate need to know for the purposes of this processing operation.

7. Who has access to your personal data and to whom is it disclosed?

Access to your personal data is provided to the Commission staff responsible for carrying out this processing operation and to other authorized Commission staff according to the "need to know" principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and where required, additional confidentiality agreements.

Access is also granted to the Commission's contractors (i.e., Onetec.B.V., Capgemini Nederland B.V., and Indra Sistemas S.A.) on a need-to-know basis, for the purposes of organizing and supporting the event. These contractors are bound by contractual obligations to process personal data only on behalf of and under the instructions of the Commission, and to ensure confidentiality and security. Personal data is not processed outside the EU/EEA.

Please note that pursuant to Article 3(13) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, public authorities (e.g. the Court of Auditors, the EU Court of Justice) which may receive personal data in the framework of a particular inquiry in accordance with Union or Member State law shall not be regarded as recipients. The further processing of that data by such authorities shall be in compliance with the applicable data protection rules according to the purposes of the processing.

The information we collect will not be given to any third party, except to the extent and for the purpose we may be required to do so by law.

8. Third Party IT Tools during Video Conferencing

Please note that as this is a hybrid event, a third-party livestream tool Broadcaststream.eu will be used.

When using third-party IT services at the event, the European Commission retains your personal data only for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing, namely, for the duration of the event and for an additional period of up to five years in anonymised format (e.g., conference identifier, start time, and duration). The content of the video/audio conference (documents, links, files, etc.) will be deleted after the session ends.

The following categories of personal data may be collected:

- Participant identifier (e.g., email address or other login credentials)
- Conference content (available to participants only during the event)
- Participants' names list (visible to participants during the event)
- Session identifier (used in anonymized reports)

- Date and duration of session (used in anonymized reports)
- Audio-visual recordings
- Photograph image (if available)

The main recipient of the personal data is the event organizer, who is part of the European Commission. The organizer may decide to record the session locally; in such cases, a recording alert will be shown to all participants.

If additional third-party tools are used to support online participation (e.g., for speaker moderation or streaming), they may collect limited technical and usage data such as IP address, browser type, language settings, and device identifiers. These tools will be hosted in the EU/EEA and will comply with applicable data protection requirements. Links to their privacy policies will be provided once the tools are confirmed.

9. Cookies

Cookies are short text files stored on a user's device (such as a computer, tablet or phone) by a website. They are used for the technical functioning of a website (functional cookies) or for gathering statistics (analytical cookies).

When you visit the website(s) of the Simpl Annual Community Event and register for participation, cookies may be used to support session management and improve user experience. Session log information may be retained for a maximum of three days, after which it will be deleted.

The cookie-related information is not used to identify data subjects personally, and cookies are not used for any purpose other than those described here.

Should you wish to opt your personal data out of anonymized, aggregated statistics, you can do so via the event's cookies page. You can also control and/or delete cookies as you wish through your browser settings.

For more information on the European Commission's cookies policy, please see https://commission.europa.eu/cookies-policy_en.

10. Third party IT tools, including Social Media

We use third-party IT tools to inform about and promote the Simpl Annual Community Event through widely used communication channels, including social media. For detailed information about the use of social media by the European Commission, please refer to the Record of Processing DPR-EC-00073 (Social Media Use by the European Commission).

If you give your consent on the registration form, recordings of the event may be uploaded to the Simpl related communication channels, and to the European Commission's YouTube channel. Recording material may also be used for promotional purposes on platforms such as LinkedIn, X, and YouTube, in accordance with Record of Processing DPR-EC-00073.1.

To protect your privacy, our use of third-party IT tools does not set cookies when our website pages are loaded on your device, nor are you automatically redirected to external platforms. Cookies from third-party services are only installed if you actively interact with embedded content (e.g., clicking a social media button or playing a video). If you do not interact with such content, no third-party cookies will be installed.

When accessing third-party content on our websites, you will be prompted to accept the specific Terms and Conditions and cookie policies of those external platforms, over which the European Commission has no control.

If tools such as Sli.do are used to enable audience interaction during the event (e.g., polls, quizzes, Q&A), we recommend that users read the relevant privacy policies carefully. Sli.do is covered by the Record of Processing DPR-EC-06687. These policies explain how personal data is collected and processed, what rights users have, and how they can protect their privacy when using such services.

The use of third-party IT tools does not imply that the European Commission endorses them or their privacy policies. If one or more third-party tools are temporarily unavailable, the Commission accepts no responsibility for service interruptions due to their downtime.

11. International transfers

No international data transfers take place outside the EU/EEA, with the exception of the United Kingdom and, where applicable, other third countries. Transfers to the United Kingdom are carried out on the basis of the Adequacy Decision published by the European Commission (C(2021) 4800).

If third-party IT tools or cloud-based services are used during the event (e.g., for video conferencing or audience interaction), your personal data may be transferred to third countries. In such cases, transfers will be carried out in accordance with Article 47 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (adequacy decisions) or Article 48 (appropriate safeguards), including the use of Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs) adopted by the Commission. For example, transfers to the United States may rely on the EU-US Data Privacy Framework.

The Commission's contractors are bound by specific contractual clauses for any processing operations of your personal data on behalf of the Commission, and by confidentiality obligations deriving from the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR – Regulation (EU) 2016/679).

Please note that pursuant to Article 3(13) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, public authorities (e.g. the Court of Auditors, the EU Court of Justice) which may receive personal data in the framework of a particular inquiry in accordance with Union or Member State law shall not be regarded as recipients. The further processing of those data by such authorities shall be in compliance with the applicable data protection rules according to the purposes of the processing.

The information we collect will not be given to any third party, except to the extent and for the purpose we may be required to do so by law.

12. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?

You have specific rights as a 'data subject' under Chapter III (Articles 14–25) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, in particular the right to access your personal data and to rectify them in case they are inaccurate or incomplete. Where applicable, you also have the right to erase your personal data, to restrict the processing of your personal data, to object to the processing, and the right to data portability.

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data, which is lawfully carried out pursuant to Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, on grounds relating to your particular situation.

You have consented to provide your personal data to the Data Controller for the present processing operation. You can withdraw your consent at any time by notifying the Data Controller by sending an email to CNECT-SIMPL@ec.europa.eu. The withdrawal of your consent will not affect the lawfulness of the processing carried out before your consent was withdrawn.

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller, or in case of conflict, the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you may also contact the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is provided under Heading 13 below.

If you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please include their description (i.e. their Record reference(s) as specified under Heading 13) in your request.

13. Contact information

- The Data Controller

If you would like to exercise your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if you have comments, questions or concerns, or if you would like to submit a complaint regarding the collection and use of your personal data, please feel free to contact the Data Controller, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG Connect), CNECT-SIMPL@ec.europa.eu.

- The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu) with regard to issues related to the processing of your personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

- The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)

You have the right to have recourse (i.e. you can lodge a complaint) to the European Data Protection Supervisor (edps@edps.europa.eu) if you consider that your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the data controller.

14. Where to find more detailed information?

The Commission Data Protection Officer (DPO) publishes the register of all processing operations on personal data by the European Commission, which have been documented and notified to him. You may access the register via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register>.

15. Domain name

For hosting the event website, we have booked the domain name <https://events.onetec.eu/simplevent2026/>. Any data collected via this domain, including registration details or cookies, is processed in accordance with the principles outlined in this privacy statement.