



EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION SUPERVISOR

## EDPS MASTODON SERVER DATA PROTECTION NOTICE

### DATA PROTECTION NOTICE

Latest change: 22/07/2025

#### Overview

[social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu) is the official ActivityPub microblogging platform of the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS).

The dedicated server, provided by ProcoliX (<https://www.procolix.eu>) to the EDPS, provides the EDPS with privacy-friendly microblogging account that it typically uses for the purposes of press and public relations activities. For more information, please refer to the data protection notices of the respective account pages for details on the [EDPS website](#).

The website of [social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu) stores the cookie ‘\_mastodon\_session’ with an identifier in the browser of unregistered and registered users until the browser is closed for the purpose of ensuring a secure interaction with the website. For registered users, the cookie ‘\_session\_id’ stores their login status until logout. Based on user consent, [social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu) stores as well push notifications settings in the browser.

[social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu) processes feedback of users in the form of subscriptions, content appreciations (likes) and promotions (boosts) for publication in the context of account and content pages upon instruction of the users’ respective (third-party) ActivityPub service. [social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu) relies on consent that must be collected by the users’ (third-party) ActivityPub service before feedback transmission to [social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu). [social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu) may store feedback or recollect it from the third-party service until it receives via that service or directly from the user a request for deletion or objection (unsubscribe, unlike, unboost).

[social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu) is powered by the software Mastodon chosen for its free, open, decentralised, interoperable, non-commercial and privacy-friendly character. The Mastodon developers maintain a list of Mastodon servers open for registration.

**In the context of [social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu), your personal data are processed based on [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 Text with EEA relevance ('the Regulation').

The following information is provided as established in Articles 15 and 16 of the Regulation.

## **Data Protection Notice**

For the purposes of this Data Protection Notice:

**"Platform"** means the software instance of Mastodon at [social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu)

**"User"** means the natural person who interacts with the platform directly via the website or indirectly via third-party ActivityPub services

**"Registered user"** means the User after login to the Platform

**"Account"** means a Mastodon account on the Platform

**"Account Owner"** means the service or staff member(s) who manages an Account, namely sets up the profile and/or publishes on the account

**"Account page"** means the public pages of an account owner on the platform

**"Subscribers"** mean the accounts who follow the Account Owner

**"Subscriptions"** mean the accounts followed by the Account Owner

**"Feedback"** means any user interaction with Accounts (e.g. subscribing) and their content (e.g. boosting, liking, commenting, sharing)

## **Scope and purpose of the processing**

This data protection notice applies to the processing of personal data for the provision of the microblogging platform [social.edps.europa.eu](https://social.edps.europa.eu) by the EDPS. It offers information on what personal data is processed and how it is processed, and on your data subject rights.

## **Responsible of the processing**

The controller is the EDPS in its capacity as the provider of the platform. For more information on the EDPS please consult our website <https://edps.europa.eu>. To contact us, please use our contact form or send us an email to [pressEDPS@edps.europa.eu](mailto:pressEDPS@edps.europa.eu).

## **Processor:**

ProcoliX, as the provider of the platform for the EDPS, acts as a processor, as defined in

Article 3(12) of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. It provides a server to the EDPS to connect to Mastodon, a privacy-friendly microblogging platform.

## **Processing of Personal Data**

Personal data processed by the platform is accessible to limited number of EDPS staff on a need-to-know basis to ensure a secure platform operation and produce aggregated statistics. User content and feedback is published or delivered according to the user settings.

Data linked to accounts on social.edps.europa.eu and its public feedback from accounts on other ActivityPub platforms is distributed via social.edps.europa.eu and via its API for public distribution on federated third-party ActivityPub platforms.

## **Website Visitors**

The platform's website processes the IP addresses of its visitors. When accessing the platform, an encrypted connection to the platform's web servers is established. The website of social.edps.europa.eu stores the cookie '\_mastodon\_session' with an identifier in the browser of unregistered and registered users until the browser is closed for the purpose of ensuring a secure interaction with the website. For registered users, the cookie 'session\_id' stores their login status until logout. Based on user consent, social.edps.europa.eu stores as well push notifications settings in the browser.

## **Feedback Contributors (from third-party platforms)**

The platform processes personal data when users of third-party platforms with ActivityPub support interact with its accounts. To enrich public Account pages and content pages (toots) with user feedback in the form of subscriptions, content appreciations (likes) and promotions (boosts), the following data is processed in accordance with the ActivityPub protocol:

- the IP address of the user's device
- the user's terminal software
- the user's display name, account name, and profile picture
- the current date and time
- the feedback content data
- subscribed account
- liked or promoted content
- Public comment or private message (including attached media content)

Private messages are not end-to-end encrypted and are therefore in principle accessible to the platform administrators. Sensitive information should therefore be exchanged on other communication channels.

This processing is based on consent (Article 5(1)(d) of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1725) that must be obtained and managed by the user's third-party platforms before feedback transmission to the Platform. The Platform may store feedback or recollect it from the

third-party platform until it receives via that platform or directly from the user a request for deletion or objection (unsubscribe, unlike, unboost).

Posts published are public for as long as the account exists and automatically deleted after 1 year. Posts, including personal data of data subjects who have given their consent to the processing, are deleted on the request of the data subject concerned. The duration of the processing of logs is set to 1 year.

social.edps.europa.eu shares public profile data of the EDPS account, including posts and received public feedback from esocial.edps.europa.eu or other ActivityPub platforms on the social.edps.europa.eu website and via its APIs for world-wide distribution with any third party. social.edps.europa.eu does not rely on transfers of personal data to third countries for its functioning.

### **Exercise your rights**

You have the right to request from the controller access to and rectification or erasure of personal data or restriction of processing concerning you or, where applicable, the right to object to processing or the right to data portability.

You also the right to withdraw your consent at any time. Please note that withdrawing your consent does not affect the lawfulness of processing based on consent before its withdrawal. Please find more information on your rights at [https://www.edps.europa.eu/about-edps/data-protection-edps\\_en](https://www.edps.europa.eu/about-edps/data-protection-edps_en).

You can also contact at any time the EDPS Data Protection Officer at <mailto:DPO@edps.europa.eu>.

You can also find contact information on the EDPS website: [https://www.edps.europa.eu/about-edps/contact\\_en](https://www.edps.europa.eu/about-edps/contact_en). You have, in any case, the right to lodge a complaint with the EDPS as a supervisory authority. Please follow the instructions at: [https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/our-role-supervisor/complaints\\_en](https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/our-role-supervisor/complaints_en)