

Privacy Policy – Personal Data Protection Policy

The Check4Facts/Science project is implemented cooperatively via the 15/2/2022 Cooperation Agreement between the cooperating research institutions. The project is managed by a Committee consisting of representatives of all participating organisations and the National Center of Social Research is the coordinating partner.

The project “Check4Facts/Science” (hereinafter “the project”) has the status of Data Controller and collects personal data exclusively for communicative/informative objectives.

Personal data are collected with the consent of individuals who are previously informed of their rights, and the objectives and types of the data collection and processing.

The project takes all necessary technical and organizational measures for safeguarding the confidentiality of all personal data. All the personnel who are involved in data collection are under contractual obligation to uphold the rules of confidentiality and legal processing of the data.

The project does not transmit personal data to third parties, except in the cases described below, and warrants the full exercise of all related rights to the subjects of personal data for as long as these are preserved in identifiable form.

Check4Facts/Science commits to and follows the provisions of the law on protection of personal data and especially the General Data Protection Regulation (EU 2016/679), articles 21-27 of Law 4521/2018, Chap E’, as well as article 26, paragraph 1, 2 and 4, article 31 and article 45 paragraph 2 of its Rules of Procedure (Ministerial Decision 88453, Government Gazette 2280/B/11/06/2019).

Purpose of this policy

The purpose of this policy is to inform you about:

- the collection, storage, use, disclosure and generally processing of your personal data when you visit, register or use the project’s website,
- the processing purposes, as well as the processing method of your personal data,
- the retention period of your personal data,
- the measures we take to protect your personal data, and
- the rights you have as subjects of personal data and the procedures for exercising these rights.

Definitions

The following meaning has been assigned to the following terms, within the meaning of this policy and in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation:

- “personal data”: any information concerning an identified or identifiable (*) natural person (hereinafter “personal data” or “data”). Personal data is information that identifies or can identify your information, such as name, postal address, email address, contact telephone number, tax registration number, etc.

- “processing”: any operation or series of operations carried out with or without the use of automated means, on personal data or sets of data, such as collection, registration, organization, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, information retrieval, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or any other form of disposal, association or combination, restriction, deletion or destruction.
- “controller”: the natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other entity that, alone or jointly with others, determines the purposes and manner of processing personal data, in this case the project.
- “processor”: the natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body that processes personal data on behalf of the controller, in this case on behalf of the project.
- “recipient”: the natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body, to which the personal data is disclosed, whether it is a third party or not.
- “consent”: any indication of will, free, specific, explicit and fully acknowledged, by which you, as the personal data subject, express that you agree, by statement or by a clear positive action, for the data concerning you to be the subject of processing.
- “personal data breach”: the breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorized disclosure or access of personal data transmitted, stored or otherwise processed.
- “website”: the website (site) check4facts.gr is the website of the project (hereinafter “website” or “site”).
- “social networks”: the pages maintained by the project in the social networks (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.) in which you can become a member if you wish.

Data processing principles

We ensure the lawful processing of your personal data. In particular, we process your personal data according to the principles:

- of legality, objectivity and transparency,
- the restriction of the purpose of processing,
- data minimization,
- the accuracy of the data,
- limiting the data storage period, and
- the integrity and confidentiality of the data.

We ensure at all times the effective protection of your personal data by taking all the required and appropriate technical and organizational measures.

Protection of minors

Our website is intended for adults. Minor users can access our services only with the consent of their parents or guardians and are not required to submit their personal information. In case of submission of false personal information during membership registration, the project bears no responsibility.

What data we collect and process and how

The personal data processed by the project are appropriate, relevant and limited to the extent necessary for the specific purposes for which they are processed. We collect and process the following personal data:

Personal data directly from you

We collect and process the following data that you freely choose to provide to the project:

If you register for the newsletter of Check4Facts/Science or submitting comments/suggestions via the form “Users’ Suggestions” (Προτάσεις Χρηστών), by entering the required information in the respective fields.

To submit a suggestion or to register for the newsletter, the following data is necessary: name, surname, and email address.

The provision of your mandatory personal data is a legal or contractual obligation or requirement for the communication with the project. Therefore, if you wish to communicate with the project, you are obliged to provide these data.

The following personal data are kept in written form and/or by electronic and magnetic means:

- if you contact us by email,
- if you explicitly state that you wish to receive newsletters from the project,
- if you submit a comment through the form “Users’ Suggestions” (Προτάσεις Χρηστών),
- if you register as a member of the social networking groups maintained by the project in the social networking networks (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.), and communicate with us through these networks, we may also store your username in these networks.

Automatic data

In addition to the personal data that is necessary for carrying out the communication between us, during each visit to our website, certain non-personal information is automatically collected for technical reasons about your use of our website, of which you cannot be identified (automatic data/information), such as:

- information about the web page from which you visited our website or web pages you previously browsed or web pages displayed during your visit, the advertisements you click on, or search terms,
- our website traffic data: the date and time you accessed our website and the sections of the website you visited or the products you viewed,
- information collected from the use of cookies in your browser.

As a general rule, we process automatic data only to the extent that this is necessary for technical reasons for the operation and protection of our website against attacks and abuse, as well as in pseudonymous or anonymous form for statistical purposes and to improve the experience of browsing our website.

Lawful bases for processing your personal data

The processing of your personal data by the project is based on one or more of the following legal bases:

- Fulfilment of a legal obligation: the processing is necessary to comply with a legal obligation of the project, as derived from the applicable legislation, European and national, governing our operation.
- Safeguarding your vital interest as personal data subjects.
- Fulfilment of the project’s legitimate interests: such as the protection of persons who work in the context of the project. In certain cases, we collect your personal data in a way that is reasonably expected as part of the operation of the project and that does not materially affect your rights, freedom or interests.

- Establishment, exercise or support of legal claims of the project, judicially and extrajudicially.
- Consent: When the processing of the personal data is not based on any of the above legal bases or when consent is required by law, the processing will take place if your written, express and free consent has been previously granted (for example for sending “newsletters”). You can withdraw your consent at any time.

Recipients of your personal data

The processing of personal data is carried out either by the specially authorized staff of the project, or through IT systems and electronic devices by the project and exceptionally by third parties.

The project shares and communicates to third parties only the personal data absolutely necessary each time for the provision of the specific services by them. Specifically, we share the necessary data with third parties, to the extent required for the following purposes: (a) if required by public authorities and judicial, prosecutorial and police authorities in the case of claims being made or criminal acts being committed, or if required by applicable legislation, (b) for the prevent illegal uses of our website or violations of our website’s Privacy Policy, (c) for our own protection against third-party claims, and (d) to assist in the prevention or investigation of fraud (e.g. cyber crime).

Transmission of personal data

The personal data we collect and process are stored in Greece and possibly in other countries within the European Economic Area (EEA), as long as our suppliers or service providers are established within the EEA. In the case that it is necessary to transfer your data to other countries outside the EEA, we will ensure that your data will be protected in the same way as it would be within the EEA.

Period of retention of your personal data

Your personal data is processed and retained only for the period of time required to fulfil the purpose for which it is collected and processed, unless a longer data retention period is required by applicable law.

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Indicatively, your personal data that we process with your consent (e.g. for informational purposes) is retained until your consent is withdrawn. Your declaration of consent is kept for as long as newsletters are sent and up to twelve (12) months from the cessation of sending newsletters.

In case of legal claims, the personal data will be kept until the issuance of an irrevocable court decision.

After the necessary storage time, your personal data will be completely deleted or anonymized, i.e. aggregated with other data so that they can be used in a non-identifiable way for statistical analysis and business planning.

The data collected with the use of cookies are kept only during the user’s access (user session).

Protection of your personal data

The project implements the most advanced security systems and procedures and takes all appropriate organizational and technical measures for maximum security and protection of your personal data from any form of accidental or unlawful processing. At regular intervals we test, assess and evaluate the effectiveness of all the technical and organizational measures we apply and adapt them as necessary to the prevailing standards of technology.

Restrict access to data

The project takes all the necessary security measures so that access to your personal data is not allowed within the project except to competent and appropriately authorized persons in the context of their duties and only for the purposes of processing. In this context, anyone who has access to your personal data is committed to respecting the confidentiality of your data.

Security in case of data transfer

As detailed above in the “Recipients of your personal data” section, the project always ensures the protection of your data in case of sharing, transfer or transmission of them.

Your rights

As a data subject you have the following rights:

- Right to information: Right to full, transparent, easily accessible and understandable information about the processing of your personal data.
- Right of access: Right to receive from the project confirmation as to whether or not the personal data concerning you is being processed, and if this is the case, the right to access the data and information of the processing.
- Right to erasure: Right to ask from the project to proceed without undue delay to the erasure of personal data concerning you, provided that the specific conditions set by the General Data Protection Regulation are met.
- Right to object: Right to object, at any time, to the processing of personal data concerning you for reasons related to your particular situation. In this case, the project will no longer process the personal data, unless it demonstrates that there are compelling legal reasons for the processing of such data, which override your interests, rights and personal freedoms or for the establishment, exercising or supporting legal claims of the project.
- Right to data portability: If the processing is carried out by automated means, the right to receive the personal data concerning you, and which you have provided to the project, in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format, as well as the right to transmit, if this is technically possible, the data in question to another controller without objection from the project.
- Withdrawal of your consent: In the case that the processing of your personal data is based on your prior consent, you may at any time withdraw your consent with future effect (i.e. the withdrawal of consent acts only for the future and does not affect the legality of processing based on your consent during the period until its

withdrawal). You can withdraw your consent to no longer receive communications from us for informational purposes (newsletters) via the available ways.

→ Right to complain: If you consider that your personal data has been processed in a way that violates the General Data Protection Regulation and the principles provided for herein, you have the right to file a complaint at the Hellenic Data Protection Authority.

Exercising your rights

In the context of exercising the above rights, the project undertakes the obligation to satisfy these rights as soon as possible and in any case within one (1) month from the receipt of your relevant written request. This deadline can be extended by two (2) more months, if necessary, due to the complexity or number of applications. In this case, you will receive information from us about the extension in question within one month of receiving the request, as well as the reasons for the delay.

If we do not act on your request, we will inform you, without delay and no later than one month after receiving the request, of the reasons why we did not act and of the possibility of filing a complaint with a supervisory authority and taking legal action. If you make a request, we will ask you to verify your identity. If you authorize a third party to make a request on your behalf, we will require written authorization from you to do so.

Cookies

Our website may use cookies to:

- the optimal functionality of the website,
- improving the experience of the visitor/user while browsing it,
- the measurement of website traffic,
- improving the overall quality of the project's communication strategy and for promotional reasons (marketing).

Links

The check4facts.gr website contains links to other websites. This privacy policy only applies to the data collected from our website and we are not responsible for the privacy practices of the other websites.

Policy update

This policy was last modified on 26 February 2024. From time to time this policy will be modified and updated when and as required by applicable national and European legislation, without prior notification to users. Therefore, we recommend that you check this page regularly for any revisions to this policy.

The use of our website indicates your unconditional acceptance of the terms of this privacy policy.

Contact

For any issue regarding the processing of your personal data and the exercise of your rights, you can contact us via email: check4facts.science@gmail.com

(*) An identifiable natural person is one whose identity can be ascertained, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an ID number, location data, an online identifier or one or more factors that characterize the physical, physiological, genetic, psychological, economic, cultural or social identity of the natural person in question.