

ESA PRIVACY NOTICE FOR SCI - HelioPhysics Archive (HPA)**Released by:** European Space Agency, as Data Controller**Addressed to** individuals whose personal data are collected and processed**Concerning collection and processing initiated by: ESA OPS-G Department**
(hereinafter referred to as the “Department”)

The European Space Agency (hereafter “the **Agency**” or “**ESA**” or “**We**”) is committed to protecting Personal Data in line with the ESA Framework on Personal Data Protection (herein the “**ESA PDP Framework**”) available at: http://www.esa.int/About_Us/Law_at_ESA/Highlights_of_ESA_rules_and_regulations composed of:

- the Principles of Personal Data Protection adopted by ESA Council on 13 June 2017
- the Rules of Procedure for the Data Protection Supervisory Authority adopted by ESA Council on 13 June 2017
- the Policy on Personal Data Protection (including its Annex entitled “Governance Scheme of the ESA’s Personal Data Protection”) adopted by the Director General of ESA on 1 March 2022 (“**ESA PDP Policy**”).

This notice is intended to describe why and how Your personal data are collected and processed by or on behalf of ESA as Data Controller, on the initiative of the ESA above-mentioned Department, as well as what rights You have in relation to Your personal data. It also informs You about the contact details of the Data Protection Officer. This privacy notice was last updated on 22/04/2025. It must be read in conjunction with the ESA PDP Framework and other privacy notices referred to herein.

(1) How can you contact ESA regarding this notice?

The ESA Data Protection Officer (“DPO”) may be contacted in line with the ESA PDP Framework at DPO@esa.int. Specific information is available upon request from the DPO.

SEPARATE CONTROLLERS:

To know the point of contact for personal data protection matters concerning separate Controllers (which are independently responsible for the collection and processing of personal data they decide upon), please refer to the privacy notices of these separate Controllers. Your queries regarding these matters will not be dealt with by ESA or its DPO.

(2) What kinds of personal data are collected and further processed?

We collect and process various kinds of personal data and may require You to provide personal data for the purposes mentioned later in this notice. Depending on the purpose for which they are collected and further processed, the personal data may include the following:

- **Identity Data:** including Your names;
- **Contact information:** including email address;
- **Professional information:** including job title or role, institute, email address;
- **OrcID** of the data producers;
- **Professional career data:** including your previous positions and professional experience;
- **Technical data, including online identifiers:** for example, metadata, internet protocol (IP) address or domain names of the devices utilised, login data, browser data, in particular the type plug-in version, user preferences and history; MAC data, device information, uniform resource identifier (URI) address, time zone setting, operating system and platform and other technology of the devices you are using; geolocation server logs data, log data;
- **Social media data:** if you are a user of social media and depending on the circumstances or the social media in question, the personal data that we may collect are derived from:

- Your user profile, e.g. Your profile picture published on social media, your pseudonym, nickname or avatar),
- Your interactions (such as when You interact with a story, follow or unfollow a web page, link or unlink a web page or post, recommend a web page, share a post, react to a web page or a post, comment on a web page or a post, or perform any other action related to a specific topic, network and /or connection) on the social media or other information related to your habits, hobbies, interests, professional and educational background etc.
- Your online identifiers, including Technical Data related to your social media use;
- personal data processed via third-party platforms, application or websites (connected to a social media platform), tools or services;
- The audiovisual content that might be published on the social media platforms: this may include information in or about the content provided by a user (e.g., metadata), such as the location / date of a photo, voice recordings, video recordings, or an image of a data subject;
- other personal information You may disclose via the social media or in the use thereof.
- **Other personal information You may provide:** in particular the content of exchanges with ESA, for instance dietary preferences or assistance data;
- **Other personal data** that You have to the extent you made them public;
- **Other data, such as:**
 - Your messages, date, and time the message was sent;
 - the content of the questions you have asked;
 - other data mentioned in Your messages;
 - data You have made public.

(3) ***How are Your personal data collected or further processed?***

ESA processes Your personal data by:

- Using GitHub as ESA processor to provide access to the detailed description of the metadata of each dataset, which includes your personal data
- Including and displaying publicly your personal data in a DOI landing page for each dataset. More precisely, ESA will mint a DOI through DataCite for each dataset and provides public access to the DOI landing page on its servers. Each DOI is an hyperlink to an html landing page stored on ESA servers, and ESA is committed to preserve the accessibility and accuracy of the information stored in this page. Personal information shared in this page includes first and family names, email, role, institute and OrcID of the data producers usually called principal investigator (PI). Every PI agrees with the publication of this information before ESA makes it publicly available on GitHub and ESA servers. The metadata description of each dataset is stored on GitHub in order to be shared with international partners including space agencies and the heliophysics community in general.

In addition to the personal data, We collect directly from You (e.g. if you complete and submit a form to, or for, ESA, if You use an platform, tool or website operated by ESA or on behalf of ESA, etc.), We may, depending on Your situation, collect certain personal data about You indirectly including collection of personal data from third-parties. For instance, depending on the purpose of processing, third parties may be analytics providers or social media platforms and Your data may result from the content You post on social media You consult, from cookies deposited on Your device under the relevant terms and conditions etc.; third parties (service providers of ESA, investors concerned by ESA programmes, activities or initiatives, etc.) involved in an area relevant to the purpose of processing etc.

(4) ***Why are Your personal data collected and further processed?***

More and more scientific journals are requesting a description of the datasets to allow the publication of the scientific research which used the given dataset in the form of a DOI (Digital Object Identifier). Additionally, ESA

is engaged to increase data discoverability and interoperability to boost the open exchange of ESA Heliophysics data. For these purposes ESA is issuing a DOI for each dataset that it distributes publicly.

Each DOI is an hyperlink to an html landing page stored on ESA servers, and ESA is committed to preserve the accessibility and accuracy of the information stored in this page. Personal information shared in this page includes first and family names, email, role, institute and ORCID of the data producers usually called principal investigator (PI). Every PI agrees with the publication of this information before ESA makes it publicly available on GitHub and ESA servers. The metadata description of each dataset is stored on GitHub in order to be shared with international partners including space agencies and the heliophysics community in general.

We collect and process Your personal data necessary for the activities conducted to fulfil Our purpose, which is *“to provide for and to promote, for exclusively peaceful purposes, cooperation among European States in space research and technology and their space applications, with a view to their being used for scientific purposes and for operational space applications systems”* (as per ESA Convention). We serve the public interest, and we wish to foster the public interest in space activities and programmes.

All the processing carried out by, or on behalf of, ESA upon initiative of the above-mentioned Department falls in this general purpose and, in particular, into one of the reasons permitted under ESA PDP Framework, in particular under ESA PDP Policy.

In any case, we do not process your personal data for activities where our interests are overridden by the impact on you, unless we have your consent or are otherwise required or legally permitted.

Further information on the purpose of processing is provided by clicking on links associated with each section below, which correspond to various situations that may be relevant to You.

What is the purpose of processing Your personal data?
<p>4.5 IF YOU USE SOCIAL MEDIA OR INTERACTING WITH AN ESA ACCOUNT ON SOCIAL MEDIA</p> <p>Your personal data are collected and further processed to inform and raise awareness with the broad public in particular in ESA Member States and performs qualitative media monitoring, including monitoring and analysis of website use, traffic and interactions. These are public service tasks related to ESA’s mission under the ESA Convention.</p> <p>The processing of your social media personal data follows Your voluntary registration and use of social media (including forums, blogs, related APIs) and Your voluntary acceptance of their applicable terms and conditions and privacy policies, over which ESA has no control. The use of social media by ESA does not entail endorsement by ESA of the related terms and conditions or of social media privacy policies.</p> <p>Your social media personal data - collected and processed either directly by ESA or by third-party companies, for ESA or for the social media platforms - is used by or for ESA for the communication activities, such as coordinating social media presence, for sending e-mails and invitations (this entails the management of contact lists for correspondence), for statistical and analytical purposes and, generally, for the promotion of ESA’s communication campaigns and related activities and programmes.</p> <p>In particular, Your personal data are collected and further processed for the following purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to raise awareness or conduct surveys on topics related to space activities, programmes, initiatives and to ESA mission, programmes, activities or initiatives; (ii) to deal with your current and future queries or requests formulated on such social media, platforms, account(s) or to otherwise engage with you; (iii) to ensure audience measurement; (iv) to gather statistics with a view to improving our communications and to enhance user experience; (v) to analyse and monitor Your interactions with other users, in relation to space activities, programmes, initiatives and to ESA mission, programmes and activities; (vi) to analyse and monitor Your reactions to ESA activities, programmes and initiatives as well as to various posts, statements or declarations made in connection with space activities, programmes, initiatives in particular to optimise ESA communication and engagement on social media;

- (vii) to make the decision about involving You in ESA promotional activities after evaluating your public profile, your behaviour on social media and your potential interest;
- (viii) to identify and collaborate with influencers who may engage in ESA communication activities or otherwise promote ESA activities, programmes or initiatives;
- (ix) to delete comments that seem to us as not relevant to the topic or account, offensive, abusive, etc.
- (x) to defend ESA's rights and interests, including to defend ESA from possible liability claims that may arise.

4.6 IF YOU ARE A RESEARCHER AND DOI HOLDS YOUR PERSONAL DATA

In particular, Your personal data are collected and further processed for the following purposes:

- (i) to respond to requests;
- (ii) to ensure that You can be contacted in relation to Your research and in Your legitimate interest;
- (iii) to maintain a dialogue with researchers using the data You have processed
- (iv) to enable the scientific community to include ESA dataset DOIs in their manuscript making use of ESA public data, often requested and sometimes imposed by publishers;
- (v) to disseminate content, press releases, any relevant material and analysing, monitoring thereof;
- (vi) to raise awareness on topics related to space activities, programmes, initiatives and to ESA mission, programmes and activities;
- (vii) to deal with your current and future queries or requests;
- (viii) to analyse and monitor all media publications related to ESA activities, programmes and initiatives as well as other space news;
- (ix) to defend ESA's rights and interests, including to defend ESA from possible liability claims that may arise.

4.8 IF YOU FORMULATE A REQUEST OR A COMPLAINT IN THE EXERCISE OF YOUR RIGHTS

In particular, Your personal data are collected and further processed for the following purposes:

- (i) to handle any questions or complaints you submit to ESA;
- (ii) to respond to any request relating to your rights;
- (iii) to defend ESA from possible liability claims that may arise.

4.9. IF YOU INTERACT WITH ESA ON ESA PROGRAMMES, ACTIVITIES OR INITIATIVES otherwise than as mentioned in Section 4.5 above

Your personal data are collected and further processed for the following purposes:

- (i) to perform public service tasks related to ESA's mission under the ESA Convention;
- (ii) to facilitate your participation in opportunities (call for ideas, call for proposals), face-to-face events and online Events such as workshop, conferences, webinars;
- (iii) to manage your relationship with ESA as well as your requests and applications in relation to the ESA programmes, activities and initiatives, and
- (iv) to facilitate interactions with relevant entities and pursue or exchange on the resulting opportunities;
- (v) to conduct actions whose purpose is to know, predict and – as applicable – stimulate Your interest in ESA programmes, activities and initiatives;
- (vi) to deliver information and reports to delegations of ESA Member States or of the states participating to ESA programmes, as required under the applicable legal framework;
- (vii) to defend ESA's rights and interests, including to defend ESA from possible liability claims that may arise.

4.10 IF YOU USE ESA INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) INFRASTRUCTURE, TOOLS, AND SERVICES (OPERATED BY ESA OR ON BEHALF OF ESA)

Your personal data may be collected and further processed for the purposes of enabling the Agency to comply with its obligations under the ESA Personal Data Protection Framework, in particular:

- i. to provide optimised data flow between target environments in an automated manner;
- ii. to provide and as applicable to discontinue Your access to the IT infrastructure, tools and services operated by or on behalf of ESA;
- iii. to provide access and proper performance of the service to end-users;
- iv. to provide support services and to ensure the management and maintenance of the service;

- | | |
|-------|---|
| v. | to enable ESA to perform actions in connection with identity and access management, incident prevention, management or reporting; |
| vi. | to ensure data subject rights management; |
| vii. | to protect, enforce or defend the Agency's rights and interests in connection with any matter arising in relation to Your use; |
| viii. | to defend the Agency from possible liability claims that may arise in connection with Your use; |
| ix. | to ensure personal data quality and accuracy. |

NOTA BENE: If Your personal data processing is subject to one of the situations above, other sections may be relevant to You. You are thus invited to take knowledge of information provided under all the sections that are relevant to your case. In the description of the purpose, we made the choice to avoid duplication.

(5) On what legal grounds do We collect and process Your data?

We process Your personal data pursuant to the ESA PDP Framework, in particular pursuant to Article 5 of the ESA PDP Policy, for fair, specified and legitimate purposes or for purposes compatible therewith. Other ESA Rules and Regulations may serve as legal basis, as they may be indicated to You in additional notices, as appropriate.

What are the legal basis for processing Your personal data?

5.1 General basis for processing under ESA PDP Policy

Generally, the processing referred to in this notice falls under **Article 5.2.1 of the ESA PDP Policy**, i.e.:

- a. for the performance of an activity carried out by ESA within its purpose and in the framework of, and in conformity with, the ESA Convention, the Policy on Personal Data Protection adopted by Director General of ESA on 1 March 2022 "Agreement between the States Parties to the Convention for the establishment of a European Space ESA and the European Space ESA for the protection and the exchange of classified information" done in Paris on 19 August 2002, and the applicable rules and procedures, including ESA Security Regulations and Directives; this includes Processing necessary for ESA's management and functioning, Dispute Resolution Procedure, and or Investigation Procedures; or
- b. for compliance with a legal obligation to which ESA is subject; or
- c. for tasks in the frame of ESA's cooperation with the competent authority of Member States, in order to facilitate the proper administration of justice; or
- d. for security; or
- e. for the performance of a contract concluded by ESA within its purpose in relation with an activity carried out by ESA in the framework of, and in conformity with, the ESA Convention and the applicable rules and procedures;
- f. for Your legitimate interest.

(6) In which circumstances may We transfer or provide access to Your personal data?

At times, it is necessary for us to disclose Your personal data to authorised recipients, to the extent this is necessary for carrying out the processing operations referred to in this notice. Typically, the third-party recipients include:

1/ third party providers: We may engage various service providers such as:

- (i) providers in charge with the organisation and management of communication activities,
- (ii) providers involved in the management of social media accounts,
- (iii) providers involved in marketing, advertising activities, managing newsletters, managing statistics and media services,
- (iv) providers of cloud/data hosting services,
- (v) providers of website related services,

- (vi) providers enabling Us to manage our contracting process,
- (vii) providers ensuring the security of our premises,
- (viii) providers enabling Us to provide you with working tools, etc.

2/ partners of ESA, in relation to ESA activities and programmes and, generally, in relation to ESA mission as foreseen in ESA Convention, whether they are individuals, companies, investors, education institutions, research organisations or other legal entity;

3/ ESA governing bodies and authorities and their subordinate bodies, as required by the legal framework applicable to ESA, including ESA Member States' delegations, experts and advisors, for the purposes of performing their role in relation to the Agency, in the light of the ESA Convention and all the applicable rules and regulations;

4/ other third parties interacting with ESA under a specific framework.

These third-party recipients are generally situated in the European Union, the European Economic Area or in countries that offer an adequate level of protection equivalent to that offered within the European Union and the European Economic Area (e.g. Argentina, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, United-Kingdom).

When the third-party data recipients are located in a country or international organisation not offering an adequate level of protection (e.g., Australia, United States, etc.), we take necessary measures to safeguard your data, in line with the conditions set forth in ESA PDP framework.

Additionally, we may utilise services provided by IT providers or integrate social media features into our platforms. In such instances, these IT providers or social media platforms may provide links to their respective websites, where they conduct their own data processing activities. It is entirely at your discretion whether you choose to access and utilise these social media features, depending on the terms and conditions applicable to each platform. If you prefer not to engage with social media or not to accept their terms and conditions, you have the option to refrain from accessing or using these platforms. Your decision regarding social media usage is within your control.

In case of transfer of personal data to the United States or other countries not offering an adequate level of protection, transfer may expose You to certain risks, particularly the risk of profiling, the risk that the applicable legal framework may allow further processing of the personal data and that any given consent may not be withdrawn.

In exceptional cases, for instance in case of a criminal offence evidenced by the collection or processing of data, we may share the said data with the appropriate authorities or bodies, including those having an investigative role or those involved in the concerned legal proceedings.

(7) *How long do We retain Your personal data for?*

Your data are stored for the shortest time possible, considering the reasons why we need to process Your data, as well as all legal obligations applicable to ESA. The ESA established time limits to erase or review the data stored. Retention periods applied by the ESA are proportionate to the purposes for which they were collected. Thus, the ESA will keep Your personal data for as long as necessary for the fulfilment of those purposes and shall be deleted afterwards. By way of exception, We may keep Your personal data for a longer period, for archiving purposes in the public interest or for reasons of scientific or historical research, being reminded that appropriate technical and organisational measures are put in place (e.g. anonymisation, encryption, etc.).

(8) *How do We protect and safeguard Your personal data?*

All processing operations are carried out pursuant to ESA Rules and Regulations, including ESA PDP Framework and ESA Security Regulations. In particular, the ESA collects and processes personal data in conditions protecting confidentiality, integrity and security of personal data.

In order to protect Your personal data, ESA has implemented a number of technical and organisational measures against the risks of loss as well as against unauthorised access, destruction, use, modification or disclosure of personal data, in particular when such risks concern sensitive personal data.

These measures consider the state of the art, the costs of implementation and the nature, scope, context and purposes of processing as well as the risk of varying likelihood and severity for the rights and freedoms of natural persons. They may include, as appropriate, the pseudonymisation and encryption of personal data.

(9) *What are Your rights as data subject and how can you exercise them?*

Under conditions detailed in the ESA PDP Framework, You have:

- the right to be informed about the identity of the data controller, the contact details of the data protection officer, the purpose of the data processing, the data recipients to whom the personal data shall be disclosed, the rights of rectification or erasure of his/her data, the storage time-limits (if any), the practical modalities of exercising the rights, etc. ; this is the purpose of this privacy notice and any other notice referred to herein ;
- the right to access the personal data We process about You; unless you have access to such data via an account, you may send us your request by email to dpo@esa.int ;
- the right to have Your personal data erased, rectified, completed; if you want to review and correct the personal information, you can either do it yourself, in case you have access to such data via an account, or you may send us your request by email to dpo@esa.int ;
- the right to lodge a complaint before the Supervisory authority, in accordance with the latter's rules of procedure. In case You demonstrate, or have serious reasons to believe, that a data protection incident occurred in relation with Your personal data, following a decision of ESA, you may send notify us thereof by email to dpo@esa.int.

Once a request to erase data is received, we will ensure that the data are deleted unless it can be processed on another legal ground, as mentioned in Article 5.1 above. If Your data was processed for several purposes, We do not process personal data for the part of the processing for which consent has been withdrawn.

For instance:

- Your personal data may continue to be processed for the performance of a legal obligation of ESA or where such data is necessary for the establishment, exercise, or defence of legal claims;
- If there are multiple processing concerning You, based on consent, You have to expressly indicate which consent you wish to withdraw.

When the processing of Your personal data are based on Your consent and unless a specific case applies (e.g. see Article 6 above), You have also the right to withdraw Your consent.

You may wish to exercise any of the above-mentioned rights, by sending a request explicitly specifying Your query to the ESA DPO via e-mail at dpo@esa.int

You may be asked additional information to confirm your identity and/or to assist ESA to locate the data You are seeking.

(10) *ESA Contractors*

ESA may enter into contracts with various contractors who, with regard to Your Personal Data and depending on the contract concluded with ESA, may act either as a separate Data Controller or as a Data Processor.

- To the extent such contractor act as a separate Data Controller, the separate privacy notice of the contractor will apply for the purposes of collection and processing decided by the contractor.
- To the extent such contractor act as a Data Processor, this privacy notice applies for the purposes of collection and processing decided by ESA.