



European Committee  
of the Regions

## Data Protection Notice

### Y-Factor Project – ‘*Should I stay or should I go?*’

#### 1. Introduction

The European Committee of the Regions (CoR) is committed to safeguarding your personal data in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (EUDPR).

Your personal data may be collected and processed for the implementation of the Y Factor Project – Spring 2026 edition, entitled “*Should I Stay or Should I Go?*”. The project explores the factors that influence young people’s decisions to remain in or relocate from their region or city.

Information collected through surveys and interviews will be used to produce a policy analysis and contribute to a public exhibition hosted at the Committee of the Regions. The policy analysis will be published from 24 June 2026 and presented during the CoR Plenary Session on 1 or 2 July 2026. Both outputs will draw on insights derived from the information collected as part of the project.

To support informed discussion on the project’s findings and related policy challenges, a public debate will be held on 24 June 2026 with four political members of the Committee of the Regions. The debate will provide an opportunity to exchange views and contribute to the broader objectives of the project.

#### 2. Who is responsible for the processing of personal data?

The CoR acts as controller for the processing of personal data. The delegated controller is Directorate D (D.3). In order to get in touch with the delegated controller, contact: [socialmedia@cor.europa.eu](mailto:socialmedia@cor.europa.eu)

#### 3. What is the purpose of the processing?

The purpose of the processing is to collect and analyze input from young people across Europe as part of the Y Factor Project. The 2026 edition, “*Should I Stay or Should I Go?*”, seeks to better understand the factors that influence young people’s decisions to remain in or leave their region or city. The data gathered through surveys and interviews will serve as the basis for the project’s public exhibition and the accompanying policy analysis publication.

Interview materials may also be used to promote the project on the social media channels of the CoR, the official page of the CoR and the official Instagram account of the Y Factor Project, either in anonymized form or, where consent has been provided, in a non-anonymized format.

Please note that each social media platform acts as an independent data controller for any personal data it processes when you access and use its services. These platforms apply their own privacy policies and terms of use, which are separate from those of the CoR. We strongly encourage you to review the privacy

policies of each platform to understand how your personal data is collected, used, and protected when interacting with their services.

In order to access and interact with the CoR's content on social media platforms (such as by liking, sharing, or commenting on posts), you must first have an account with the respective platform and accept its terms of service and privacy policy. These terms are established independently by the platform and govern how your personal data is collected and processed. The CoR has no control over these platform-specific policies.

#### **4. What is the legal basis for the processing?**

The legal basis for the processing of your personal data is your consent, in accordance with Article 5(1)(d) of the EUDPR, which provides that "the data subject has given consent to the processing of his or her personal data for one or more specific purposes."

In addition, 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, pursuant to Article 5(1)(a) of the EUDPR.

#### **5. What personal data are processed?**

The personal data processed may include age group, gender, country of origin, country of residence, type of region or city of origin and residence, current occupation, level of education, field of study, and the opinions and views expressed in the survey.

Where participants voluntarily agree to be contacted for follow-up interviews, their contact details may also be collected. In addition, photographs voluntarily provided by participants, and only with their explicit consent, may be used for inclusion in the exhibition. Interviews might be also shared on social media after consent provided by the interviewed person is obtained.

Moreover, photographs and video recordings of the speakers and of the audience may be taken during the debate on 24 June may be published on the project's official social media channels. The information collected and shared during the event will be used to support the policy analysis and the exhibition, which constitute the final outputs and primary objectives of this project.

#### **6. Who are the recipients or categories of recipients of your personal data?**

The recipients of the personal data include the trainees of the Spring Cohort 2026 of the Committee of the Regions, who will process the information for the purpose of developing the exhibition and the policy publication associated with the Y Factor Project.

Members and staff of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) are invited to attend the debate on 24th June and to visit the accompanying exhibition. Both events will be held on the premises of the CoR.

Moreover, by scanning the QR code displayed on the exhibition panels, visitors will be able to download the policy document.

#### **7. Are your personal data transferred to a third country or international organisation?**

No, your personal data are not transferred to non-EU Member States or to international organisations.

#### **8. How can you exercise your rights?**

You have the right to access your personal data, to rectify any inaccurate or incomplete personal data, to restrict (under certain conditions) the processing of your personal data, to request the deletion of your personal data (if processed unlawfully) and, where applicable, the right to data portability.

You have the right to object to the processing of your data on grounds relating to your situation, at any time.

You can direct your queries to [socialmedia@cor.europa.eu](mailto:socialmedia@cor.europa.eu) Your query will be dealt without undue delay and in any event within one month of receipt of the request. That period may be extended by two further months where necessary.

You have the right of recourse to the European Data Protection Supervisor. You can contact them by using their [contact page](#) if you consider that your rights under the EUDPR have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the CoR.

#### **9. How long are your personal data kept for?**

Personal data will be retained only for the duration of the Y Factor Project and will be deleted once the project is completed, unless a longer retention period is required for archiving purposes in accordance with the applicable rules.

The information used in the exhibition and in the policy, publication will be anonymized. Individuals will thus not be identifiable in any of these outputs.

The videos and photos taken during the interviews and the debate may also appear on the official Instagram page of the Y Factor Project and may be stored there indefinitely, only in circumstances where consent has been provided.

#### **10. Are the personal data collected used for automated decision-making, including profiling?**

No, the CoR will not use your personal data to make automated decisions about you. "Automated decisions" are defined as decisions made without human intervention.

#### **11. Will your personal data be further processed for a purpose other than that for which data have been obtained?**

No, your personal data will not be further processed for a different purpose.

#### **12. Who do I contact if I have queries or complaints?**

If you have any further questions about the processing of your personal data, please contact first of all the data controller at [socialmedia@cor.europa.eu](mailto:socialmedia@cor.europa.eu)

You may also contact the CoR data protection officer ([data.protection@cor.europa.eu](mailto:data.protection@cor.europa.eu)) and/or the European Data Protection Supervisor by using their [contact page](#).