# CONTINUOUSLY OPEN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXPERT GROUP

# **CONSUMER POLICY ADVISORY GROUP**

# And of its sub-group consisting of consumer organisations,

# And for the selection of observers (consumer organisations from Norway and Iceland)

# 1. Background

Following its Commission Communication on the New Consumer Agenda<sup>1</sup>, the Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) envisages to set up a group of experts ("the group").

The group is meant to "bring together representatives from consumer organisations, civil society and industry in support of the Consumer Agenda"<sup>2</sup>. It will provide stakeholders' views on the implementation of the Agenda, which sets out both a political vision and 22 concrete actions in key consumer policy areas.

The Agenda addresses the immediate challenges for European consumers, stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as challenges in five longer-term transversal priority areas: the green and digital transitions, enforcement of EU law, addressing consumers' vulnerabilities, and international cooperation.

The profiles of the members of the group, therefore, will have to match the expertise and experience required to work on the above consumer policy areas. The Commission is calling for applications with a view to selecting members of the group.

# 2. Tasks of the group

**2.1** Within such a framework, the group's tasks shall be to:

- suggest operational actions to the Commission to implement the high-level priorities set out in the Consumer Agenda as input into the yearly priorities to be discussed at the annual Consumer Summit
- contribute to the monitoring by the Commission of the implementation of annual operational actions as follow-up of the Consumer Summit.
- assist Commission services in the preparation and/or implementation of legislative and non-legislative actions delivering on the priorities of the Consumer Agenda.
- foster exchange of experiences and good practice on the areas of the Consumer Agenda and contribute to strengthening the capacity of consumer organisations.

The group, which is expected to hold its first meeting in March 2021, shall prepare reports on specific themes, issue opinions and prepare a compendium of best practices.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> New Consumer Agenda, Strengthening consumer resilience for sustainable recovery, COM(2020)696 final, see Action 21, on page 22 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legalcontent/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX% 3A52020DC0696&qid=1605887353618

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Action 21 of the New Consumer Agenda

The Commission is calling for applications with a view to selecting members of the group, the members of the 'Consumer organisations' sub-group and observers (consumer organisations from Norway and Iceland).

# 2.2. Composition

The group shall consist of up to 55 members.

Members shall be:

a) 6 to 8 EU-level consumer organisations and other entities representing relevant consumer, civil society or special interest groups, such as the elderly, disabled, youth, educators, users or regulators of financial, telecommunication, energy or other services or sectors with public service aspect (e.g. transport), local and community initiatives (**Type**  $C^3$ ).

b) one consumer organisation per each Member State, chosen to hold an adequate level of experience and expertise and able to perform advisory role to the Commission. (**Type C**).

c) 10-12 industry associations and organisations representing European businesses and other economic operators with commercial activities directly interacting with European consumers and accounting for an important part of EU private consumption (**Type C**).

d) 4 to 6 experts, professionals or members of academia with suitable/relevant expertise. These members shall be appointed as individuals in a personal capacity and shall act independently and in the public interest (**Type**  $A^4$ );

One consumer organisation from Norway and one from Iceland may be granted an observer status in the main group, in compliance with the horizontal rules, as a result of this call for applications.

The group will be articulated as follows:

- the "Main group" composed of members listed under a), c) and d) above as well as up to 6 national consumer organisations chosen from amongst members listed under b) so as to correspond each year to the Members States holding the current, previous and upcoming years' Council Presidencies;
- a "Consumer organisations sub-group" that brings together all members listed under b) above.

In addition to the above sub-group bringing together consumer organisations, further subgroups could also be created, to examine specific questions on the basis of terms of reference defined by DG JUST. Sub-groups shall operate in compliance with the horizontal rules and shall report to the group. They shall be dissolved as soon as their mandate is fulfilled.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Type C - organisations in the broad sense of the word including companies, associations, NGOs, trade unions, universities, research institutes, law firms and consultancies. See C(2016) 3301 final.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Type A - individuals appointed in a personal capacity, acting independently and expressing their own personal views. See C(2016) 3301 final.

The creation of sub-groups will allow to keep the membership of the "main" group balanced in terms of representativeness of interests at stake with a non-excessive number of members (up to 30), ensuring the functionality and efficiency of the group.

# 2.3. APPOINTMENT

Members and observers shall be appointed by the Director General of DG JUST from applicants complying with the requirements referred to in chapter 4 of this call.

Members under par. 2.2 d) are appointed in a personal capacity and shall act independently and in the public interest (Type A).

For the members belonging to 2.2 b) (Type C), those under par. 2.2 a), and those under par. 2.2 c), as well as for observers, the selected organisations shall nominate one representative and one alternate representative and shall be responsible for ensuring that their representatives provide a high level of expertise. DG JUST may refuse the nomination, by an organisation, of a representative and/or of an alternate representative if it considers this nomination inappropriate in the light of the requirements specified in the call for applications. In such cases, the organisation concerned shall be asked to appoint another representative/alternate representative under the same conditions.

If again DG JUST refuses the nomination of the appointment, the concerned organisation will be withdrawn from the list of the selected members or observers and replaced by the first available one in a reserve list. In order to ensure continuity and the smooth functioning of the group, such reserve list of suitable candidates shall be established that may be used to appoint replacements. DG JUST shall ask applicants for their consent before including their names on the reserve list.

Members and observers shall be appointed for 2 years. They shall remain in office until the end of their term of office. Their term of office may be renewed.

Registration in the Transparency Register<sup>5</sup> is required in order for organisations – here under par. 2.2 a), b) and c) - to be appointed as members.

Members who are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the group's deliberations, who in the opinion of DG JUST do not comply with the conditions set out in Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union or who resign, shall be replaced for the remainder of their term of office.

# 2.4 **RULES OF ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE GROUP**

The group shall be chaired by a representative of DG JUST.

The group shall act at the request of DG JUST, in compliance with the Commission's horizontal rules on expert groups ('the horizontal rules')<sup>6</sup>.

In principle, the group shall meet twice per year. DG JUST shall provide secretarial services. Ad-hoc meetings, including of sub-groups, may be organised by DG JUST. For both the group and the sub-groups, meetings could be held physically or online, as appropriate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyregister/public/homePage.do?locale=en#en</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Article 13.1 of the horizontal rules.

Members should be prepared to attend meetings systematically, to contribute actively to discussions in the group, to be involved in preparatory work ahead of meetings, to examine and provide comments on documents under discussion, and to act, as appropriate, as 'rapporteurs' on *ad hoc* basis.

As a general rule, working documents will be drafted in English and meetings will be also conducted in English.

The group shall adopt its opinions, recommendations or reports by consensus. In the event of a vote, the outcome of the vote shall be decided by simple majority of the members. The members that voted against or abstained shall have the right to have a document summarising the reasons for their position annexed to the opinions, recommendations or reports.

In agreement with DG JUST, the group may, by simple majority of its members, decide that deliberations shall be public.

Participants in the activities of the group and sub-groups shall not be remunerated for the services they offer. Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the group and sub-groups shall be reimbursed by the Commission. Reimbursement shall be made in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission and within the limits of the available appropriations allocated to DG JUST under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

The members of the group, as well as invited experts and observers, are subject to the obligation of professional secrecy, which by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them applies to all members of the institutions and their staff, as well as to the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of Union classified information, laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443<sup>7</sup> and 2015/444<sup>8</sup>. Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

On a proposal by, and in agreement with DG JUST, the group shall adopt its rules of procedure on the basis of the standard rules of procedure for expert groups.

DG JUST may invite experts with specific expertise with respect to a subject matter on the agenda to take part in the work of the group or sub-groups on an ad hoc basis.

Observers' representatives may be permitted by the Chair to take part in the discussions of the group and provide expertise. However, they shall not have voting rights and shall not participate in the formulation of recommendations or advice of the group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security in the Commission (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 41).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

# 2.5. TRANSPARENCY

The group shall be registered in the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ('the Register of expert groups') $^9$ .

As concerns the group composition, DG JUST shall publish the following data on the Register of expert groups:

- the name of individuals appointed in a personal capacity;
- the name of member organisations; the interest represented shall be disclosed;
- the name of observers.

DG JUST shall make available all relevant documents, including the agendas, the minutes and the participants' submissions on the Register of expert groups. In particular, DG JUST shall ensure publication of the agenda and other relevant background documents in due time ahead of the meeting, followed by timely publication of minutes. Exceptions to publication shall only be foreseen where it is deemed that disclosure of a document would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) N° 1049/2001<sup>10</sup>.

Personal data shall be collected, processed and published in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725.

# **3.** Application procedure

Interested individuals and organisations are invited to submit their application to the European Commission, DG JUST.

This call will remain open. Applications can be sent at any given time throughout the existence of the group to the following e-mail address: <u>JUST-CPAG@ec.europa.eu</u>. Applications received shall be assessed, as long as the work of the group should require members to be appointed.

DG JUST shall organise the first round of assessments in February 2021 in view of the first meeting of the group. In order for applications to be assessed in this first round, they shall be sent by **28 January 2021** at the latest.

Applications must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English would facilitate the evaluation procedure. If another language is used, it would be helpful to include a summary of the application in English.

Organisations shall indicate the name of their representative and alternate representative in the group.

An application will be deemed admissible only if it is sent by the deadline and includes the documents referred to below. All documents submitted by applicants should be duly filled in, legible, signed and numbered sequentially.

<sup>9 &</sup>lt;u>http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> These exceptions are intended to protect public security, military affairs, international relations, financial, monetary or economic policy, privacy and integrity of the individual, commercial interests, court proceedings and legal advice, inspections/investigations/audits and the institution's decision-making process.

# Supporting documents

Each application shall include the following documents:

- a cover letter explaining the applicant's motivation for answering this call and stating what contribution the applicant could make to the group;
- a classification form duly filled in specifying the member or observer category for which the application is made (Annex I).
- a selection criteria form duly filled in documenting how the applicant fulfills the selection criteria listed in chapter 4 of this call (Annex II).

For individuals applying to be appointed as members of the group in a personal capacity, as well as for individuals indicated by organisations as their representatives, a *curriculum vitae* (CV) shall also be provided, preferably not exceeding three pages. All CVs shall be submitted in the European format (https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions ).

Individuals applying to be appointed as members of the group in a personal capacity must disclose any circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest by submitting a declaration of interests ('DOI') form on the basis of the standard DOI form for expert groups attached to this call (Annex III). Submission of a duly completed DOI form is necessary in order to be eligible to be appointed in a personal capacity. Individuals who answer in the affirmative questions included in the DOI form are required to supply further **details** by filling in the section 'Description'. DG JUST shall perform the conflict of interest assessment in compliance with the horizontal rules<sup>11</sup>.

Additional supporting documents (e.g. publications) may be requested at a later stage.

# 4. Selection criteria

DG JUST will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

# **4.1.a)** For the members belonging to the category under 2.2 a) (Type C)

- These members should have as their primary objectives and activities to represent interests of consumer or other social or relevant interest groups as identified in par. 2.2. a);
- have been mandated in at least two thirds of the Member States to represent the interests of consumer to represent interests of consumer organisations or other social or relevant interest groups or one of the other categories as identified in par. 2.2. a);
- adequate level of representativeness of national consumer or other organisations referred to in the par. 2.2 a) in one or more of the following tasks (not exhaustive list): involvement and participation in public consultations to review legislation and in meetings with stakeholder groups, not only concerning the priorities set by the consumer policy itself (or one of the other policy area referred to in par. 2.2 a), but also concerning their mainstreaming in other EU relevant policies; cooperation on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Article 11 of the horizontal rules.

concrete issues with EU level regulators, with other civil society organisation, and/or with business associations; communication and dissemination of the results of its activities; networking with and supporting the national consumer organisations.

- have proven and relevant competence and experience at European level in consumer policy areas or at least in one of the areas identifiable under par. 2.2 a);
- have provided to the Commission satisfactory accounts of their membership, internal rules and sources of funding.

# **4.1.b)** For the members belonging to the category under par. **2.2** b) (Type C)

- The national consumer organisations referred to in paragraph 2.2.b) must be representative, in accordance with national rules or practice, of consumers and active at national level.
- These European consumer organisations must meet both the following sets of criteria:
  - -(i) be non-governmental, non-profit-making, independent of industry, commerce and business or other conflicting interests, and
  - -(ii) have as their primary objectives and activities, the promotion and protection of the health, safety and economic interest of consumers in the EU or the protection and promotion of rights of one of the categories/areas referred to in par. 2.2.b).
- have proven and relevant competence and experience at European level in consumer policy areas or at least in one of the areas identifiable under par. 2.2 b);
- have provided to the Commission satisfactory accounts of their membership, internal rules and sources of funding.

# **4.1.c)** For the members belonging to the category under par. **2.2.** c) (Type C)

- These members should have as their primary objectives and activities to represent interests of industry associations and other economic operators as identified in par. 2.2.c);
- have been mandated in at least two thirds of the Member States to represent the interests of consumer or one of the other categories identified in par. 2.2. c);
- have proven and relevant competence and experience at European level in consumer policy areas;
- the level of representativeness of industry associations and organisations representing European businesses and other economic operators, referred to in the par. 2.2 c) will concern one or more of the following tasks (not exhaustive list): involvement and participation in public consultations to review legislation and in meetings with stakeholder groups, not only concerning the priorities set by the consumer policy itself, but also concerning their mainstreaming in other EU relevant policies; cooperation on concrete issues with EU level regulators and other stakeholders; communication and dissemination of the results of its activities; networking with and supporting businesses and other economic operators.

# 4.1.d) For members under the category under par. 2.2. d) (Type A)

- proven and relevant competence and experience, including at European level, as outstanding professionals or members of academia with suitable expertise in consumer policy areas, including consumer protection, education and empowerment;
- absence of circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest;
- good knowledge of the English language allowing active participation in the discussions and analytical work on documents.
- 4.1.e) For the observers referred to in par. 2 (Type C)
- The national consumer organisations from Norway and Iceland referred to in par. 2 must be representative, in accordance with national rules or practice, of consumers and active at national level.
- These European consumer organisations must meet both the following sets of criteria:
  - -(i) be non-governmental, non-profit-making, independent of industry, commerce and business or other conflicting interests, and
  - -(ii) have as their primary objectives and activities, the promotion and protection of the health, safety and economic interest of consumers in the EU.
- have proven and relevant competence and experience at European level in consumer policy areas.
- have provided to the Commission satisfactory accounts of their membership, internal rules and sources of funding.

# 5. Selection procedure

The selection procedure shall consist of an assessment of the applications performed by DG JUST against the selection criteria listed in chapter 4 of this call, followed by the establishment of a list of the most suitable applicants, and concluded by the appointment of the members and observers of the group.

When defining the composition of the group, DG JUST shall aim at ensuring, as far as possible, a high level of expertise, as well as a balanced representation of relevant know how and areas of interest, while taking into account the specific tasks of the group, the type of expertise required, as well as the relevance of the applications received.

The consumer organisations applying for the category under par. 2.2 b), which are not represented in one of the selected EU-umbrella organisations under the category under 2.2 a) will be given priority.

Where individual experts are appointed in their personal capacity, DG JUST shall seek a geographical balance and a gender balance.

For any further information, please contact: <u>JUST-CPAG@ec.europa.eu</u>

# ANNEXES:

- Annex I: Classification form
- Annex II: Selection criteria form

- Annex III: Standard declaration of interests<sup>12</sup>
- Annex IV: Guidance for filling in the declaration of interests<sup>13</sup>
- Annex V: Privacy statement

<sup>13</sup> Idem.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> To be inserted as required. To be used <u>only</u> in relation to individuals applying to be appointed in a personal capacity. See updated version of the standard DOI form on <u>https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/sg/expert/Pages/templates.aspx</u>

# Annex I - Classification form<sup>14</sup>

# To be filled in by all applicants

This application is made as

□ An individual applying to be appointed in a personal capacity (Type A member); if appointed I shall act independently and in the public interest.

or

□ An organisation (Type C member).

Transparency Register identification number: [...]

*Nota Bene concerning Type C members*: although registration in the Transparency Register (TR) is required in order to be <u>appointed</u> as a Type B or C member of an expert group, it is not mandatory for the <u>application</u> procedure. Thus, interested individuals and organisations that at the time of the application are not featured yet on TR and, as a consequence, do not have a TR identification number, may still apply. However, should the applicant be selected as a result of the call for applications, it shall register in the Transparency Register as a condition to be appointed as a Type B or C member.

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To be filled in by organisations applying to be appointed as Type C members

# This application is made as the following **type of organisation**: (*please select <u>only one</u> <u>option</u>, taking into account the definitions indicated below).*

- □ a) Academia, research Institutes and Think Tanks
- □ b) Banks/Financial institutions
- $\Box$  c) Companies/groups
- $\Box$  d) Law firms
- □ e) NGOs
- □ f) Professionals' associations
- □ g) Professional consultancies
- □ h) Trade and business associations
- $\Box$  i) Trade unions
- $\Box$  j) Other (please specify):

# Definitions for organisation types

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> This form <u>must</u> be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

# Academia, Research Institutes and Think Tanks

Universities, schools, research centers, think tanks and other similar bodies performing academic and/or educational activities.

# **Banks/Financial institutions**

Banks and other similar bodies providing financial services, including financial intermediation. All sorts of banks should be classified within this category, including national central banks.

# **Companies/groups**

Individual companies or groups of companies operating in the business sector, whether they are national companies or multinational ones.

# Law firms

Business entities formed by one or more lawyers to engage in the practice of law. The primary service rendered by a law firm is to advise clients (individuals or corporations) about their legal rights and responsibilities, and to represent clients in civil or criminal cases, business transactions, and other matters in which legal advice and other assistance are sought.

# NGOs

Non-profit organisations which are independent from public authorities and commercial organisations. Some NGOs are organised around specific issues, such as environment, consumer affairs, health and human rights.

# **Professionals' associations**

Non-profit organisations seeking to further the interests of individuals engaged in a particular profession, such as physicians, nurses, architects, engineers and lawyers. Professionals' associations are different from business associations, as they promote and defend the interests of individuals carrying on a specific profession, not the interests of companies operating in the business sector.

# **Professional consultancies**

Firms carrying on, on behalf of clients, activities involving advocacy, lobbying, promotion, public affairs and relations with public authorities.

# Trade and business associations

Private bodies representing the interests of its members operating in the business sector.

# Trade unions

Organisations of workers. The most common activities performed by trade unions include the negotiation of wages, work rules, rules governing hiring, firing and promotion of workers.

# Other organisations

Organisations which are not possible to classify in any other category.

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# To be filled in by organisations applying to be appointed as Type C members and <u>observers</u>

The applicant shall represent the following **interest**: (*please select <u>one or more options</u>, taking into account the definitions indicated below*):

- □ a) Academia/Research
- $\Box$  b) Civil society
- $\Box$  c) Employees/Workers
- $\Box$  d) Finance
- $\Box$  e) Industry
- $\Box$  f) Professionals
- □ g) SMEs
- $\square$  h) Other (please specify):

# Definitions for interests represented

# Academia/Research

Universities, schools, research centers, think tanks and other similar bodies performing academic and/or educational activities.

# **Civil society**

Civil society can be defined as the aggregate of non-governmental organisations and institutions that manifest interests and will of citizens or as individuals and organisations in a society which are independent of the government.

# **Employees/workers**

Individuals working part-time or full-time under a contract of employment whether oral or written, express or implied, and having recognized rights and duties.

# Finance

The management of revenues or the conduct or transaction of money matters, as in the fields of banking, insurance and investment.

# Industry

Companies and groups of companies whose number of employees and turnover or balance sheet total are higher than the ones of SMEs (see below).

# Professionals

Individuals operating in a particular profession, such as physicians, nurses, architects, engineers and lawyers.

# **SMEs**

"SME" stands for small and medium-sized enterprises – as defined in EU law: <u>EU</u> recommendation 2003/361 .

The main factors determining whether a company is an SME are:

1. number of employees and

# 2. either turnover or balance sheet total.

Company category Employees Turnover or Balance sheet total

Medium-sized	< 250	≤€ 50 m	≤€43 m
Small	< 50	≤€ 10 m	≤€ 10 m
Micro	< 10	≤€2 m	≤€2 m

These ceilings apply to the figures for individual firms only. A firm which is part of larger grouping may need to include employee/turnover/balance sheet data from that grouping too.

# **Other interest**

Interest which is not possible to classify in any other category.

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To be filled in organisations applying to be appointed as Type C members and observers

Please select one <u>or more policy areas</u> in which you/your organisation<sup>15</sup> operate(s):

- □ Agriculture
- □ Archaeology
- □ Architecture
- $\Box$  Audiovisual and media
- □ Audit
- □ Banking
- □ Biodiversity
- $\Box$  Civil protection
- □ Civil service
- □ Climate
- $\Box$  Competition
- □ Conservation
- □ Consumer affairs
- □ Culture
- □ Cultural Heritage
- □ Cultural Landscape
- □ Customs
- □ Development
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- □ Economy
- □ Education
- □ Employment and social affairs
- □ Energy
- □ Engineering (chemical)
- $\Box$  Engineering (civil)
- □ Engineering (infrastructure)
- □ Engineering (IT)
- □ Engineering (maritime)
- □ Engineering (space policy)
- □ Engineering (space research)
- □ Enlargement
- □ Environment
- □ Equal opportunities
- □ External relations
- $\Box$  External trade
- □ Finance
- □ Fisheries and aquaculture
- $\Box$  Food safety
- □ Forestry
- □ Fundamental rights
- □ Humanitarian aid
- □ Industry
- $\Box$  Information society
- $\Box$  Innovation
- □ Insurance
- □ Labour
- $\Box$  Land management

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> To be inserted as required.

- $\Box$  Law (civil)
- □ Law (corporate)
- □ Law (criminal)
- $\Box$  Law (taxation)
- □ Linguistics and Terminology
- $\Box$  Livestock
- □ Medical profession
- □ Migration
- □ Natural resources
- □ Plant production
- $\Box$  Public affairs
- $\Box$  Public health
- □ Public relations
- $\Box$  Raw materials
- $\Box$  Research
- $\Box$  Science
- $\Box$  Science diplomacy
- □ Security
- □ Smart specialisation
- $\Box$  Social service
- □ Space and Satellites (policy)
- □ Space and Satellites (research)
- □ Sport
- $\Box$  Statistics
- □ Sustainable Development
- □ Systemic eco-innovation
- □ Tax
- □ Trade
- □ Training
- □ Transport
- □ Urban development
- □ Water
- □ Youth
- $\Box$  Other

# For individuals applying to be appointed as Type A members

Title:
Surname:
First name:
Date:
Signature
For organisations applying to be appointed as Type C members and observers
Name of the organisation <sup>16</sup> :
Surname of the representative proposed:
First name of the representative proposed:
Surname of the person applying on behalf of the organisation:

First name of the person applying on behalf of the organisation: .....

Date: .....

Signature .....

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Idem.

# Annex II: Selection criteria form<sup>17</sup>

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call, for the type of profile they apply for.

# 4.1.d) For members under the category under par. 2.2. d) (Type A)

Proven and relevant competence and experience, including at European level, as outstanding professionals or members of academia with suitable expertise in consumer policy areas, including consumer protection, education and empowerment;	
Absence of circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest;	
Good knowledge of the English language allowing active participation in the discussions and analytical work on documents.	

# 4.1.a) For the members belonging to the category under 2.2 a) (Type C)

Proven primary objectives and activities is to represent interests of consumer or other social or relevant interest groups as identified in par. 2.2. a)	
Proven mandate in at least two thirds of the Member States to represent the interests of consumer to represent interests of consumer organisations or other social or relevant interest groups or one of the other categories as identified in par. 2.2. a)	
Proven adequate level of representativeness of national consumer or other organisations referred to in the par. 2.2 lett. a) in one or more of the following tasks (not exhaustive list): involvement and participation in public consultations to review legislation and in meetings with stakeholder groups, not only concerning the priorities set by the consumer policy itself (or one of the other policy area referred to in par. 2.2 let a), but also concerning their mainstreaming in other EU relevant policies; cooperation on concrete issues with EU level regulators, with other civil society organisaation,	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> This form <u>must</u> be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

and/or with business associations; communication and dissemination of the results of its activities; networking with and supporting the national consumer organisations	
Proven and relevant competence and experience at European level in consumer policy areas or at least in one of the areas identifiable under par. 2.2 lett; a)	
Have provided to the Commission satisfactory accounts of their membership, internal rules and sources of funding	

# 4.1.b) For the members belonging to the category under par. 2.2 b) (Type C)

The national consumer organisations referred to in paragraph 2.2.b) must be representative, in accordance with national rules or practice, of consumers and active at national level	
Proven non-governmental, non-profit- making status, independence of industry, commerce and business or other conflicting interests	
Proven primary objectives and activities is to represent interests of consumer or other social or relevant interest groups as identified in par. 2.2. b)	
Proven and relevant competence and experience at European level in consumer policy areas or at least in one of the areas identifiable under par. 2.2 lett. b)	
Have provided to the Commission satisfactory accounts of their membership, internal rules and sources of funding	

# 4.1.c) For the members belonging to the category under par. 2.2. c) (Type C)

Proven primary objectives and activities to represent interests of industry associations and other economic operators as identified in par. 2.2.c)	
Proven mandate in at least two thirds of the Member States to represent the interests of	

consumer or one of the other categories identified in par. 2.2. c)	
Proven and relevant competence and experience at European level in consumer policy areas	
Proven level of representativeness of industry associations and organisations representing European businesses and other economic operators, referred to in the par. 2.2 lett. c) will concern one or more of the following tasks (not exhaustive list): involvement and participation in public consultations to review legislation and in meetings with stakeholder groups, not only concerning the priorities set by the consumer policy itself, but also concerning their mainstreaming in other EU relevant policies; cooperation on concrete issues with EU level regulators and other stakeholders; communication and dissemination of the results of its activities; networking with and supporting businesses and other economic operators	

# 4.1.e) For the observers referred to in par. 2 (Type C)

The national consumer organisations from Norway and Iceland referred to in par. 2 must be representative, in accordance with national rules or practice, of consumers and active at national level	
Proven non-governmental, non-profit- making status, independence of industry, commerce and business or other conflicting interests	
Proven primary objectives and activities is to represent interests of consumer	
Proven and relevant competence and experience at European level in consumer policy areas	
Have provided to the Commission satisfactory accounts of their membership, internal rules and sources of funding	

# For individuals applying to be appointed as Type A members

Title:
Surname:
First name:
Date:
Signature
For organisations applying to be appointed as Type C members
Name of the organisation <sup>18</sup> :
Surname of the representative proposed:
First name of the representative proposed:
Surname of the person applying on behalf of the organisation:

First name of the person applying on behalf of the organisation: .....

Date: .....

Signature .....

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Idem.

# ANNEX III

# Standard declaration of interests (DOI) form for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity

# Legal basis:

Commission Decision C(2016)3301 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups, Articles 2(4) and 11.

# **Definitions:**

"**Conflict of interest**" means any situation where an individual has an interest that may compromise or be reasonably perceived to compromise the individual's capacity to act independently and in the public interest when providing advice to the Commission in relation to the subject of the work performed by the expert group or sub-group in question.

"**Immediate family member**" means the individual's spouse, children and parents. "Spouse" includes a partner with whom the individual has a registered non marital regime. "Children" means the child(ren) the individual and the spouse have in common, the own child(ren) of the individual and the own child(ren) of the spouse.

"Legal entity" means any commercial business, industry association, consultancy, research institution or other enterprise whose funding is significantly derived from commercial sources. It also includes independent own commercial businesses, law offices, consultancies or similar.

"**Body**" means a governmental, international or non-profit organisation.

"Meeting" includes a series or cycle of meetings.

\*\*\*

Please answer each of the questions below. If the answer to any of the questions is "yes", please provide details on relevant interests and circumstances, as appropriate.

If you do not do so, your DOI form will be considered incomplete and, therefore, your application to be appointed as a member of an expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity shall be rejected.

First name:

Family name:

Expert group/sub-group:

# 1 EMPLOYMENT CONSULTANCY AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Within the past 5 years, were you employed or have you had any other professional relationship with a natural or legal entity, or held any non-remunerated post in a legal entity or other body with an interest in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question?	yes	no
question?		

1a	Employment	
1b	Consultancy, including services as an advisor	
1c	Non-remunerated post	
1d	Legal representation	

Activity	Time period (from until month/year)	Name of entity or body	Description

# 2 MEMBERSHIP OF MANAGING BODY, SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BODY OR EQUIVALENT STRUCTURE

Within the past 5 years, have you participated in the internal<br/>decision-making of a legal entity or other body with an interest in<br/>the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question or<br/>have you participated in the works of a Scientific Advisory Body<br/>with voting rights on the outputs of that entity?no

2a	Participation in a decision-making process	
2b	Participation in the work of a Scientific Advisory Body	

Activity	Time period (from until month/year)	Name of legal entity or body	Description
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# **3 RESEARCH SUPPORT**

<b>3</b> a	Research support, including grants, rents, sponsorsh	ips, 🛛	
	fellowships, non-monetary support		

Activity	Time period (from until month/year)	Name of legal entity or body	Description

# 4 FINANCIAL INTERESTS

Do you have current investments in a legal entity with an interest in<br/>the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question,<br/>including holding of stocks and shares, and which amounts to more<br/>than 10,000 EUR per legal entity or entitling you to a voting right of<br/>5% or more in such legal entity?no

<b>4</b> a	Shares	
<b>4</b> b	Other stock	

Investment	Name of legal entity	Description

# 5 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Do you have any intellectual property rights that might be affected<br/>by the outcome of the work carried out by the expert group/sub-<br/>group in question?yesno

5a	Patent, trademarks, or copyrights	
5b	Others	

Intellectual property	Description

# 6 PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND POSITIONS

Within the past 5 years, have you provided any expert opinion or	Yes	no
testimony in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in		
question, for a legal entity or other body as part of a regulatory,		
legislative or judicial process? Have you held an office or other		
position, paid or unpaid, where you represented interests or		
defended an opinion in the field of activity of the expert group/sub-		
group in question?		
group in question:		

6a	For a legal entity or other body as part of a regulatory, legislative or judicial process	
6b	Represented interests or defended an opinion	

Activity	Time period (from until month/year)	Name of legal entity or body	Description

# 7 INTERESTS OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS

yes no

7a	To your knowledge, are there any interests of your immediate	
	family members which could be seen as undermining your	
	independence when providing advice to the Commission in the	
	field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question?	

Interests	Time period (from until month/year)	Name of legal entity or body	Description

7b	If interests of your immediate family members are declared, it is your responsibility to inform them about the collection and publication of information on their interests included in the DOI and to provide them with the privacy statement attached to the guidance for filling in this DOI, and this at the latest when you file the DOI form with the Commission.

# 8 OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

yes no

8a	Are there any other elements that could be seen as undermining	
	your independence when providing advice to the Commission in	
	the field of activity of the expert group/sub-group in question?	

Description:

\*\*\*\*

I hereby declare on my honour that I have read the guidance for completing this form.

I also declare on my honour that the information disclosed in this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Should there be any change to the above information, including as regards upcoming activities, I will promptly notify the competent Commission department and complete a new DOI form describing the changes in question.

I am informed that my personal data are stored, processed and published by the Commission in accordance with Regulation (EU)  $2018/1725^{19}$  and Commission Decision C(2016)  $3301^{20}$ .

I have been provided with the corresponding privacy statement which provides further information on how the Commission processes my personal data.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Your DOI form shall be made publicly available on the Register of Commission Expert Groups and Other Similar Entities, as long as you are appointed as member of the expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity. Technical measures will be taken to indicate to search engines that your DOI form should not appear in search results.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Commission Decision C(2016) 3301 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups.

# Annex IV

# <u>Guidance for filling in the declaration of interests (DOI) form by individuals applying to</u> <u>be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity</u>

According to the Commission's horizontal rules on expert groups ('the horizontal rules'), Commission expert groups and other similar entities are consultative bodies<sup>21</sup>, the role of which is to provide advice and expertise to the Commission and its departements in relation to a number of tasks<sup>22</sup>. Individuals appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity are due to act independently and in the public interest<sup>23</sup>.

In order to ensure the highest integrity of experts, you are requested to duly complete the DOI form. You are required to disclose any circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest, i.e. any situation where your interests may compromise or may reasonably be perceived to compromise your capacity to act independently and in the public interest in providing advice to the Commission, in relation to the subject of the work performed by the expert group or sub-group in question. In particular, you must disclose in this DOI form any relevant professional and financial interests.

You must also declare relevant interests of your immediate family members. If interests of your immediate family members are declared, it is your responsibility to inform them about the collection and publication of information on their interests included in this DOI form and to provide them with the privacy statement attached to this guidance, and this at the latest when you file the DOI form with the Commission.

Please submit the completed DOI form to the competent Commission department, together with your CV, as part of your application to become member of an expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity. If there is any change concerning the information provided in the form, including on upcoming activities, you must promptly inform the competent Commission departments by completing a new DOI form which describes the changes in question.

Please note that having a declared interest does not necessarily mean having a conflict of interest. Answering "Yes" to a question on this DOI form does not automatically disqualify you or limit your participation in an expert group or sub-group. The competent Commission departments will review your answers in accordance with the horizontal rules and determine whether a conflict of interest relevant to the subject at hand exists<sup>24</sup>.

Where the competent Commission departments conclude that no conflict of interest exists, you are eligible to be appointed in a personal capacity. Where the competent Commission departments conclude that your interests may compromise or be reasonably perceived to compromise your capacity to act independently and in the public interest when providing advice to the Commission in relation to the subject of the work performed by the expert group or sub-group in question, they shall take one of the following measures to deal with the conflict of interest detected, depending on the specific circumstances:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> C(2016) 3301, Article 2.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Idem, Article 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Idem, Article 7.2. (a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Idem, Article 11.

- You shall not be appointed in a personal capacity to the expert group or sub-group in question; in such case the competent Commission department shall inform you about the outcome of the conflict of interest assessment performed;
- You shall be appointed as member of the expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity with a number of specific restrictions: you may be excluded from certain meetings and/or activities carried out by the group, such as drafting opinions or recommendations; you may also be required to abstain from discussing certain agenda items and/or from any vote on those items;
- You shall be appointed as member of the expert group or sub-group representing a common interest shared by a number of stakeholders, after consultation of the stakeholders concerned.

Your DOI form shall be made publicly available on the Register of Commission Expert Groups and Other Similar Entities, as long as you are appointed as member of the expert group or sub-group in a personal capacity. Technical measures will be taken to indicate to search engines that your DOI form should not appear in search results.

If you decline to complete a DOI form, you are not eligible to be appointed as a member of the expert group or sub-group in question in a personal capacity.

Personal data shall bestored, processed and published by the Commission in accordance with Regulation (EU)  $2018/1725^{25}$  and Commission Decision C(2016)  $3301^{26}$ .

Annex: privacy statement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Commission Decision C(2016) 3301 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups.

# **Annex V Privacy Statement**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION Directorate-General Justice and Consumers

Directorate E Consumers Unit E1 Consumer Policy

#### **PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA**

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

**Processing operation:** Selection of members of Commission expert groups and other similar entities<sup>27</sup> and publication of personal data on the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ("the Register of expert groups").

#### **Data Controller:**

- Secretariat-General, Unit G4 (for the processing operation "Providing a public register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities", DPR-EC-00656), and
- Directorate General Justice and Consumers, Unit E1 (for the processing operation "Selection of members of Commission expert groups and other similar entities", DPR-EC-01066).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Provisions included in this privacy statement referring to expert groups equally apply to their subgroups.

#### 10. Where to find more detailed information?

# 1. Introduction

The European Commission (hereafter 'the Commission') is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to <u>Regulation (EU) 2018/1725</u> 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.

This privacy statement explains the reasons for the processing of your personal data, 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, of the Data Protection Officer and of the European Data Protection Supervisor.

This privacy statement concerns the following processing operations:

(1) "selection of members of Commission expert groups and other similar entities" undertaken by the Commission department which runs the selection process for your expert group and which is the Data Controller for the selection process DG JUST, Unit E1, and

(2) "publication of personal data on the Register of expert groups and other similar entities" undertaken by the Commission, Secretariat-General, Unit G.4 which is the Data Controller together with the Commission department managing your expert group.

As a rule, the selection of expert group members is carried out via public calls for applications, except for Member States' authorities and other public entities and for certain representative bodies established by Union legislation for advice in specific areas.

The Register of expert groups and other similar entities is a public database containing a list of Commission expert groups and other similar entities and their sub-groups. For each expert group, the Register provides valuable information including personal data on the members of the expert groups, and their alternate, if any, members' representatives, as well as of the groups' observers and their representatives. The Register also includes documents that are produced and discussed by expert groups and which can contain personal data.

For the purpose of this privacy statement and the corresponding records, the term "expert groups" describes Commission expert groups in the sense of Article 2(1) of Commission Decision C(2016)3301<sup>28</sup> and their sub-groups, as well as other similar entities in the sense of Article 2(2) of Commission Decision C(2016)3301 and their sub-groups.

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

# Purpose of the processing operations:

The Data Controllers collect and use your personal data to manage Commission expert groups, in particular by selecting their members and observers, and to ensure transparency on expert groups' membership and activities. In that context, in order to select among the applicants who best fulfil the selection criteria mentioned in the call for applications, Commission services collect and assess personal information of candidate members and observers of the expert

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Commission Decision C(2016)3301 of 30 May 2016 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups.

groups, of representatives of candidate members and observers, and of immediate family members of candidate members and observers appointed in personal capacity.

Furthermore, Commission services collect and assess personal information of observers and members' and observers' representatives of the expert groups which are not selected through a public call for applications.

For candidates, personal data is stored by the Commission service managing the expert group. Some types of personal data of individuals appointed as members (either appointed in personal capacity to act independently and in the public interest or to represent a common interest shared by stakeholders in a particular policy area) are made publicly available on the Register of expert groups (as described under Headings 4 and 5 of this privacy statement). The names of the representatives of organisations, Member States and other public entities, as well as the name of specific national departments or other public authority which they represent may also be made publicly available on the Register of expert groups.

Your personal data will <u>not</u> be used for an automated decision-making including profiling.

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

We process your personal data, because processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest (Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725), since it allows for the selection of members of expert groups (individuals appointed as members in a personal capacity, individuals appointed to represent a common interest and organisations) and also increases the transparency on expert groups. Processing is also necessary to comply with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject (Article 5(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725). The Union act for such necessary processing under Article 5(1)(a) and (b) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 is Commission Decision C(2016)3301 of 30 May 2016 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups and in particular Articles 10 and 22 thereof.

As regards, in particular, the declarations of interests filled in by candidate members to be appointed in a personal capacity in expert groups, the processing of personal data serves the public interest of enabling the Commission to verify in the process of selection the experts' independence in providing advice to the Commission. Furthermore, the public disclosure of declarations of interests of those experts once appointed allows for public scrutiny of the interests declared by these experts, which is necessary in order to ensure public confidence in the independence of these experts. The public disclosure of declarations of interests also ensures a high degree of transparency with respect to the membership of expert groups and aims at contributing to fostering the integrity of the experts in question.

Any publication of names of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities in the Register of expert groups is based on consent (Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725).

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

In order to carry out these processing operations, the Data Controller may collect the following categories of personal data:

- Name;
- Function;
- Contact details (for example, e-mail address, telephone number, mobile telephone number, fax number, postal address, company and department, country of residence, IP address);

- Information for the evaluation of selection criteria or eligibility criteria (for example, expertise, technical skills and languages, educational background, professional experience, including details on current and past employment);
- Nationality;
- Gender;
- Interest represented (only for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups representing a common interest shared by stakeholders in a particular policy area and for organisations applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups, as well as for their designated representatives);
- Information included in the declarations of interests, including personal data of immediate family members as required in the declaration of interests (only for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity).

The provision to the Commission service of the personal data required is mandatory to meet a legal requirement of selecting members of expert groups as set in Commission Decision C(2016)3301. In principle, the types of personal data listed above (with the exception of contact details and information for the evaluation of selection criteria or eligibility criteria) are made publicly available on the Register of expert groups, in order to comply with the legal requirement to ensure transparency on the composition and functioning of Commission expert groups. If you do not provide the personal data required, possible consequences are that you will not be considered for selection as a member of an expert group or, if already selected, your membership will be suspended.

With the prior freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous consent of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities, their names may also be published on the Register.

# 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. The following modalities apply:

- The competent Commission services keep personal data submitted to them as part of rejected applications for three years after the end of the selection process and do not process them for other purposes; these personal data are not published on the Register of expert groups.
- The expert group and some types of personal data of its members and observers, as described in Heading 4, are published on the Register of expert groups during the duration of existence of the expert group.
- When an individual is no longer member or observer or representative of a member or observer of an expert group listed in the Register of expert groups, all personal data related to this individual, including a declaration of interests, is removed from the Register and is therefore not public anymore.
- The competent Commission services keep personal data for the period during which the relevant individual is a member or an observer or a representative of a member or of an observer of the group and for five years after the date on which the individual is no longer member or observer or representative of a member or observer of the group.
- When a group is closed down, it remains published in the Register of expert groups for five years, with the indication 'Closed'. Those types of personal data other than the declarations of interests of members appointed in personal capacity that were published while the group was active remain visible on the Register of expert groups during these five years. On the contrary, the said declarations of interests are removed

from the Register after closure of a group and are therefore not public anymore; they are however kept by the competent Commission service for a period of five years after the closure of the group.

An XML file is created daily with all the information regarding active groups. All versions
of this file, showing the situation of the Register of expert groups as of the day it was
created, are stored in a file server for 5 years and are not public.

#### 6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal data?

Personal data submitted in paper form is stored in the competent Commission service. All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data, etc.) are stored on the servers of the Commission. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to the <u>Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2017/46</u> of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission.

In order to protect your personal data, the Commission has put in place a number of technical and organisational measures. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorised access, taking into consideration the risk presented by the processing and the nature of the personal data being processed. Organisational measures include restricting access to the personal data solely to authorised 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 collected in the course of the process of selection of members of expert groups is provided to the Commission staff authorised for carrying out this processing operation and to other authorised Commission staff according to the "need to know" principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements.

Certain personal data collected, as explained in Headings 4 and 5, is publicly available on the Register of expert groups.

The XML files referred to in Heading 5 are only accessible to a reduced number of users in the Secretariat-General (System Owner) and IT development team within the Commission (System Supplier).

Please note that pursuant to Article 3(13) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, public authorities (e.g. Court of Auditors, 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 those public 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. 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 your personal data is inaccurate or incomplete. Under certain conditions, you 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 on grounds relating to your particular situation in accordance with Article 23(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

As indicated in Heading 4, if you are a representative of an organisation, Member State or another public entity, you may consent to have your name published on the Register of expert groups. You can withdraw your consent at any time by notifying the Data Controller. The withdrawal will not affect the lawfulness of the processing carried out before you have withdrawn the consent.

Finally, and only as regards the publication of your name on the Register of expert groups, you may submit a request to the competent Commission service for a derogation where justified on compelling legitimate grounds in relation to your specific situation (such as the case where the publication of your name on the Register of expert groups could endanger your security or integrity).

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller or, in case of conflict, the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you can also address the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is given under Heading 9 below.

Where you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please provide their description (i.e. their Record reference(s) as specified under Heading 10 below) in your request.

Any request for access to personal data will be handled within one month. Any other request mentioned above will be addressed within 15 working days.

# 9. Contact information

#### - The Data Controller

Regarding the personal data collected in the course of the process of selection of the members of the expert groups, 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, please contact <u>JUST-CPAG@ec.europa.eu</u>.

Likewise, as regards the data published on the Register of expert groups, please contact the corresponding Data Controller Secretariat-General, Unit G4: <u>SG-EXPERT-GROUPS@ec.europa.eu</u>.

#### - The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (<u>DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu</u>) 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 <u>(edps@edps.europa.eu)</u> 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.

#### 10. Where to find more detailed information?

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

These specific processing operations will be included in the DPO's public register with the following Record references: DPR-EC-01066 and DPR-EC-00656.