

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE HIGH-LEVEL GROUP TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL FOR ADVANCED MATERIALS

1. Background

By Decision of 5 July 2024¹, the Commission has set up a high-level group Technology Council for advanced materials (“the group”).

The group’s tasks shall be to:

- (a) provide a discussion forum and facilitate cooperation for the development, improvement and maintenance of a robust European advanced materials ecosystem.
- (b) identify common objectives and priority areas for R&I investments in advanced materials at European, national and regional level, starting with the preliminary list set out in Communication COM/2024/98² and its annex to be refined or extended to other areas depending on needs identified by this group;
- (c) identify actions to be implemented in full complementarity at European, national and regional level aimed at facilitating the deployment and uptake of innovation in advanced materials and addressing European competitiveness, digitalisation, circularity, materials efficiency and overall sustainability targets;
- (d) discuss on the modalities of implementation and coordination of other actions announced in the Communication, such as the ones related to the digital infrastructure for advanced materials research and innovation, capital investment and access to finance, standardisation, intellectual property or skills development;
- (e) discuss and build synergies with regional innovation valleys³ and with smart specialisation strategies including the respective Community of Practice thematic partnerships⁴;
- (f) report on national and EU level strategies, programmes and investments supporting the Communication’s actions;

¹ COMMISSION DECISION setting up the high-level group ‘Technology Council for Advanced Materials’ (C(2024) 4749)

² The preliminary list consists of Energy, Mobility, Construction and Electronics.

³ Regional Innovation Valleys aim to harness the potential of deep-tech innovation across the different EU and to promote innovation cohesion(SWD(2022) 187 final).

⁴ The Smart Specialisation Community of Practice is the central node on guidance, networking, support and peer-learning on smart specialisation strategies. (https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/communities-and-networks/s3-community-of-practice_en)

- (g) discuss how to make best use of international cooperation at European and at national level in the field of advanced materials.

The Commission is calling for applications with a view to selecting members of the group other than Member States' authorities/other public entities.

2. Features of the Group

2.1. COMPOSITION

In accordance with Article 3 of the above Decision the group shall consist of representatives of the Member States, academia, RTOs, industry and the European Commission.

Further to the Commission and Member States' authorities, the group shall have up to 21 additional members, seven in each of these three categories: i) academia, ii) industry and iii) associations representing academia, RTOs and/or industry. Each of these members shall nominate one high-level representative.

Directorate-General of Research and Innovation (DG RTD), in agreement with Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), may refuse the nomination of a representative by an organisation if it considers this nomination inappropriate in light of the requirements specified in chapter 4 of this call. In such case, the organisation concerned shall be asked to appoint another representative.

2.2. APPOINTMENT

Members shall be appointed by the Commission Directorate-General RTD, in agreement with Directorate-General GROW, and selected from applicants complying with competences in the areas referred to in chapter 4 of this call.

Members shall remain in office until replaced. Members nominated on the basis of a call for expression of interest may be replaced every three years.

Registration in the Transparency Register⁵ is required in order for the organisations to be appointed.

DG RTD shall establish a reserve list of suitable candidates that may be used to appoint members' replacements. DG RTD shall ask applicants for their consent before including their names on the reserve list.

Members who are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the group's deliberations, who in the opinion of DG RTD 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 no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the group and may be replaced for the remainder of their term of office.

2.3 RULES OF ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE GROUP

⁵ <https://transparency-register.europa.eu>

The group shall be co-chaired by the Director-Generals of the Commission responsible for Research and Innovation and for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs and a high-level representative of the Member State holding the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

In principle, the group shall meet once per year. Meetings of the group shall, in principle be held on Commission premises. DG RTD and DG GROW shall provide secretarial services to the group.

Members and members' representatives 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 agreement with DG RTD and DG GROW in their role as secretariat, 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 the Commission departments under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

The members of the group and their representatives, 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) 2015/443⁶ and 2015/444⁷. Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

On a proposal by and in agreement with DG RTD and DG GROW, in their role as secretariat, the group shall adopt its rules of procedure.

The co-Chairs 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. These could be representatives of social partners, relevant industrial alliances⁸, financial institutions, the European Industrial Forum⁹, the Strategic Energy Technology Plan¹⁰

⁶ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security in the Commission (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 41).

⁷ 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).

⁸ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/industry/strategy/industrial-alliances_en

⁹ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/industry/strategy/industrial-policy-dialogue-and-expert-advice_en

groups, relevant Horizon Europe partnerships as well as third countries which are strategic partners or with which the EU has concluded Science and Technology Agreements or is conducting Enhanced Dialogues.

Associated countries to 'Horizon Europe' shall be granted an observer status, by direct invitation. Entities appointed as observers shall nominate their high level representative. Observers and their representatives may be permitted by the co-Chairs to take part in the discussions for specific points on the agenda and provide expertise. They shall not participate in the formulation of recommendations or opinions.

DG RTD and DG GROW, in their role as secretariat, may set up sub-groups for the purpose of examining specific questions on the basis of terms of reference defined by DG RTD and DG GROW. Sub-groups shall operate in compliance with the rules of procedure and shall report to the group. They shall be dissolved as soon as their mandate is fulfilled.

2.4. TRANSPARENCY

DG RTD and DG GROW shall ensure an equivalent degree of transparency to that applicable to Commission expert groups within the meaning of the Commission Decision C(2016) 3301, through dedicated webpages.

As concerns the group and working-groups composition, DG RTD shall publish the following data on the dedicated website for this special group:

- the name of Member States' authorities;
- the name of member organisations; the interest represented shall be disclosed;
- the name of public entities other than Member States' authorities, that are observers.

DG RTD shall make available all relevant documents, including the agendas, the minutes and the participants' submissions, on the dedicated website. In particular, 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° 1049/2001¹¹.

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

3. Application procedure

Interested organisations are invited to submit their application to the European Commission, DG RTD.

¹⁰ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/research-and-technology/strategic-energy-technology-plan_en

¹¹ 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.

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 high-level 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.

Supporting documents

Each application shall include the following documents:

- a cover letter explaining the applicant organisation'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 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 indicated by organisations as their high-level representative, a *curriculum vitae* (CV) shall also be provided, preferably not exceeding three pages. All CVs shall be submitted in the European format ([Home | Europass](#)).

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

Deadline for application

The duly signed applications must be submitted by **9 September 2024 at 12:00 CEST** (Brussels time) at the latest. Applications shall be submitted via [EU Survey](#). The EU survey link will not be accessible beyond the above deadline.

The date and time of submission will be automatically established by the website when the online application form is submitted. Applications submitted later than the above date or which are incomplete will not be considered.

4. Selection criteria

DG RTD and DG GROW will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

- a. the organisation must be based in an EU Member State;
- b. representativeness and significance of the organisation in relation to one or more tasks of the group and the overall objectives of the Commission Decision C(2024)4749;
- c. competence, experience and hierarchical level of the proposed representative;
- d. the organisation must have proven and relevant competence and experience, at European level, in areas relevant to advanced materials, covering minimum two of the criteria listed:

- the individual needs of industry, SMEs and start-ups with respect to advanced materials in the context of the green and digital transition and the associated challenges in different application areas and industrial sectors;
- development of R&I strategies and/or policies for advanced materials either in private or public sectors at European, national and/or regional level;
- the systemic role and contribution of advanced materials in key industrial ecosystems and the related value chains as well as regional and local innovation ecosystems to support the competitiveness of European companies;
- knowledge and experience on facilitating innovation upscaling and deployment, including access to finance;
- knowledge and experience in skills needs for students and future workers in Europe, as regards advanced materials and related technologies;
- knowledge and experience in the digitalisation of the R&I process of advanced materials development, that is in data infrastructures, digital tools and AI.

5. Selection procedure

The selection procedure shall consist of an assessment of the applications performed by DG RTD, in agreement with DG GROW, 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 of the group.

When defining the composition of the group, DG RTD and DG GROW 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.

For any further information please contact EC-TechCouncil-AdvancedMaterials@ec.europa.eu.

ANNEXES:

- Annex I: Classification form
- Annex II: Selection criteria form
- Annex III: Privacy statement

Annex I - Classification form¹²

To be filled in by all applicants

An organisation

Transparency Register identification number: [...]

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

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

Definitions for organisation types

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

¹² This form must be filled in and submitted online (see section 3).

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.

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

- a) Academia/Research
- b) Civil society

- c) Employees/Workers
- d) Finance
- e) Industry
- f) Professionals
- g) SMEs
- 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 recognised 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: [EU 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.

Please select one **or more policy areas** in which your organisation operate(s):

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

- Law (taxation)
- Linguistics and terminology
- Livestock
- Medical profession
- Migration
- Natural resources
- Plant production
- Public affairs
- Public health
- Public relations
- Raw materials
- Research
- Science
- Science diplomacy
- Security
- Smart specialisation
- Social service
- Space and satellites (policy)
- Space and satellites (research)
- Sport
- Statistics
- Sustainable development
- Systemic eco-innovation
- Tax
- Trade
- Training
- Transport
- Urban development
- Water
- Youth
- Other

Name of the organisation¹³:

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:

¹³ Idem.

Annex II: Selection criteria form¹⁴

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call.

Organisation must be based in an EU Member State	
Representativeness and significance of the organisation in relation to one or more tasks of the group and the overall objectives of the Commission Decision C(2024)4749.	
Competence, experience and hierarchical level of the proposed representative	
Organisations must have proven and relevant competence and experience, including at European and international level, in areas relevant to advanced materials, covering minum two of the criteria listed:	
– the individual needs of industry, SMEs and start-ups with respect to advanced materials in the context of the green and digital transition and the associated challenges in different application areas and industrial sectors;	
– development of R&I strategies and/or policies for advanced materials either in private or public sectors at European, national and/or regional level;	
– the systemic role and contribution of advanced materials in key industrial ecosystems and the related value chains as well as regional and local innovation ecosystems to support the competitiveness of European companies;	
– knowledge and experience on facilitating innovation upscaling and deployment, including access to finance;	
– knowledge and experience in skills needs for students and future workers in Europe, as regards advanced materials	

¹⁴ This form must be filled in and submitted online (see section 3).

and related technologies;	
- knowledge and experience in the digitalisation of the R&I process of advanced materials development, that is in data infrastructures, digital tools and AI	
Good knowledge of the English language of representative(s)	

Annex III: Privacy statement

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

Processing operation: *Selection of members of Commission high-level group and publication of personal data on the website of the group.*

Data Controller:

DG RTD, Directorate E, Unit E.3 Industrial Transformation

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Why and how do we process your personal data?**
- 3. On what legal ground(s) do we process your personal data?**
- 4. Which personal data do we collect and further process?**
- 5. How long do we keep your personal data?**
- 6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal data?**
- 7. Who has access to your personal data and to whom is it disclosed?**
- 8. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?**
- 9. Contact information**
- 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 [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1725](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data.

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 the high-level group Technology Council for Advanced Materials.” undertaken by the Commission department which runs the selection process for your high-level group and which is the Data Controller for the selection process *DG RTD, Directorate E, Unit E.3 Industrial Transformation*, and
- (2) “publication of personal data on the website of the high-level group Technology Council for advanced materials undertaken by the Commission, DG RTD, Directorate E, Unit E.3 Industrial Transformation.

For both sets of processing operations, the Commission, DG RTD, Directorate E, Unit E.3 Industrial Transformation is the Data Controller.

With the aim of meeting transparency, information on the group, including personal data on the members of the groups, their alternate, and of the observers, and information about members’ and observers’ representatives, will be published on the website of the group. The website may also feature documents that are produced and discussed by the group. With the aim of meeting transparency, the following personal data of the members of the group may be published on the website of the group:

- Organisation
- Title
- Firstname
- Name
- Function

For the purpose of this privacy statement and the corresponding records, the term “group” describes Commission high-level groups in the sense of Commission Decision C(2024)4749.

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

Purpose of the processing operations:

The Data Controller collects and uses your personal data to manage Commission groups, in particular by selecting their members and observers, and to ensure transparency on the membership and activities of the group. 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 groups, of representatives of candidate members and observers, and of immediate family members of candidate members to be appointed in personal capacity to act independently and in the public interest.

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

For candidates, personal data are stored by the Commission service managing the 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 website of the group (as described under Headings 4 and 5 of this privacy statement).

Your personal data will not 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 groups (and also increases the transparency on 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 names of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities are usually not published, as those persons only express the position of the organisation or entity that they represent, and, therefore, it is the name of the organisation, Member State's authority or other public entity that matters to ensure transparency of the work of the group. Any publication of names of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities in website of the group is based on consent (Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725), unless specific and exceptional circumstances make it necessary to publish them to achieve the purpose of the processing operation, in accordance with Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. No other types of personal data of representatives is published.

The submissions of members in the context of the work of groups and subgroups are generally made public, with personal data withheld where appropriate.

In the cases when the group is chaired by a person different than the Commission or its services, the name of this person may be published on the basis of consent (Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) No 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, 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 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);*
- *Personal data that may be included in submissions of members of groups.*

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 website of the group. They may furthermore be

published in specific and exceptional circumstances where such publication is necessary to achieve the purpose of the processing operation.

The name of a person chairing the group, when this person is not from within the Commission (i.e. the group elects a chair from among its members or the Commission or its services appoint an individual as chair), may be published with his/ her prior freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous consent.

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 website of the group.
- The group and some types of personal data of its members and observers, as described in Heading 4, are published on the website of the group 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 the, all personal data related to this individual, including a declaration of interests, is removed from the website of the group 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. Following this five-year period, the personal data is transferred to the historical archives and a review takes place no later than 25 years after that transfer to the historical archives to evaluate whether to keep the data permanently or to delete some or all data.
- When the group will be closed down, it will remain published in the website of the group 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 website of the group 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. Following this five-year period after the closure of the group, the personal data is transferred to the historical archives and a review takes place no later than 25 years from that transfer to evaluate whether to keep the data permanently or to delete some or all data.

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 [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2017/46](#) 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 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, are publicly available on the website of the group (see section 1).

Please note that pursuant to Article 3(13) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, public authorities (e.g. Court of Auditors, EU Court of Justice, European Ombudsman) 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) and Article 35 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 website of the group. 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 website of the 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 website of the group 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.

Data subject requests shall be handled within one month from receipt of the request by the Commission. That period may be extended pursuant to 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. Should more time be required to handle the request for justified reasons, the data subject shall receive a holding reply from the unit responsible for the request.

9. Contact information

- **The Data Controller**

Regarding the personal data collected in the course of the process of selection of the members of the 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 EC-TechCouncil-AdvancedMaterials@ec.europa.eu.

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

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu) 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 (edps@edps.europa.eu) 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:

<http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register>.

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.