

Privacy Notice:
Accreditation Platform for Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026

This is a statement of the practices of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland ("DFAT") in connection with the processing of personal data in relation to events organised in Ireland under the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, 2026 ("the Presidency"), and the steps taken by DFAT as a data controller to safeguard individuals' rights under the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 ("GDPR") and the Data Protection Acts 1988 - 2018.

The provision of personal data is necessary to ensure access to Presidency events and event venues, or to participate in the logistical and operational arrangements for Presidency events.

Sources of personal data

Personal data is collected:

- Directly from data subjects who request accreditation via the Presidency accreditation portal, to facilitate their access to Presidency event venues. Data subjects include meeting attendees, staff, suppliers and media, and in limited cases may include minors under the age of 18;
- In the case of group registration on the Presidency accreditation portal of delegations participating in Presidency events, from a person designated as the Delegation Accreditation Officer ("DAO") by the institution or organisation sending the delegation

Purpose of personal data processing

DFAT is carrying out this data processing in order to fulfil its responsibilities in relation to the coordination and delivery of the programme of meetings and events taking place in Ireland during the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026, including a European Political Community Summit, an informal European Council meeting, and the full list of events included in the official Presidency calendar ("Presidency events"). These responsibilities include:

- Facilitating strict access control for Presidency events, including through verification of the identity and credentials of meeting participants, facilitating the conduct of security checks as required, and issuing and verifying access badges
- Providing security, logistics and operational support for Presidency events, including but not limited to event security, airport services, transport, accommodation, event catering and entertainment, accessibility supports and other relevant services
- Providing technical and information services for Presidency events
- Facilitating media accreditation and media attendance at relevant Presidency events

Categories of personal data being processed

DFAT collects personal and logistical data as required to facilitate the security, access control, and logistical and operational delivery of Presidency events. This data includes, as applicable according to the category of accreditation application being processed:

- Identification and contact details: Name, contact details, nationality, date of birth, recent I.D. photo, and identification document details
- Professional Credentials: Employer, job title and function, press credentials

- Information to facilitate security checks: Current address, copy of current identification document and proof of address
- Event Logistics Data: flight/transport information, hotel information, dietary requirements, accessibility requirements, certain health information

As part of reporting and documentation of Presidency events, DFAT and other Government Bodies hosting Presidency events will take photos and record videos at various points during the events, including arrivals, family photos, press conferences and other key moments. Photos and videos may be published on the Irish EU Presidency website and social media. If you do not wish to be photographed or filmed, you should notify the official photographer or videographer present at the event.

Legal basis of personal data processing

1. Article 6(1)(e) – Processing necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest (Primary legal basis)

The organisation of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union is a public duty assigned to the Member State holding the Presidency.¹ During its Presidency term, Ireland is responsible for hosting, securing and coordinating Presidency-related meetings and events, including a programme of events in Ireland. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as the relevant Government Department,² is responsible for coordination of the delivery of the Presidency programme.

Accreditation facilitates event security and access control, logistics, safety, communication, and management of participants (e.g. delegates, media, officials, contractors and external partners). Therefore, processing personal data for the purpose of event accreditation is necessary to fulfil official responsibilities in the public interest.

2. Article 6(1)(c) – Processing necessary for compliance with a legal obligation

DFAT's administration of the Presidency accreditation process requires the processing of personal data in order to comply with its legal obligations and safe delivery of official events, including compliance with applicable health and safety requirements.

As part of the accreditation process for certain categories of participant, certain information will be verified by the applicant's employer or organisation representative, and then shared with An Garda Síochána to enable them to carry out security assessments and related checks in accordance with their statutory functions. An Garda Síochána processes any personal data received for these purposes as a controller in its own right. Details of An Garda Síochána's data protection policy are available [here](#). All personal data we process is limited to what is necessary and proportionate to support the safe and secure delivery of events.

3. Article 9(2)(g) GDPR – Processing of special category data where necessary for substantial public interest

¹ This is set out in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) (Consolidated Version), *Declaration on Article 16(9) of the Treaty on European Union concerning the European Council decision on the exercise of the Presidency of the Council* Articles 1(1)(2); 3;, adopted into Irish law in the European Union Act 2009.

² Under the Ministers and Secretaries Acts 1924 Revised Updated to 21 February 2025, *Establishment of the Departments of State* Article 1(xi), DFAT is responsible for foreign relations and DFAT is also the lead Department for coordination of delivery of the Presidency.

Data on accessibility requirements and certain health-related data is necessary in order to ensure that appropriate accessibility facilities and medical facilities are made available as required throughout the Presidency programme of events. Data on allergies and dietary requirements is necessary in order to ensure that appropriate catering services are made available as required at Presidency events.

5. Article 6(1)(f) – Legitimate interest

DFAT has a legitimate interest in facilitating media attendance at significant Presidency events which are of public interest, in order to demonstrate accountability and transparency as a Department in its activities. This is balanced with the necessity of ensuring access control and the security of Presidency events. DFAT will collect personal data as necessary from members of the media to facilitate the verification of their identity and bona fides, and any security checks that may be required.

6. Article 6(1)(a) – Consent

Where relevant, applicants for accreditation must expressly consent to enquiries deemed necessary to conduct vetting and/or background checks by signing and submitting the relevant NVB1A form, which can be downloaded from the accreditation portal. In the case of minors aged between 16 and 18, an NVB3 parental consent form is also required.

In limited cases, personal data relating to minors under the age of 18 may be processed for the purposes described in this Privacy Notice, including where minors attend Presidency events as part of an official delegation or accompanying person. DFAT will process such personal data only where necessary and proportionate for accreditation, security, safety, accessibility and event management purposes, and will apply appropriate safeguards to protect the rights and interests of minors. Where required by law, parental or guardian consent will be obtained.

Storage and sharing of personal data

Data is stored on secure IT platforms within the European External Area (“EEA”), safeguarded by appropriate technical and organisational security measures, in line with GDPR requirements.

DFAT will only share your personal data with third parties where necessary for the purposes set out in this Privacy Notice, relating to the fulfilment of DFAT’s responsibilities with regard to Presidency events. In line with Article 28 of the GDPR, DFAT will ensure that when it is shared with third parties, your data is processed in line with specific instructions, and with appropriate standards of security and confidentiality, including through the signature of data transfer agreements when required. Data will not be transferred outside the EEA.

These third parties will include, as applicable:

- An Garda Síochána, as required to facilitate security checks and other security measures required for the secure delivery of Presidency events
- Government Bodies, agencies and other public authorities, including institutions of the European Union, as required to facilitate delivery of the events and functions, including transport and logistics, for which they are responsible under the Presidency
- Accredited Embassies of the countries of delegations participating in Presidency events, as required to fulfil the functions for which they are responsible
- Providers of goods and services contracted by DFAT and other relevant public authorities to provide goods and services for Presidency events, including providers of airport, transport,

accommodation, catering, venue, security and medical services, as required to fulfil their contractual obligations.

Retention of personal data

DFAT will only store and process your personal data as long as necessary for activities related to the Presidency to be completed, or to comply with any applicable law or regulation, a summons, a search warrant, a court or regulatory order, or other statutory requirement including the department's obligations under the National Archives Act 1988 (as amended).

Personal data stored on the Presidency accreditation system will be deleted no later than 28 February 2027. Anonymised and statistical data will be retained for audit and reporting purposes, in line with DFAT's obligations.

Your rights

You have the right to:

- Request access to your personal data
- Request the rectification of inaccurate personal data
- Request that your personal data is deleted
- Request that the processing of your personal data is restricted
- Withdraw your consent for the processing of your personal data

Requests to exercise these rights should be sent in writing to DFAT with the subject "EU Presidency - Personal Data Protection", using the DFAT contact details below.

You have the right to file a complaint about DFAT's processing of your personal data. Complaints should be sent to the Data Protection Commission at:

Data Protection Commission
21 Fitzwilliam Square South
Dublin 2
D02 RD28
Phone: +353 (0)761 104 800
Email: info@dataprotection.ie

DFAT Contact Details

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
80 St Stephen's Green
Dublin 2
D02 VY53
Phone: +353 (0)1 408 2000
Email: EUPresidency.accreditation@dfa.ie

Data Protection Officer
76-78 Harcourt Street
Dublin 2
D02 DX45
Phone: +353 (0)1 408 2000
Email: data.protection@dfa.ie