

European Capital of Democracy 2028

Data Security Guidelines

ECoD gemeinnützige GmbH (ECoD NPO) shall take technical and organisational measures to ensure data security and provide a secure cloud environment for the work on the required documents.

The undersigned declares to only use IT equipment (including mobile devices, such as laptops, tablets and smartphones)

- with a current updated version of operating system and other software
- with a current updated version of antivirus software
- where access to the accounts being used to access the equipment is secured with a password that is only known to the authorised user
- where drive encryption features are activated if data is being stored on a laptop or removable device

Physical security is to be maintained if the location where the IT equipment is located is accessible to third persons. IT equipment must be locked (physically or using software functionality) if the authorised user leaves the location where the equipment is being used (e.g. by engaging screen locking functionality or keeping mobile devices in locked containers). Physical security must also be maintained for paper documents and other data carriers. The undersigned undertakes to keep paper documents and data carriers secure to avoid access by unauthorised persons, and will securely destroy paper documents and securely delete all information received from ECoD NPO after provision of the services.

Any information provided by ECoD NPO to the undersigned may only be used in line with the purpose for which it has been provided by ECoD NPO. Any use for other purposes - in particular the own purposes of the undersigned or its authorised persons – is strictly prohibited and may violate Data Protection Laws.

Additional Security Requirements

The undersigned shall promptly notify ECoD NPO of any actual or suspected security incident, including personal data breaches, unauthorized access, loss of data or devices, malware infections, or accidental disclosures affecting ECoD information.

Information provided by ECoD NPO shall not be uploaded to public AI systems, generative AI tools, or third-party cloud services without prior written approval from ECoD NPO.

The undersigned shall not disclose, share, copy, or otherwise make ECoD information available to any third party without prior authorization from ECoD NPO.

Access to ECoD systems and information shall only take place through secure devices and networks. Access from public computers is prohibited, and appropriate security measures shall be used when connecting through public networks.

All information received from ECoD NPO shall be securely deleted, destroyed, or returned upon completion of the assignment, unless retention is required by law.

Where technically available, multi-factor authentication (MFA) shall be enabled for all accounts used to access ECoD systems or information.

Project applications, evaluations, rankings, deliberations, scores, and related materials shall be treated as strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed before or after publication by ECoD NPO, unless required by law.

Furthermore, ECoD NPO and the undersigned shall ensure compliance with the GDPR¹ and the Austrian Data Protection Act². Notwithstanding the above, ECoD NPO is the responsible party under Data Protection Laws. Data Processing Agreements (see separate document) shall be laid out and entered into if need be as required by Data Protection Laws.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32016R0679&gid=1753169454167>

² https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/Erv/ERV_1999_1_165/ERV_1999_1_165.html

APPENDIX – TECHNICAL AND ORGANISATIONAL MEASURES

Please tick the existing technical and organisational measures.

1. CONFIDENTIALITY

Entry control

Avoidance of unauthorised entry to data processing facilities by:

<input type="checkbox"/> Key	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnet or chip cards
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric door opener	<input type="checkbox"/> Doorman
<input type="checkbox"/> Security personnel	<input type="checkbox"/> Alarm system
<input type="checkbox"/> Video system	<input type="checkbox"/> Burglary-restraining windows and/or safety doors
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration at reception desk and identity check	<input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up checks on visitors to the premises
<input type="checkbox"/> Use of visitor or staff card/ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Other(s):

Access control

Avoidance of unauthorised system usage through:

<input type="checkbox"/> Password (including suitable policies)	<input type="checkbox"/> Encryption of data carriers
<input type="checkbox"/> Automated locking mechanism	<input type="checkbox"/> Other(s):
<input type="checkbox"/> Two-factor authentication	

Access management

Avoidance of unauthorised reading, copying, changing or deleting within the system by means of:

<input type="checkbox"/> Standard correction profile on a “need to know basis”	<input type="checkbox"/> Standard process for assigning authorisations
<input type="checkbox"/> Logging of access	<input type="checkbox"/> Safe storage of data carriers
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular checks of the assigned authorisations and of administrative user accounts in particular	<input type="checkbox"/> Privacy-compliant reuse of data carriers
<input type="checkbox"/> Privacy-compliant disposal of data carriers that are no longer needed	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear-desk/clear-screen policy
<input type="checkbox"/> Other(s):	

Pseudonymization

If possible for the data processing operation, the primary identifiers are removed from within the data processing operation and saved elsewhere.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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Data classification scheme

Based on legal obligations or self-assessment (secret/confidential/internal/public).

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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2. DATA INTEGRITY

Prevention of (accidental) destruction of, (accidental) damage to, (accidental) loss of, or (accidental) changes to personal data.

Control of data transfer

No unauthorised reading, copying, changing or deleting during electronic transfer or transport by way of:

<input type="checkbox"/> Encryption of data carriers	<input type="checkbox"/> Encryption of data files
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual private networks (VPN)	<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic signatures
<input type="checkbox"/> AI applications (security objectives)	<input type="checkbox"/> Confidentiality agreements
<input type="checkbox"/> Integrity of the data storage system(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Up-to-date and enforced security measures
<input type="checkbox"/> Other(s):	

Data entry control

Determination of whether and by whom personal data has been entered into the data processing system, changed or deleted by means of:

☐ Logging

☐ Document management

☐ Other(s):
3. AVAILABILITY AND RESILIENCE**Availability control**

Protection against destruction (negligent and/or wilful) or loss by means of:

☐ Back-up strategy (online/offline; on-site/ off-site)

☐ Uninterrupted power supply (UPS, diesel generator)

☐ Virus protection

☐ Firewall

☐ Reporting channels and emergency procedures

☐ Security checks with regard to infrastructure and application

☐ Multi-level back-up approach with encrypted outsourcing of back-ups in a data centre at a different location.

☐ Standard procedures for staff changes

☐ Other(s):
Rapid recoverability
☐ Yes

☐ No
4. PROCEDURES FOR REGULAR TESTING, ASSESSING AND EVALUATING

Data protection management, including regular employee training:

☐ Yes

☐ No

Incident response management:

☐ Yes

☐ No

Data protection by design:

☐ Yes

☐ No
Data processing control

No data processing in the sense of Art. 28 GDPR without specific instruction by the ECoD NPO by means of:

☐ Definitive contract design

☐ Formalized project management

☐ Strict selection of data processors (ISO-certified, ISMS)

☐ Due diligence

☐ Follow-up checks

☐ Other(s):

Place and Date

Vienna, 01 June 2026

Name and signature: City representative


Helfried CARL, CEO & Founder ECoD NPO