

Data Privacy Policy

Last updated: 5 July 2023.

This data privacy declaration applies to the **COMS business site**. The COMS business site includes all web pages under the Internet domain conference-service.com, which are used by the data controller to collect and process data for the purpose of listing upcoming scientific conferences and training events as well as for providing information about services offered by the data controller, such as the Conference Management System "COMS". WebPages of the COMS business site are readily identifiable by the COMS banner and the COMS logo that are displayed at the top of every page. A sample banner and logo can be seen at <https://conference-service.com/>.

The domain 'conference-service.com' is also used for hosting **COMS event sites**. COMS event sites are not covered by this Policy – please see paragraph 4.3 for details.

1. Background to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) replaces the Data Protection Directive 95/46/EC of 1995. Its purpose is to protect the rights of individuals and to ensure that personal data are not processed without their knowledge, and, wherever possible, that it is processed with their consent.

2. Data controller and data processor

The data controller and the data processor is "Marianne Mandl, Dienstleistungen in der automatischen Datenverarbeitung und Informationstechnik".

3. General policy

The COMS business site may be used anonymously.

- We do not use cookies.
- Our servers are located in well secured hosting centres in Germany and Finland.
- We do not use third party services (Google, PIWIK, Facebook, Twitter, XING; LinkedIn, etc.), that would require a transmission of data.

Please note that it is not possible to completely secure all data transmissions via the Internet. The risk that third parties gain illicit access to data can therefore not be totally excluded.

4. Collection and processing of personal and other data

4.1 Collection and processing of data

Data that are transmitted to us via the contact forms on the website are solely used for our internal business processes, according to the nature of each contact form. Data are not transmitted to third parties.

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Users of the website may use specific contact forms in order to propose conference events to be listed in our event calendar. In as far as such proposals are accepted by us, only those data items that are marked for that purpose will be published in the event calendar.

4.2 Non-personal data collected automatically

Your web browser automatically transmits data to our Internet servers that are recorded in server-log files. These include, inter alia:

- The visitor's IP address used to access the Internet
- The webpage to be accessed
- Type and version of your Browser
- The operating system of your computer
- The URL where you came from
- The hostname of your computer
- The time and date of your page access

These data are not easily attributed to specific persons and we do not correlate log file data with other data sources. We reserve the right to examine these data closer if we become aware of abusive or illegal activities.

Statistics, based on server log files, are used to demonstrate site traffic to potential customers who would like to place advertisements on our website.

4.3 (a) Conference Management System COMS

Customers of our conference management system 'COMS', use **COMS event sites** in order to collect and process information from participants or prospective participants of the respective events. The data controller for all information collected via any of the COMS event sites is the respective customer and COMS event sites are therefore not covered by the present document. The data processor for COMS event sites, "Marianne Mandl, Dienstleistungen in der automatischen Datenverarbeitung und Informationstechnik" acts under contract for the respective customers and data collected via COMS event sites fall under the responsibility of the respective customers. Webpages related to COMS event sites are offered via the URL conference-service.com as well as via other dedicated URLs like coms.event and others.

COMS event sites are easily distinguishable and readily recognizable by their event-specific banner. Furthermore, an event acronym is consistently used as the first term following the domain name, in all URLs that serve pages of a specific COMS event site.

4.3 (b) COMS chat server

One of the services provided in the context of **COMS event sites** is a chat server. The chat server is offered solely for the purpose to enable users of a particular COMS event site to communicate with each other or in groups and to exchange data files or images. The data processor for the COMS chat server, "Marianne Mandl, Dienstleistungen in der automatischen Datenverarbeitung und Informationstechnik" acts under contract for the respective customers and data collected via the COMS chat server fall under the responsibility of the respective customers.

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4.3 (c) COMS native APP for Android and iOS

A native COMS APP for Android and iOS may be downloaded from APP stores and installed on mobile devices. The APP is only usable in the context of existing COMS event sites and it is simply an alternative interface to specific COMS event sites and the associated COMS chat server. The APP collects and makes available the same information that would also be collected and made available via the web interfaces to COMS event sites and the COMS chat server. Data collected via the COMS APP fall under the responsibility of the respective customers for the associated COMS event sites.

4.3 (d) Interfaces to external services

If requested by customers, COMS event sites and the COMS native APP might provide links or user interfaces to external services such as payment processors or video conferencing services. In such cases the data privacy policies of the external service providers apply.

5. Usage and forwarding of personal data

Your personal and other data provided on the COMS business site will only be used for the specified purposes, and only to the extent required in order to achieve these purposes. The transmission of personal data to government agencies and authorities shall be carried out only within the framework of mandatory law, or if the forwarding is required for purposes of legal or criminal prosecution in the event of abuse or fraud. Forwarding for other purposes - in particular address trading - is excluded.

6. External links

This internet site might post links to the sites of other providers in order to be able to provide the users with comprehensive information. The controller does not have any influence on the design of such sites, and is not responsible for the content offered there. The principles of this Policy do not apply to these external sites.

7. Changes to this Data Privacy Policy

We reserve the right to change and/or adapt our security and/or data protection measures in as far as this is necessary due to technical developments or changes in the law. In these cases, we shall also adjust the present information accordingly. Therefore, please always take note of updated versions of this Data Privacy Policy.

8. Issues relating to data protection

If you have any questions regarding the processing of data submitted to the COMS business site, please contact the processor at

https://www.conference-service.com/conference-support/contact.html?target=coms_enquiry&lang=en.