



**DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION SUPERVISOR ON THE ADOPTION OF AN  
ETHICS FRAMEWORK AND THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ETHICS OFFICER**

THE EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION SUPERVISOR,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Staff Regulations of Officials and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, laid down in Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 259/68<sup>1</sup>

Having regard to Regulation 45/2001 (EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data<sup>2</sup>,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Article 44 of Regulation 45/2001, the Supervisor shall act in complete independence in the performance of his or her duties.
- (2) In accordance with Article 43(4) of Regulation 45/2001 the Supervisor shall be assisted by a Secretariat, whose members are exclusively subject to his or her direction.
- (3) In accordance with Article 3(2) of the Rules of Procedure, the Supervisor shall ensure the proper functioning of the services available for the performance of the tasks of the institution, taking into account the principles of good governance, good administrative behaviour and good management.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 56, 4.3.1968, p. 1 Last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 723/2004 (OJ L 124 of 27.4.2004, p. 1).

<sup>2</sup> <https://secure.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/edps/site/mySite/lang/fr/pid/86#reglement>



In accordance with Article 15 of the Rules of Procedure, the core values of the institution are impartiality, integrity, transparency and pragmatism.

(4) The guarantee of Ethics is a collective endeavour for the whole organisation, but its promotion and definition is the responsibility of the Supervisors.

(5) The EDPS is committed to take the necessary raising awareness actions to ensure that current and future members of the Secretariat and the Supervisors are aware and have understood their obligations under this Ethics Framework.

(6) The EDPS, in the Code of Conduct for Staff<sup>3</sup>, has put in place measures to avoid situations where any staff member may have a conflict of interest resulting from previous occupational activities or from personal relationships.

(7) The EDPS, in the Code of Conduct for the Supervisors<sup>4</sup>, has put in place procedures to reaffirm the principles from which the Supervisors will act impartially and objectively when performing their tasks, following the highest professional standards, integrity and transparency.

(8) The EDPS, in the Decision on Disciplinary Proceedings and Administrative Investigations<sup>5</sup>, has taken the necessary measures to ensure a solid and professional conduct when dealing with administrative inquiries and disciplinary procedures.

(9) The EDPS, in the Decision on Whistleblowing<sup>6</sup>, has put in place procedures to ensure that all staff members understand their obligations on reporting any possible illegal activity that they may be aware.

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<sup>3</sup> [https://secure.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/webdav/site/mySite/shared/Documents/EDPS/HR/16-01-18\\_Code\\_of\\_conduct\\_EN.pdf](https://secure.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/webdav/site/mySite/shared/Documents/EDPS/HR/16-01-18_Code_of_conduct_EN.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://secure.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/webdav/site/mySite/shared/Documents/EDPS/MembersMission/16-02-09\\_code\\_of\\_conduct\\_EN.pdf](https://secure.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/webdav/site/mySite/shared/Documents/EDPS/MembersMission/16-02-09_code_of_conduct_EN.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> [https://secure.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/webdav/site/mySite/shared/Documents/EDPS/HR/16-06-14\\_Whistleblowing\\_decision\\_EN.pdf](https://secure.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/webdav/site/mySite/shared/Documents/EDPS/HR/16-06-14_Whistleblowing_decision_EN.pdf)

