

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Introduction

The European Commission is committed to protecting and respecting your privacy.

As the **Autonomous Suspensions and Quotas Measures Management System** process personal data, 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, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45 /2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC Text with EEA relevance, is applicable.

This privacy statement explains the reasons for processing personal data, the way they are collected, handled and the way protection of all personal data is ensured. This privacy statement covers in addition:

- The personal data processed;
- How personal data are used;
- For how long personal data are preserved/stored;
- Who has access to the personal data;
- What are your rights as the data owner; and
- How you can exercise them

The processing of personal data occurs by **TAXUD/A4**, acting as the **Controller**, hereafter referred to as "we".

1. What do we do?

All applications for tariff suspensions and quotas are firstly submitted to a central office in each of the Member States or Turkey (Custom Union). The address can be found via the following link https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/dds2/susp/faq/faqsusp.jsp?Lang=en . Member States and Turkey are responsible for making sure that the request fulfil the conditions of the Communication from the Commission concerning autonomous tariff suspensions and quotas (Official Journal C 363 of 13.12.2011, p. 6) and that the information provided in the request is accurate in all material aspects. Member States or Turkey transmits the request to the Commission. Then the requests for tariff suspension and quotas are registered in the Autonomous Suspensions and Quotas Measures Management System. The main information which is captured in the system includes:

- Statistical and economic information (imports in value and quantity, uncollected customs duties)
- Reasoning of the request
- Description of the products for which the suspension is requested
- Validity period of the suspension

- **Conventional duty rate**
- **TARIC code**
- **Status of the request**
- **Comments made by the delegates of the Economic Tariff Questions Group (ETQG)**
- **Final outcome of the request**
- **In case of objections (contact details of the EU producing company)**

According to 4.1.11 of the Communication from the Commission concerning autonomous tariff suspensions and quotas (Official Journal C 363 of 13.12.2011, p. 6) ('the Communication'), in case the information provided in the request is confidential, it should be clearly labelled as such and the level of confidentiality needs to be specified.

2. Why do we process your personal data?

2.1 (a). According to section 4.3 of the Communication transmission of the requests, objections and requests for prolongations or amendments should be submitted to the Commission electronically.

2.2 The purpose of the registration of the new requests for suspension and quotas, the registration of amendments of running suspensions and quotas as well as the registration of objections is to enable the examination of these submissions by the Commission with the aid of the opinion of the ETQG. This examination further enables the Commission to issue the proposals to the Council of the biannual Regulations for suspensions (Regulations amending Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2278) and quotas (Regulations amending Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2283).

We do not process any personal information other than the registration of the name of the applicant or the objecting company.

2.3 The processing is lawful and necessary for:

The performance of a task carried out in the Union interest on the basis or in the exercise of official authority vested in the Commission and the ETQG.

3. Which personal data we collect and process?

a) Personal data in this context means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person. The following (categories of) personal data are being processed:

Name of the applicant or the objecting company.

4. How do we obtain your personal data?

4.1 DIRECTLY

To execute our activity, the contact details of applicant or objecting companies are obtained directly from the request submitted to the competent central authority for receiving suspensions and quotas requests of your Member State and stored in CIRCABC.

5. To whom does the personal data that we process belong?

Producing companies

6. Who has access to your data and to whom is it disclosed?

Access to data is provided to authorised employees of the Commission or the Member States according to the “need to know” principle. Such staff abide by statutory confidentiality.

7. How do we protect your data?

Overall, the Commission’s Directorate General for Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD) IT systems containing personal information should meet certain criteria to ensure the security of the data. The risks on Personal Data associated with IT systems are mitigated by implementing over 100 technical and organizational measures grouped on 4 categories of controls (Security Planning, Access Management, System and Network Security, Technical Controls) providing an equivalent level of control as demanded by GDPR.

In addition, DG TAXUD is complementing these controls with additional security controls applicable to all information under DG TAXUD responsibility grouped around the following categories: Information Security policy, Organization of information security, Human Resource Security, Asset Management, Access Control, Cryptography, Physical and Environmental Security, Operations Security, Communications Security, Systems Acquisition, Development and Maintenance, Supplier Relationships, Management of Information Security Incidents and Improvements, Information Security Aspects of Business Continuity Management, Compliance.

These controls contains but are not limited to, encryption of communication, strict application of the ‘need to know’ principle, segregation of duties, back-up and restoration, anonymization, pseudonymisation, access control, incident management.

8. How long do we keep your data?

The Commission set a date foreseen for mandatory review after 5 years for suspensions. After this time, based on evaluation of the usage of the suspension, the measure is either prolonged automatically for another period or if objected, or not used – withdrawn. In that regard it should be noted that in case of objections against autonomous suspensions and quotas, it is important the name of the existing EU manufacturer who objected to the suspension/quota measure or request to be kept in the system for unlimited period. The information is archived for the purpose of public interest after the suspension/quota is withdrawn.

9. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?

Access to the Autonomous Suspensions and Quotas Measures Management System is provided to authorised employees ONLY according to the “need to know” principle (see above point 6).

The only personal data that it is registered in the Autonomous Suspensions and Quotas Measures Management System are the names of companies.

If you feel that your rights are violated in any way, you are entitled to file a complaint with the European Data Protection Supervisor ('EDPS').

In case of a data breach, we will fulfil our obligation in compliance with our duties stipulated in the Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

Where that personal data breach is likely to result in a high risk to your rights and freedoms we are committed to inform you immediately in order to allow for you to take the necessary steps.

10. Contact Information

If you have comments or questions, any concerns or a complaint regarding the collection and use of your personal data, please feel free to contact the Data Controller using the following contact information:

The Data Controller:

The Data Controller: TAXUD A4

Phone: 0032 2 299 11 11

Mailbox address: TAXUD-SUSPENSION-QUOTA-REQUESTS@ec.europa.eu.