Data Protection Information for the RKI Symposium | AI in Public Health Research

Last amended: September 2023

Hereby we inform you about the processing of your personal data in connection with registering, conducting and following up on the live broadcast event (hereinafter "hybrid event"), the RKI Symposium | AI in Public Health Research. Personal data are any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (hereinafter "data subject").

1. Name and contact details of the controller responsible for data processing and contact details of the data protection officer

Robert Koch Institute (RKI)
Nordufer 20
13353 Berlin
Represented by its President Prof. Dr. Lars Schaade (acting)
Email: info@rki.de

Data protection officer
Email: datenschutz@rki.de

2. Scope of processing

During planning and organization (esp. registration, invitation, management of participants), conducting (esp. facilitation and technical provision) and follow up on the hybrid event, various types of personal data are processed. For the invitation and registration to the RKI Symposium | AI in Public Health Research, particularly processing of your first and last name, your organization and your e-mail address is required. If you are a speaker or participant in the discussion, we may also use your name, your organization, a photo of you, brief information about your CV and, if applicable, your presence on social media to announce or promote the event (e.g. in the form of (digital) event flyers).

The scope of data processing in the context of the hybrid event also depends on the information you provide when participating in the hybrid event and the settings you make. The following personal data are always subject to processing within the scope of the hybrid event and are necessary for its conducting:

Participant details, information marked as mandatory such as surname, first name, organization, e-mail address, and additional information provided voluntarily. In the case of online participation, this also includes access data and user ID.

Event and usage data, esp. topic, description (optional), participant IP addresses, information on hardware as well as software used. When dialing in with the telephone: information on the incoming and outgoing call number, country name, start and end time. If necessary, also additional connection data such as the IP address of the device can be stored.
User-generated data such as chat content: You may have the opportunity to use the chat, question or poll functions in a web meeting, provided that the responsible host allows this in the web meeting’s settings and provided that you engage in the web meeting by using the relevant functions. Naturally, use of the chat is completely voluntary.

If you give a presentation on Webex or participate in a panel discussion as part of the hybrid event, data from your device’s microphone and from any camera connected to the device will be processed in accordance with your settings for the duration of the meeting, in order to enable the simultaneous transmission and display of video and the playback of audio data (live streaming). You can switch off or mute the camera or microphone yourself at any time via the web meeting application. The controller will set the default settings in such a way that no text, audio or video data from you will be processed without you initiating this processing yourself. If you participate on site as a speaker or discussion participant, live streaming will take place via RKI’s devices.

If (parts of) the hybrid event is recorded, the recordings might be saved and published on the RKI’s communication channels, especially its YouTube channel, after the event. In addition, the recorded photo, video, and audio data may be published in whole or in part on the website, on posters, in print and through online media of the RKI within and outside the RKI and on other social media channels of the RKI. In general, only speaker(s)/discussion participant(s) are affected by this. In some cases, depending on the chosen seat location, a participant on site may also be visible. Seats that are not affected by this are marked accordingly. If you do not wish to be filmed or recorded with the possibility of this being published, please ascertain you choose a suitably marked seat or inform photographers or the event organization team on site.

3. Purposes and legal bases of data processing

Your personal data will be processed by the RKI in order to plan, organize, advertise and invite you to the hybrid event as part of the event series. The legal basis for the associated processing is Art. 6 (1) sentence 1(e) GDPR in conjunction with Section 4 of the Protection Against Infection Act (IfSG). If and to the extent that we process your data as a speaker/discussion participant in order to advertise the event, the legal basis for the processing is Art. 6 (1) sentence 1(a) GDPR.

Furthermore, RKI processes personal data in order to manage registrations, to send you access information, as well as to conduct and follow up on the hybrid event. For this purpose, we also use web applications to the extent described here in order to be able to make the event also digitally accessible via live stream and to enable participants to participate actively in the events regardless of their location. If you use the chat feature, the text you enter will be processed in order to display it in hybrid event and to be able to discuss your questions during the event. The legal basis for the associated processing is thereby Art. 6 (1) sentence 1 (b) GDPR. The legal basis for the processing of the optional information in the registration mask is Art. 6 (1) sentence 1 (a) GDPR. Insofar as personal data of RKI employees is processed, Section 26 of the German Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG) is the legal basis for data processing.

If you are active as a speaker/discussion participant in the hybrid event, photos, audio and video data of you as well as your presentation will be processed for the purpose of live streaming during the web meeting and, if applicable, for the purpose of recording and subsequent publication. The legal basis for the associated processing is your consent pursuant to Art. 6 (1) sentence 1 (a) GDPR. In the exceptional case that these photos or audio and video recordings might also include participants on site, the legal basis for data processing is also Art. Art. 6 (1) sentence 1 (a) GDPR.
If necessary for planning purposes, e.g. travel, catering and/or accommodation, further personal data may be processed from speakers or discussion participants. The legal basis is Art. 6 (1) sentence 1 (b) GDPR. If we process sensitive personal data in this regard, e.g. specific dietary requirements or physical conditions, we require your consent (Art. 9 (2) a GDPR).

In principle, you are not obliged to provide your personal data. However, it is not possible to participate without registration. Speakers/discussion participants must consent to the live stream in order to participate. No automated decision-making, including profiling, takes place.

4. Recipients of the data

Personal data processed in connection with participation in hybrid event will not in principle be disclosed to third parties, unless it is specifically intended to be disclosed. The provider of the webmeeting/streaming tool used and its subcontractors do receive the opportunity to become aware of the above-mentioned data, insofar as this data is intended to conduct the hybrid event. We currently work with the service provider Cisco Systems, Inc., 170 West Tasman Drive, San Jose, California 95134, USA, which we use via Telekom Deutschland GmbH, Landgrabenweg 151, 53227 Bonn, Germany.

The recordings of the meeting can be published on the publicly accessible Youtube channel of the RKI. Youtube is a video platform operated for European users by Google Ireland Limited, Gordon House, Barrow Street, Dublin 4, Ireland. Here, in principle, only the personal data of the speakers/discussion participants contained in the recordings are processed. Exceptionally, the recordings may also contain personal data of participants on site.

Photo, audio, and video data taken during the hybrid event may also be published in whole or in part on the following publicly accessible RKI social media channels as part of the RKI's public relations work:

- Twitter (Twitter International Company, One Cumberland Place, Fenian Street, Dublin 2, D02 AX07 Ireland),
- Instagram (Meta Platforms Ireland Ltd., 4 Grand Canal Square Grand Canal Harbour, Dublin 2, Ireland),
- LinkedIn (LinkedIn Ireland Unlimited Company, Wilton Place, Dublin 2, Ireland)
- Mastodon (Mastodon gGmbH, Mühlenstraße 8a, 14167 Berlin, Germany).

In the context of announcing and advertising the hybrid event and the subsequent reporting, the RKI may publish your data as a speaker/discussion participant on its communication channels within and outside RKI and to potential event participants (esp. (inter)national research institutions and organizations).

5. Data processing outside the European Union

“Cisco Webex” is a service provided by Cisco Systems, Inc. which is based in the US. We receive the Cisco Systems service via Deutsche Telekom, which allows us to have a German contact and contractual partner for consultation and services. Webex is provisioned from the European cloud. We use Cisco Webex as part of the implementation of hybrid events. Cisco Systems Inc. is a US service provider. It is certified in accordance with the EU-U.S. Data Privacy Framework. This certification ensures the adequacy of the level of data protection.
In the context of the announcement/application of the hybrid event, a transfer of your data to third countries/international organizations is possible. In addition, event recordings of the Rki Symposium | AI in Public Health Research are published on the Youtube channel or parts thereof as photo, video and audio data on other social media channels of the RKI mentioned here in section 4 (e.g., to other companies of the Google Group such as Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA, LinkedIn, 1000 W. Maude Ave, Sunnyvale, CA, USA). Since a transfer to third countries (countries outside the European Union or the European Economic Area where the level of data protection does not correspond to that of the European Union), might be possible and we cannot guarantee the existence of a level of data protection equivalent to that of the EU there, in accordance with Art. 49 (1) sentence 1 lit. a GDPR, we will request your express consent for transferring your personal data to third countries. You can withdraw your consent at any time with effect for the future, although your withdrawal will not apply to any processing performed n in the basis of your consent prior to the withdrawal. As explained above, this generally only applies to our speakers and discussion participants. However, as described above, in exceptional cases this may also affect participants on site. If you do not wish to be photographed and your data to be published, please make sure that your seat is appropriately marked or please contact the photographers or the event organization team on site.

6. Storage period

Your personal data will be stored until the basis for data processing no longer applies or after the expiry of statutory or official retention obligations.

The video and audio data exchanged via Webex will generally only be temporarily stored to the extent necessary for streaming the data and then deleted. Only in the event that an (audio/video) recording is made will the recorded data be stored for as long as the consent of the data subjects permits, and on YouTube in any case for no longer than two years. On other social media platforms, the deletion periods may be longer. Personal data arising from e-mails or via chat during the web meeting will be deleted immediately after the end of the hybrid event.

The data required for the implementation/organization of the event will be deleted after completion of the post-event processing. If data subjects expressly request deletion of their data beforehand, the data will be deleted without undue delay.

7. Rights of data subjects

Under the GDPR, you have the following rights under the conditions set out in the law: right of access (Art. 15 GDPR), right to rectification (Art. 16 GDPR), right to erasure (Art. 17 GDPR), right to restriction of processing (Art. 18 GDPR), right to data portability (Art. 20 GDPR), right to consent withdrawal (Art. 7(3) GDPR), right to object (Art. 21 GDPR). In addition, you have the right to lodge a complaint with a relevant authority (Art. 77 GDPR).

If you wish to exercise any of these rights, please contact the RKI using the above contact details.