Privacy Statement Network Monitoring

ICT is increasingly becoming part of all primary (and other) processes within the Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR). This of course offers advantages but also means greater risks. Malicious parties can gain unauthorized access to information systems in increasingly sophisticated ways. To mitigate this risk and to take appropriate security measures, the EUR has established a Security Operations Center (SOC). This is a service intended to monitor 24/7 for cyber threats and potential attacks and intrusions on the EUR’s ICT infrastructure. More information on the personal data processed by the EUR is provided below.

Purpose of the SOC service.

The SOC service oversees the monitoring of network traffic and analysis of log information, with the aim of detecting security incidents and threats. Based on characteristics of the network traffic detected by the SOC service, network data/flows can be classified as suspicious or threatening to the network and information infrastructure of the EUR. These network data/flows are prioritized differently based on the threat it may pose.

The basic principle is that the network data/flows are only monitored without checking their content. Only in exceptional cases will network data/flows be inspected for content if there are sufficient reasons to do so. For example, when there is a reasonable suspicion that the content contains (highly) malicious content, and a high priority has been assigned to this.

Processing basis

Any processing of personal data must be based on a basis in Article 6 GDPR. The EUR processes personal data in the context of network monitoring based on a legitimate interest. The interest is to prevent or detect and deal with threats on the entire network of the EUR and its servers, computers, and other peripheral devices at an early stage.

Who processes the EUR personal data and what personal data is processed?

The SOC service monitors threats across the EUR’s network and associated servers, computers, and other peripherals. As a result, as part of network monitoring, the EUR collects personal data from everyone who uses the EUR’s network and associated servers, computers, and other peripherals.

The personal data that will primarily be processed as part of the SOC service include IP addresses, usernames, first names, last names, connection times (date and time), computer names and MAC addresses of those involved. However, it cannot be excluded that other (special category) personal data will be processed, if it is entered by the data subject himself within the network traffic of the EUR.

In particular, the processing of the personal data described above takes place in an automated manner as part of the entire network traffic. However, decision making based on these processes does not take place automatically and will always take place through human intervention. As mentioned above, in exceptional cases the content of the traffic data/streams will be inspected if there is sufficient reason to do so. This will always take place in accordance with the ICT guidelines of the EUR. For more information on this, please read the ICT regulations of the EUR.
Retention periods

The EUR does not keep your personal data any longer than is strictly necessary to achieve the goals for which the data was collected.

For digital data, the EUR uses a standard retention period of 183 days. In practice, this is sufficient to trace back the first point of contact of an incident via the log files. After the retention period has expired, the data is deleted.

Technical and organizational measures

To optimally protect your personal data against unauthorized access or use, the EUR applies appropriate security measures. We will report any (attempted) abuse to the police. The EUR also takes organizational measures to protect personal data from unauthorized access.

Digital service desk

As a data subject, you have several rights under the GDPR. Click here to exert one of your rights.

Contact details of the data controller

The EUR is the data controller for the processing of personal data in the context of network monitoring. If you have any questions or comments about our privacy statement, please feel free to contact us. To do so, you can use the contact form on the website or send an e-mail to privacy@eur.nl.