

PRIVACY STATEMENT - ADMISSIONS PROCESS -

At **Central European University** (address: 224 West 57th street, New York, NY 10019, USA and Quellenstrasse 51, 1010 Vienna) and **Central European University Private University** (seat: Quellenstrasse 51, 1010 Vienna) (hereinafter collectively referred to as Joint Data Controllers) we place great emphasis on the protection of your personal information and compliance with the applicable data privacy requirements, including specifically the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)¹. This Privacy Notice relates to the collection, use, transfer and retention of your personal data.

Please read it carefully before submitting your personal data.

[Who are we and what do we do?](#)

Central European University (CEU) is a graduate institution of advanced research and teaching, dedicated to socially and morally responsible intellectual inquiry. The University is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in the United States with a teaching site in Vienna.

Central European University Private University (CEU PU) is established in Vienna under the Austrian Federal Act on Private Universities.

Admissions Office of Közép-európai Egyetem receives and processes applications to master, doctoral and non-degree programs.

[Identity and contact details of the Joint Data Controllers](#)

Central European University, and Central European University Private University qualify as joint data controllers according to Article 26 of the GDPR (the “Joint Data Controllers”).

Central European University

224 West 57th street
New York
NY 10019, USA

Quellenstrasse 511010 Vienna

Central European University Private University

Quellenstrasse 511010 Vienna

E-mail: privacy@ceu.edu

[What is the purpose and legal basis of processing your data?](#)

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC.

Category of personal data	Purpose of data processing	Special category of personal data	Legal basis Central European University	Legal basis Central European University Private University
<p>Personal Details (Title; First/Given Name; Middle Name; Other Middle Names; Last/Family Name; First/Given Name at Birth; Gender; Date of Birth; Country of Birth; City of Birth; Citizenship; Dual Citizenship; Country of Permanent Residence); student number (Matrikelnummer); social security number or replacement number (Ersatzkennzeichen); area-specific personal identification number (bereichsspezifisches Personenkennzeichen)</p> <p>Classification Data (Einordnungsdaten) (Body of the private university, competent for registering student data (meldendes Organ der Privatuniversität); reference semester (Bezugssemester)</p> <p>Photograph for student ID</p> <p>Education evidence code (Bildungsevidenz-Kennzahl; BEKZ)</p> <p>Contact Details (Address Line 1; City; County /State/Province; Postcode; Country; Phone; E-mail Address; Online Service; delivery address (Zustelladresse), respectively address at hometown, if different); proof of residency (Meldebestätigung)</p> <p>Qualifications (Country; Institution/School/College/Other; Qualification; Subject; Completion; Start Date and name of study program; admission;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the sound operation of the higher education institution, - the exercise of rights and fulfilment of obligations by applicants, - the organisation of education and research activities, - the maintenance of the records specified by law, - the determination, assessment and certification of eligibility for the benefits granted pursuant to law and the higher education institution's rules for organisation and operation, - the exercise of rights and fulfilment of obligations by applicants and students - processing data for statistical purposes 	<p>No</p>	<p>Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz); Higher Education Quality Assurance Act (Hochschul-Qualitätssicherungsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014)</p> <p>Legitimate interest of the data controller GDPR Article 6 (1) f where no legal obligation applies</p>	<p>Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz); Higher Education Quality Assurance Act (Hochschul-Qualitätssicherungsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014)</p> <p>Legitimate interest of the data controller GDPR Article 6 (1) f where no legal obligation applies</p>

<p>(Expected) End Date; (Expected) Graduation Date and form of graduation; English Language Qualifications; Documents)</p> <p>CV/Resume</p> <p>Employment details (Current role, Previous Role)</p> <p>Writing Requirements (Statement of Purpose)</p>				
<p>Referees (Title; First/Given Name; Last/Family Name; Position; Institution/Company; E-mail Address; Country of referees)</p>	<p>– asking their professional evaluation about the eligibility of applicants</p>	No	Legitimate interest of the data controller GDPR Article 6 (1) f	
<p>Exam data (Prüfungsdaten) Name of exam or topic of scientific or cultural thesis (Bezeichnung von Prüfungen oder das Thema der wissenschaftlichen oder künstlerischen Arbeiten); given ECTS credits (vergebene ECTS-Anwendungspunkte); assessment (Beurteilung); names of examiners; date of exam; name of student and student number (Matrikelnummer)</p>	<p>- retention of private university specific data for 80 years</p>		Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); section 53 University Act (Universitätsgesetz)	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); section 53 University Act (Universitätsgesetz)
<p>Data on tuition fees (Studienbeitragsdaten) (tuition fee status (Studienbeitragsstatus); amounts and value date of the contribution requirement (Beträge und Valutadatum der Beitragsvorschreibung); amounts and value date of any additional claim (Beträge und Valutadatum der allfälligen Nachforderung); Payment status and actual amount</p>	<p>- performance of obligatory notification to the data network of Austrian universities and colleges for joint studies with Austrian education institutions</p>	No	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014)	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014)

<p>(Bezahlungsstatus und Ist-Betrag); last booking date (letztes Buchungsdatum); tuition fee account of the private university (Studienbeitragskonto der Privatuniversität))</p> <p>Study data (Studiendaten) (Name of study program (Kennzeichnung des Studiums); date of application, admission or start of studies (Antrags-, Zulassungs- oder Beginndatum des Studiums); form, date and issuing state of university entrance qualifications (Form, Datum und Ausstellungsstaat der allgemeinen Universitätsreife); approval status; notification and date of continuation of studies (Meldung und Datum der Fortsetzung des Studiums); type of international mobility and host country of stay abroad (Art der internationalen Mobilität und Gastland des Auslandsaufenthaltes); curriculum version</p> <p>Academic success data (Studienerfolgsdaten) (Name of study program (Kennzeichnung des Studiums); semester hours of examinations taken (Semesterstunden abgelegter Prüfungen); semester hours of positive examinations taken (Semesterstunden positive beurteilter Prüfungen); obtained ECTS credits (erlangte ECTS-Anrechnungspunkte); Type and date of successful examinations that complete a course of</p>				
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<p>study or part of a degree program (Art und Datum von erfolgreich abgelegten Prüfungen, die ein Studium oder einen Studienabschnitt eines Diplomstudiums abschließen)).</p> <p>University entrance exam (Studienberechtigungsprüfung) (number of entrance examination (laufende Nummer des Studiumsberechtigungsfall); Name of study program or course (Kennzeichnung des Studiums bzw der Studienrichtungsgruppe); data of admission to entrance exam (Datum des Antrags auf Zulassung zur Studienberechtigungsprüfung); data of positive entrance exam (Datum der erfolgreichen Ablegung der Studienberechtigungsprüfung))</p>				
<p>Disability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing of equal treatment - providing assistance granted pursuant to law and the higher education institution's rules for organisation and operation of selection process 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Consent of data subject GDPR Article 6 (1) a)</p>	<p>Consent of data subject GDPR Article 6 (1) a)</p>
<p>Funding (Financial Aid needs; personal and other private sources for your graduate studies; other sources of Financial Aid; Previous Education; Optional Personal Statement)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the determination, assessment and certification of eligibility for the benefits granted pursuant to 	<p>No</p>	<p>Consent of data subject GDPR Article 6 (1) a)</p>	

	the higher education institution's rules for organisation and operation			
Personal Details Title; First/Given Name; Middle Name; Other Middle Names; Last/Family Name, Contact Details (Address Line; City; County /State/Province; Postcode; Country) Banking number (created by Bank after payment)	- issue of accounting documents in point of application fee	No	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c (Section 132 Federal Fiscal Code and sections 190 and 212 Commercial Code)	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c (Section 132 Federal Fiscal Code and sections 190 and 212 Commercial Code)
Application documents	- formal review of applications	Yes	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b
Contact Information (Name, e-mail address, permanent/temporary address, mailing address)	- communication with applicant if clarification required - sending official documents (confirmation letter for visa purposes, acceptance letter for other purposes, etc.)	No	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b
Passport copy (Passport Number, Photo, Name, Gender, Nationality, Date of Birth, Place of Birth, Date of Issue, Date of Expiry)	- identifying the applicants before the skype or personal interview	Yes	Consent of data subject GDPR Article 6 (1) a	Consent of data subject GDPR Article 6 (1) a
Application documents	- academic evaluation of applicants	Yes	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz);	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz);

			Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz); Higher Education Quality Assurance Act (Hochschul-Qualitätssicherungsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014) Consent of data subject GDPR Article 6 (1) a)	Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz); Higher Education Quality Assurance Act (Hochschul-Qualitätssicherungsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014) Consent of data subject GDPR Article 6 (1) a)
Program-specific tests https://www.ceu.edu/node/13746 (Name, e-mail address, test results)	- program-specific testing for pre-selected candidates	No	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014) Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)	Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014) Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)
Interviews (Application documents, notes taken during interviews, skype address)	- conducting personal or skype interview	Yes	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)
Assessment of applications (Application documents and, if applicable, the program-specific exams or interviews)	- final ranking of candidates	Yes	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)
Waiting list notification (Name, e-mail address, result)	- notification of placement on the waiting list	No	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)
Notification of rejected candidates (Name, e-mail address, result)	- notifying unsuccessful applicants about admissions decisions	No	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)	Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b)

<p>Acceptance offer including financial aid offer (Name, department, conditions of the offer)</p>	<p>- notification for successful applicants</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz); Higher Education Quality Assurance Act (Hochschul-Qualitätssicherungsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014)</p> <p>Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b</p>	<p>Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz); Higher Education Quality Assurance Act (Hochschul-Qualitätssicherungsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014)</p> <p>Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b</p>
<p>Response from applicants (Name, e-mail address, response)</p>	<p>- successful applicants respond to offer</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014)</p> <p>Legitimate interest of the data controller GDPR Article 6 (1) f where no legal obligation applies</p>	<p>Legal obligation, GDPR Article 6 (1) c) (Education documentation Act (Bildungsdokumentationsgesetz); Private University Act (Privatuniversitätengesetz); Research Organisation Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz) and Student Union Act (Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaftsgesetz 2014)</p> <p>Legitimate interest of the data controller GDPR Article 6 (1) f where no legal obligation applies</p>
<p>Applicant inquiries (Name, e-mail address, subject of inquiry)</p>	<p>- email inquiries received from applicants</p>	<p>It may occur</p>	<p>Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b</p> <p>Legitimate interest of the data controller GDPR Article 6 (1) f where no legal obligation applies</p> <p>(depending whether the inquiry is necessary for the contracts performance)</p>	<p>Contractual necessary GDPR Article 6 (1) b</p> <p>Legitimate interest of the data controller GDPR Article 6 (1) f where no legal obligation applies</p> <p>(depending whether the inquiry is necessary for the contracts performance)</p>

Confirmation of Acceptance (Name, Address, Contact Information, Date of Birth, Place of Birth, Citizenship)	- confirmation of acceptance issued for visa purposes	No	Legal obligation GDPR Article 6 (1) c Section 64 (1) (2) Settlement and Residence Act (Niederlassungs- und Aufenthaltsgesetz)	Legal obligation GDPR Article 6 (1) c Settlement and Residence Act (Niederlassungs- und Aufenthaltsgesetz) and Settlement and Residence Act implementing order (Niederlassungs- und Aufenthaltsgesetz-Durchführungsverordnung)
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For statistical purposes, your data will be anonymized. We have put in place suitable data protection procedures to safeguard your information in line with the applicable data protection laws.

[Who receives your information?](#)

The Joint Controllers work closely together to provide a coordinated approach. Any transmission of data between the Joint Controllers and their internal units is managed through agreed processes which comply with relevant data protection legislation.

The Admissions Office of Közép-európai Egyetem checks each incoming application to make sure it complies with formal application requirements, then forwards it to the respective academic units for academic review. It is the main point of contact for all applicants for any questions or issues regarding technical and/or content related questions about the application form and application requirements. Moreover, admissions decisions are communicated by the Admissions Office.

Unless we have a legal obligation to do so, we will not disclose your data to individuals, organizations, or other entities outside the universities other than those who are acting as agents and data processors working on our behalf.

For the purposes set out above, we may need to pass your information to our third-party service providers, agents, and subcontractors, for the purposes of completing tasks and providing services to you on our behalf. However, with all external entities with whom data is shared, we share only those data needed to perform the specific service and require a data processing contract to be signed before any data transfer—requiring them to keep your information secure and not to use it for their own purposes.

Specific third parties acting as data processors we work with include:

- **Microsoft 365:** Based in the US, with our data stored within EU in datacenters located in Amsterdam and Dublin. Software as a service which provides our email and document management.
- **TRIBAL:** Located in Bristol, UK, Tribal Group plc. is a global provider of software and services to the education sector. To provide software and services, Tribal collects, stores, and processes personal data about its customers, potential customers, suppliers, contractors, partners, and staff as well as contracted to process information on behalf of their customers.
- **SAP:** Our Enterprise Resource Planning system (ERP) for integrated applications, such as Finance, Grants management, Procurement.
- **Közép-európai Egyetem:** Qualifies as data processor of Central European University and Central European University Private University.

Specific third parties to which we transmit data based on legal obligations include:

- **Agency for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Austria** (Agentur für Qualitätssicherung und Akkreditierung Austria): Is the competent body for the assurance of quality standards at private universities. It qualifies as data controller.
- **Data network of Austrian universities and colleges** (Datenverbund der Universitäten und Hochschulen): This network's purpose is to ensure the provision, administration and blocking of student numbers (Matrikelnummer), administration of application information and more. Competent bodies within the educational institutions are joint data controllers of this network.
- **Austrian Higher Education Systems Network (AHESN):** Is a network to ensure proper implementation of joint study programs. Through AHESN data is exchanged which is required to implement joint study programs. The participating educational institutions are joint controllers.
- **Statistics Austria** (Bundesanstalt „Statistik Österreich“): Is the federal statistics authority in Austria and qualifies as data controller.

- **Austrian Federal Minister of Education, Science and Research** (Bundesminister für Bildung, Wirtschaft und Forschung): Qualifies as data controller for the total evidence of the students (Gesamtevidenz der Studierenden), which is operated for statistical purposes.
- **Student Unions** (Hochschülerschaften): The Student Unions qualify as data controllers and have a right to receive certain data in a certain form for student union elections. They also may send electronic mails to students without obtaining the student's consent.

We require all third parties to respect the security of your personal data and to treat it in accordance with the law.

[How long will your information be held?](#)

We keep the personal data of unsuccessful applicants as well as of those who started but did not submit their application or where a program has been suspended until October 31 of the same year. Personal data required to be retained for Hungarian accounting purposes will be kept for 8 years based on Section 169 of Act C of 2000 on Accounting, in line with Article 6 (1) c) of the GDPR. Personal data required to be retained for Austrian accounting purposes will be kept for 7 years based on Section 132 Federal Fiscal Code and Section 212 Commercial Code, in line with Article 6 (1) c) of the GDPR. Your data will be anonymized for further especially statistical use. The principles of data protection should not apply to anonymous information.

Private university specific exam data will be retained for 80 years based on Section 3 (11) Private University Act in conjunction with Section 53 University Act.

If your application is successful and you are *admitted* to CEU, your personal data will be handled in line with CEU's data privacy rules applicable to students' personal data.

If you choose to cancel your application at any point of time during the admissions process, your data will be anonymized for further use within 25 days after your cancellation. The principles of data protection should not apply to anonymous information.

The referees' personal data will be removed from our records by October 31 of the same year.

[What are your rights?](#)

You have the right:

- to access your personal information – you can obtain a confirmation that we are processing your data and information how we process it. We suggest that you make a request in writing.
- to object to the processing of your personal information – this allows you to ask us to stop processing your data at any time. Where we rely on legitimate interest, you must give specific reasons why you are objecting the processing of your data. In this case this is not an absolute right, we can demonstrate compelling legitimate grounds for processing, which override your interests, rights and freedoms. Where we are processing personal data for scientific or historical research, or statistical purposes, you only have a right to object if our lawful basis for processing is legitimate interest.
- to rectify – you have a right to have your personal information corrected if it is inaccurate and to have incomplete personal information completed
- to erase (also known as the right to be forgotten) – in certain circumstances you can ask for the data we hold about you to be erased from our records. Your personal data will be erased where the data are no longer needed for their original processing purpose, or you have withdrawn your consent and there is no other legal ground for processing, or you have objected and there are no overriding legitimate grounds for the processing, or erasure is required to fulfill a statutory obligation under the EU law or the right of the national law.

- to request data portability – you can ask to have the data we hold about you transferred to another organisation.
- to restrict processing your personal information – where certain conditions apply you have a right to restrict the processing of your personal information
- to withdraw your consent at any time – without affecting the lawfulness of processing based on consent before its withdrawal;

If you wish to exercise any of these rights, please email privacy@ceu.edu or write to us at

Central European University, Quellenstrasse 51, 1010 Vienna

We will make every effort to fulfill your request to the extent allowed by law and will respond in writing within 25 days of receiving your request.

Should you wish to request help from the relevant national authority, the details are as follows:

Österreichische Datenschutzbehörde
Barichgasse 40-42,
1030 Vienna
Austria/Europe
Telephone: +43 1 52 152-0
E-Mail: dsb@dsb.gv.at
Web: <https://www.data-protection-authority.gv.at/>

In addition to the legal remedy, you have the right to apply to the court against the activities of data controller.

[Security of your Information](#)

We are committed to holding your data securely and treating it with sensitivity. All data are held securely and in accordance with the relevant data privacy laws and our internal policies. We do not sell to or trade your data with any other organizations. For further details please see our Data Protection Policy.

Although most of the information we store and process stays within Austria and Hungary, some information may be transferred to countries outside the European Economic Area (EEA). This may occur if, for example, one of our trusted partners' servers are located in a country outside the EEA (see above: data processors). Where these countries do not have similar data protection laws to the European Union, we will take steps to make sure they provide an adequate level of protection in accordance with EU data protection law.

For more information about our Data Protection Policy please see: <https://documents.ceu.edu/documents/p-1805>

[Future Changes](#)

If our information policies or practices change at some time in the future, we will post the changes on our [website](#).