

Privacy Policy – VacantMap

Last updated: 16 may 2026

Introductory Notice

VacantMap is a journalistic and public-interest platform that investigates and publishes information about vacancy and underused buildings.

VacantMap combines multiple sources of information, including:

- editorial research
- user-submitted reports and information
- public information and datasets
- contextual analysis
- information provided by property owners or other involved parties

The platform aims to improve transparency and understanding of vacancy, its causes, and its impact on cities and communities.

VacantMap publishes information about properties and locations rather than individuals. The platform does not aim to identify, profile, or evaluate property owners, occupants, or other persons associated with reported properties.

Information published on VacantMap may include reports, signals, contextual information, and editorial analysis. This information may not always reflect the current legal or factual status of a building.

Property owners or authorized representatives may contact VacantMap at any time to request correction, clarification, or review of published information. VacantMap assesses such requests carefully and may update, contextualize, or maintain publications in the public interest.

VacantMap is an independent journalistic platform and is not operated by a government authority. Information published on VacantMap does not constitute official determinations of vacancy.

Further details about how personal data are processed are described in the Privacy Policy below.

Journalistic Purpose and Public Interest

VacantMap operates as a journalistic and public-interest platform focused on transparency about vacancy and underused buildings. The platform allows citizens to report (suspected) vacancy and enables citizens, researchers, journalists, and public authorities to better understand patterns of vacancy in cities and neighbourhoods.

VacantMap processes personal data in the context of journalistic activities and in the public interest. This processing takes place within the framework of Article 85 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and applicable national law, including the Dutch GDPR Implementation Act (UAVG) and Article 7 of the Dutch Constitution concerning freedom of expression.

VacantMap processes information in the public interest, including:

- documenting signals and indications of vacancy

- conducting editorial research and analysis
- publishing contextual and explanatory information
- facilitating public understanding and debate about vacancy and underused buildings

This public-interest and journalistic purpose forms the basis for VacantMap's processing and publication of information.

VacantMap operates in accordance with journalistic principles such as due care, transparency, right of reply, proportionality, and the public interest. Publications are subject to editorial review and, where appropriate, may be provided with additional context or nuance.

VacantMap applies editorial judgment and may publish information even where differing viewpoints exist, provided publication serves the public interest and is presented in a responsible and balanced manner.

Where appropriate, VacantMap cooperates with researchers, journalists, and public authorities to improve understanding of vacancy, urban development and building utilization.

Data Controller

The controller responsible for the processing of personal data on this website is:

VacantMap
Netherlands

Email: info@vacantmap.com

The controller determines the purposes and means of processing personal data on this platform.

If you have questions about the processing of your personal data, you can contact us using the contact details above.

What Are Personal Data?

Personal data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person, as defined in Art. 4(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

VacantMap primarily processes information about properties and locations rather than individuals. However, certain data submitted to or generated by the platform may qualify as personal data.

Data Subject Rights

Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), you have the following rights regarding your personal data:

Right of access (Art. 15 GDPR)

You have the right to obtain confirmation as to whether personal data concerning you are being processed and, where that is the case, to access those data.

Right to rectification (Art. 16 GDPR)

You have the right to request correction of inaccurate or incomplete personal data.

Right to erasure (Art. 17 GDPR)

You have the right to request deletion of personal data where the legal requirements are met.

Right to restriction of processing (Art. 18 GDPR)

You have the right to request restriction of the processing of your personal data.

Right to data portability (Art. 20 GDPR)

You have the right to receive personal data that you have provided in a structured, commonly used, and machine-readable format.

Right to object (Art. 21 GDPR)

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data where processing is based on legitimate interests.

Right not to be subject to automated decision-making (Art. 22 GDPR)

You have the right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing, including profiling, which produces legal or similarly significant effects.

Right to withdraw consent (Art. 7(3) GDPR)

Where processing is based on consent, you may withdraw your consent at any time. Withdrawal of consent does not affect the lawfulness of processing prior to withdrawal.

Right to lodge a complaint (Art. 77 GDPR)

You have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority if you believe your personal data are processed unlawfully. In the Netherlands, the supervisory authority is the Autoriteit Persoonsgegevens.

General Use of the Website

SSL / TLS Encryption

This website uses SSL or TLS encryption to protect the transmission of data.

You can recognize an encrypted connection by the “https://” address in your browser and the lock symbol in the address bar.

Server Log Files

When you visit the website, the hosting provider automatically collects technical information in server log files. These logs may include:

- browser type and version
- operating system
- referring URL
- hostname of the accessing device
- date and time of the request
- IP address
- requested resources

These data are processed to ensure the technical operation, security, and stability of the platform.

Server log data are stored only for a limited period and are automatically deleted thereafter, unless longer retention is required for security purposes. Server log data are not used for profiling or marketing purposes.

Consent registration

When you create an account or submit a report, correction or other information, VacantMap records that you have accepted the applicable terms. This record includes: the type of action, the version of the terms accepted, a timestamp, your IP address, and browser information (user agent). Where applicable, the record is linked to your account and/or the submitted location. These data are stored for a maximum of 2 years, after which they are automatically deleted.

Local storage

To keep you logged in and remember your session, VacantMap stores authentication tokens and basic account information (email address, display name) in your browser's local storage. This data remains on your own device and is not transmitted to third parties. It is deleted when you log out or clear your browser data. Additionally, draft report data and pending submissions are temporarily stored in session storage and cleared when you close the browser tab.

The legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Art. 6(1)(c) GDPR – compliance with a legal obligation (demonstrating consent)

Contact by Email

If you contact VacantMap by email, the information you provide (such as your email address and message content) will be processed in order to respond to your request.

Where relevant, information provided by email may also be used for editorial research, verification, or reporting in the public interest. Such information may contribute to journalistic publications, either directly or in summarized or contextualized form.

VacantMap handles communications carefully and, where appropriate, may anonymize or summarize information before publication.

If a sender requests that information be treated as confidential, off the record, or not for publication, VacantMap will consider such requests and handle the information in accordance with journalistic standards.

Contact data may be stored for as long as necessary to process the request, conduct editorial review, and handle any follow-up communication.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(a) GDPR – consent
- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

User Accounts and Email Addresses

Certain non essential functions of VacantMap require user registration. During registration, the following data may be collected:

- email address
- password (stored in hashed form)
- confirmation of acceptance of the platform terms
- date and time of registration
- IP-adres

Email addresses are used for:

- account creation, login and recovery
- important platform updates
- communication regarding the account
- notifications and editorial follow-up related to user submissions
- moderation or administrative communication

Email addresses are not publicly visible and are processed for these purposes and other related operational, security, and editorial needs of the platform.

Users are not required to create an account. Users may delete their account at any time. Upon account deletion, the associated email address and account information are deleted or anonymized.

Contributions previously submitted will remain on the platform but will be attributed to a generic label and can no longer be linked to the original user account.

This approach allows VacantMap to preserve the integrity and continuity of the public dataset while protecting the identity and privacy of former users.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(b) GDPR – performance of a user-requested service
- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest in operating the platform

Optional Email Notifications

Users may optionally provide an email address when submitting a report without creating an account.

If provided, the email address may be used to:

- notify users when a report is published
- notify users when a location is updated
- request additional information regarding a submission

Providing an email address in this context is optional.

Email addresses provided for optional notifications are processed for the purposes described above and are not publicly visible.

Email addresses provided for optional notifications are retained for up to 30 days after the last notification or communication, unless longer retention is necessary for follow-up communication. After this period, email addresses are deleted or anonymized.

Users may request deletion of their email address at any time.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(a) GDPR – consent

Vacancy Reports and User Contributions

VacantMap enables users to submit reports of potential vacancies and other relevant information about locations or buildings.

When submitting a report, the following information may be processed:

- report description, classifications and information provided by the user
- property address and geographic location
- date and time of submission
- optional email address
- IP address at the time of submission
- uploaded images or files (optional)

Information submitted through reports is used to support editorial research, verification, and journalistic analysis. Information submitted by users may contribute to research and journalistic publications, but are generally not published verbatim.

VacantMap may interpret, summarize, contextualize, or combine information from multiple sources when publishing information about a location.

User-submitted reports may contain personal information provided voluntarily by users. Such information is processed for editorial assessment, verification, and responsible handling of submissions, and is not published unless justified in the public interest and in accordance with journalistic standards.

Reports may include uploaded images or other files. These materials may contain buildings, locations, or other contextual information and may be used for editorial research, verification, and journalistic reporting.

Files uploaded to VacantMap, such as images, documents, or other attachments, may contain embedded metadata that could include personal or sensitive information. Where appropriate, VacantMap may remove or reduce such metadata (for example, location data, author information, or device details) to reduce the risk of unintended disclosure of personal data. However, users remain responsible for ensuring that uploaded files do not contain sensitive or personal information that they do not wish to share.

Uploaded images and files may be published, or used in contextualized form where relevant to journalistic reporting. VacantMap may edit, anonymize, or decline to publish submitted material where appropriate.

Uploaded images or files may contain personal data. Where this occurs, VacantMap processes such data for editorial assessment, verification, and responsible journalistic handling. Personal data contained in uploaded materials are not published unless justified in the public interest and in accordance with journalistic standards.

The data are processed for the following purposes:

- editorial research and verification
- publishing contextualized information
- moderating submissions
- detecting misuse or spam
- maintaining platform integrity

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(a) GDPR – consent
- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Editorial Processing and Analysis

VacantMap may apply editorial analysis to user-submitted information, publicly available data, and other sources.

Editorial processing may include:

- combining information from multiple sources
- contextual analysis
- classification of vacancy signals
- reliability assessment
- editorial interpretation and summaries
- publication of contextualized information

VacantMap may contact relevant parties before or after publication where appropriate. Responses received may be incorporated into editorial reporting.

This processing is carried out in the public interest to improve transparency and understanding of vacancy and underused buildings.

The purposes of this processing include:

- improving transparency about vacancy
- supporting research and journalism
- improving public understanding of vacancy
- facilitating public debate

VacantMap does not aim to identify or profile individuals associated with reported properties.

VacantMap applies editorial judgment when selecting, interpreting, and publishing information.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Public Map and Location Data

VacantMap publishes location information relating to buildings and locations that may be (partially) vacant.

Displayed information may include:

- addresses
- geographic coordinates
- map markers
- analyses and descriptions
- contextual or editorial information about the property

These data relate to locations and buildings rather than individuals. VacantMap does not aim to identify, profile, or evaluate individuals associated with reported properties.

The purpose of publishing this information is:

- documenting signals of potential vacancy
- providing contextual and editorial information
- supporting transparency around potential vacancy
- enabling research and public discussion

If someone believes that published location information unlawfully affects their rights or privacy, they may contact VacantMap to request review.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Moderation and Abuse Prevention

VacantMap processes limited technical and account-related data in order to maintain the security, reliability, and integrity of the platform. This processing may include IP addresses, timestamps, and technical request metadata.

This processing may be used to:

- detect spam or automated submissions
- prevent abusive reporting
- enforce platform rules
- investigate suspected misuse or malicious activity

Technical safeguards may include:

- rate limiting
- automated detection of non-human interaction patterns
- detection of automated browsers or scripts
- temporary blocking of suspicious activity

Where appropriate, automated systems may assist in identifying suspicious behavior. Such processing is limited to protecting the platform and does not involve automated decision-making with legal or similarly significant effects. These safeguards are used to protect the integrity, security, and availability of the platform and do not involve profiling of individual users.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest in protecting the platform and ensuring responsible operation

Account Activity and Contribution Statistics

VacantMap may record limited information about account activity and user contributions in order to ensure the security, reliability, and quality of the platform and to support editorial review. This may include:

- submission of reports and other contributions
- modifying or supplementing information
- date and time of activities
- uploading of photos and files
- moderation or correction requests
- number of submitted reports, published locations, corrections or additional contributions
- activity levels over time
- internal assessment of the quality or reliability of contributions

This information may be linked to an account ID or user ID.

These data are accessible only to authorized administrators or editorial staff and are not publicly displayed unless explicitly indicated.

These data and statistics may be used to:

- detect misuse or spam
- assess the reliability of contributions
- support editorial review
- improve data quality and reliability
- ensure platform security
- assess disputes or correction requests
- provide feedback to users where appropriate
- detect low-quality contributions

Account activity and contribution statistics are retained for as long as necessary for security, moderation, and editorial purposes, and generally no longer than 3 years, unless a longer retention period is required for legal or security purposes.

VacantMap does not use account activity or contribution statistics for automated decision-making that produces legal or similarly significant effects. All editorial decisions remain subject to human review.

Legal Basis

- Article 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest

- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Correction and Review Requests

Property owners, property managers, or authorized representatives may request correction, clarification, or review of information concerning a property.

Data Processed

When submitting a correction or review request, VacantMap may process:

- name or organization name
- contact information (such as email address and optional phone number)
- role in relation to the property (e.g. owner, manager, authorized representative)
- property address
- information about the property concerned
- explanation of the request
- supporting documentation

These data are processed to evaluate the request, verify relevant information, and support the accuracy and reliability of information published on the platform.

VacantMap may request additional information where necessary for the editorial changes or to verify the legitimacy of a correction request.

Editorial Handling

VacantMap may request additional information where necessary for editorial assessment, verification, or responsible handling of a correction request.

VacantMap may, depending on the circumstances:

- update information
- add contextual information
- publish relevant parts of responses from involved parties
- maintain publication where justified in the public interest

VacantMap applies editorial judgment when assessing correction requests and aims to provide balanced and transparent information where multiple perspectives exist.

Supporting Documentation

In some cases, VacantMap may request or receive supporting documentation in connection with correction or review requests. Examples may include:

- ownership documents
- land registry extracts
- property tax documents
- sale, letting or management agreements
- permits and decisions

Providing such documentation is optional and depends on the nature of the request.

Supporting documents:

- are not published by default

- are accessible only to authorized administrators
- are processed confidentially

Requesters are encouraged to redact personal identification numbers, financial information, or other unrelated personal data before submitting documents.

Retention

Personal data submitted in connection with correction or review requests, including supporting documentation, may be stored for up to 12 months after the request has been resolved.

This retention period allows VacantMap to verify the accuracy of the request and to review the case if new information becomes available. After this period, personal data are deleted or anonymized, unless longer retention is necessary for legal, editorial, or dispute resolution purposes.

Legal basis

Processing of correction and review requests is based on:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest in maintaining accurate information and responsible editorial review
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Editorial Review of Updated Information

When VacantMap receives new information regarding a property, including correction requests or contextual information, this information may be incorporated into ongoing editorial assessment.

Where appropriate, VacantMap may apply additional editorial review before publishing new information about a property, particularly where:

- the status of a property is evolving
- renovation, redevelopment, or administrative procedures are ongoing
- conflicting information has been received
- additional verification is required

The purpose of this approach is to ensure careful, balanced, and responsible reporting while maintaining transparency about potential vacancy.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Editorial Decision Records

VacantMap may retain limited internal editorial records relating to reports, publications, and correction requests in order to maintain a history of editorial decisions and ensure consistent handling of future cases.

These records may include:

- property address
- date of correction request

- type of request (correction / removal / clarification)
- editorial decision
- timestamp of resolution

Where possible, these records do not contain personal contact details of the requester.

Editorial records are used for:

- ensuring consistent editorial handling
- reviewing previous decisions
- maintaining the integrity of the platform
- responding to potential disputes or legal inquiries

These records are not publicly visible.

Editorial records may be retained for up to 5 years after resolution, after which they are deleted.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Automated Analysis and Editorial Support

VacantMap may use automated systems to assist in the analysis of submitted information, editorial research, and publicly available data. These systems may evaluate factors such as consistency, corroboration, historical patterns, and contextual indicators.

VacantMap may internally calculate analytical indicators, such as vacancy signal confidence scores or similar metrics, reflecting an internal assessment of the reliability, clarity, and corroboration of available information, including user submissions and contextual data.

These automated analyses are used to support editorial work, including:

- assisting verification and fact-checking
- prioritizing editorial research and review
- identifying patterns in vacancy signals
- improving data quality and consistency
- detecting potential inconsistencies, misuse, or unreliable information

Internal analytical indicators, including confidence scores, are generally not publicly displayed. Public-facing classifications or descriptions may be derived from internal assessments where appropriate.

Automated systems are used as decision-support tools and do not replace human editorial judgment. All editorial decisions and publications remain subject to human review. VacantMap does not use automated decision-making that produces legal or similarly significant effects.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Cooperation with Municipalities and Public Authorities

VacantMap may enter into service agreements with municipalities or public authorities.

Participating authorities may receive access to:

- analytical tools
- derived or aggregated information about vacancy
- datasets of contextualized property information
- statistical reports derived from vacancy research

These services support:

- awareness of potential vacancy and information from citizens
- policy analysis
- urban planning discussions

Municipalities remain responsible for their own decisions, actions, and policies. VacantMap provides informational and analytical tools to support awareness and research, and does not provide automated enforcement tools or decision-making systems.

The services provided concern information about properties and locations rather than individuals. VacantMap does not aim to identify, profile, or evaluate individuals associated with reported properties.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Data Access by Participating Municipalities

Where a municipality participates in the platform, it may access information relating to properties within its jurisdiction.

This may include:

- property locations published on the platform
- editorial summaries or contextualized information
- timestamps of signals or publications
- aggregated statistical data

VacantMap does not share raw user submissions, personal contact details, or identifying information about contributors with municipalities, unless explicit consent has been provided or disclosure is legally required.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Infrastructure and Service Providers

VacantMap uses technical service providers to operate and maintain the platform. These providers may process personal data on behalf of VacantMap for purposes such as:

- website hosting
- server infrastructure
- data storage
- security services

VacantMap's primary infrastructure is hosted by Hetzner. Servers used for VacantMap are located within the European Union.

Where service providers process personal data on behalf of VacantMap, data processing agreements are concluded in accordance with Art. 28 GDPR.

Service providers process personal data only to the extent necessary to provide their services and in accordance with VacantMap's instructions.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest in operating and maintaining the platform

Map and Address Services

VacantMap uses external map and address services to display geographic information and enable address search functionality.

Map tiles and map rendering are provided by MapTiler. Address search functionality uses public address services such as the PDOK Location Server, based on data from Kadaster.

When map tiles or address queries are requested, these service providers may receive technical information such as:

- IP address
- browser type
- device information
- request metadata

This information is processed by the respective service providers to deliver map and address functionality.

VacantMap does not control the processing of data by these third-party services. Users are encouraged to review the privacy policies of the respective service providers where appropriate.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest in providing map and address functionality

Google Maps and Street View

VacantMap may offer the option to load map and Street View content from Google LLC via Google Maps and Google Street View.

To protect your privacy, this content is not loaded automatically. Google content is only loaded after you actively click the "Click to load Street View" button.

When you click this button, a connection is established with Google's servers. In that process, Google may receive:

- your IP address
- browser and device information
- information about the page you visited

This may result in Google processing personal data in accordance with its own privacy policy. VacantMap has no control over this processing.

If you click on the Street View image, you may be redirected to Google Maps. In that case, Google's own terms and privacy policy apply.

More information about how Google processes personal data can be found in Google's privacy policy: <https://policies.google.com/privacy>

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(a) GDPR – consent

Public Data Sources

VacantMap may use publicly available data from governmental, administrative, and other public sources to support editorial research and contextual analysis.

Such sources may include, for example:

- public government datasets
- statistical data
- cadastral and planning information
- publicly accessible maps and geographic data
- publicly available imagery or location information
- publicly accessible websites and publications

These sources are used for contextual analysis, visualization, and journalistic research.

VacantMap processes such information in accordance with applicable laws and journalistic standards. VacantMap does not use these sources to identify or profile individuals.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Email Delivery

VacantMap uses an external email provider to send transactional emails. Currently, VacantMap uses Brevo for email delivery.

Transactional emails may include:

- account confirmations

- submission notifications
- update notifications
- moderation or administrative messages

The email provider processes email addresses and technical transmission data in order to deliver these emails.

VacantMap uses transactional emails only for platform functionality and does not use email addresses for marketing or advertising purposes.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(b) GDPR – performance of a user-requested service
- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest in operating the platform

Cookies

VacantMap uses only essential cookies required for the operation, security, and functionality of the platform.

These cookies may include:

- authentication cookies to maintain administrator sessions
- security cookies to protect against cross-site request forgery (CSRF)

These cookies do not track users across websites and are not used for advertising or marketing purposes.

VacantMap does not use advertising networks, analytics cookies, or behavioral tracking systems.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest in operating and securing the platform

Data Retention

Personal data are stored only for as long as necessary for the purposes described in this Privacy Policy.

Typical retention periods include:

User account information

Email address, account identifiers, and related account data are stored until the user deletes their account or the account remains inactive for 3 consecutive years.

Account activity and contribution statistics

Account activity and contribution statistics are retained for as long as necessary for security, moderation, and editorial purposes, and generally no longer than 3 years, unless a longer retention period is required for legal or security purposes. This applies to activity logs, not to the places or submitted information.

Sign-in IP addresses

VacantMap stores the IP address of the five most recent sign-in sessions per account. These are overwritten by new sign-ins. For accounts inactive for more than one year, stored sign-in IPs are automatically deleted.

Technical log data

Server logs and technical security data are stored for up to 30 days, unless longer retention is required for security investigations or abuse prevention.

Supporting or verification documents

Documents submitted in connection with correction or review requests are deleted or anonymized within approximately 90 days after the request has been resolved, unless retention is required for legal, editorial, or dispute resolution purposes.

Editorial decision records

Internal editorial records relating to reports or correction requests may be retained for up to 5 years in order to ensure consistent editorial handling and respond to potential legal inquiries.

Email correspondence

Email correspondence with users, property owners, or other parties may be stored for up to 3 years after the final communication, unless longer retention is necessary for legal obligations, editorial purposes, or dispute resolution. After this period, emails may be deleted or anonymized.

Historical vacancy data

VacantMap may retain information relating to vacancy research and editorial findings for up to 10 years in order to maintain a historical record of vacancy patterns and support research, transparency, and public-interest reporting.

Over time, VacantMap may reduce or remove links between stored information and user accounts in order to minimize personal data while preserving the historical dataset.

Historical records may therefore retain information such as:

- property location
- editorial descriptions or contextual information
- images
- date and time of submission or publication

but may no longer contain information linking the data to individual users.

Where new information is added to an existing property or location, the retention period may be extended. In such cases, the retention period is calculated from the most recent update or editorial activity relating to that location.

After the retention period expires, data may be permanently deleted, or retained in anonymized statistical or research form.

Legal basis:

- Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR – legitimate interest
- Freedom of expression and information under applicable law

Security of Processing

VacantMap implements appropriate technical and organizational measures to protect personal data, including:

- encrypted connections
- access control
- system monitoring
- regular security updates

Access to personal data is limited to authorized persons where necessary.

These measures are designed to ensure a level of security appropriate to the risk, taking into account the nature of the data and the processing activities.

While VacantMap strives to protect personal data, no method of transmission or storage can be guaranteed to be completely secure.

Legal obligation:

- Art. 32 GDPR – security of processing
- Art. 5(1)(f) GDPR – integrity and confidentiality principle

Publicly Available Information

Information published on VacantMap is publicly accessible and may be referenced by third parties such as journalists, researchers, civic organizations, or public authorities.

VacantMap processes correction requests and updates or removes published information where appropriate. VacantMap does not control how third parties interpret or reuse publicly available information. If information is later corrected or removed, copies or references outside the platform may continue to exist.

Platform Funding

VacantMap may receive funding through service agreements with municipalities, public authorities, or other organizations that use the platform for research, analysis, or policy-related purposes.

These agreements support the operation, development, and maintenance of the platform.

VacantMap does not sell personal data. User submissions and contributions are processed for journalistic and public-interest purposes and are not sold to third parties.

Funding arrangements do not influence editorial independence of VacantMap.

International Data Transfers

VacantMap aims to process and store personal data within the European Economic Area (EEA) wherever possible in order to ensure a high level of data protection.

The primary hosting infrastructure for the platform is operated by Hetzner, whose servers used for VacantMap are located in Germany.

Brevo is based in France.

MapTiler is based in Switzerland, which is recognized by the European Commission as providing an adequate level of data protection.

Some service providers used to operate the platform may process limited technical data in order to deliver their services. Where such providers are located outside the EEA, VacantMap ensures that appropriate safeguards are in place in accordance with the GDPR.

These safeguards may include:

- the use of European Commission Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs)
- contractual data protection agreements with the service provider
- the use of providers that participate in recognized data protection frameworks where applicable.

VacantMap does not intentionally transfer personal data outside the EEA unless it is necessary for the operation of the platform and appropriate legal safeguards are in place.

Open-Source Software

VacantMap uses open-source software. The availability of source code does not include access to operational systems, databases, or personal data. Open-source transparency applies only to software code and not to user data.

Use by Minors

VacantMap is not intended for use by children under the age of 16.

VacantMap does not knowingly collect personal data from children under 16. If VacantMap becomes aware that personal data of a child under 16 has been provided without appropriate consent, VacantMap will take reasonable steps to delete such data.

Parents or guardians who believe that a child has provided personal data to VacantMap may contact VacantMap to request deletion or review of the information.

Changes to this Privacy Policy

VacantMap may update this Privacy Policy where necessary, for example to reflect changes in legal requirements, platform functionality, or processing activities.

The latest version will always be available on the website. Where changes are significant, VacantMap may provide additional notice on the platform.

By continuing to use the platform after changes are made, you acknowledge and accept the updated Privacy Policy.

The date of the latest revision is indicated at the top of this Privacy Policy.

Language versions

This Privacy Policy may be available in multiple languages. The English version is the original version. In case of discrepancies or differences in interpretation, the English version shall prevail, unless applicable law requires otherwise.

Supervisory Authority

If you believe that VacantMap is processing your personal data in violation of applicable data protection laws, you have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority.

In the Netherlands, the supervisory authority is the Autoriteit Persoonsgegevens.

You may also contact VacantMap first, and we will do our best to address your concerns.

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