

Cookie usage policy

Politehnica University Timisoara has adopted this Cookie Usage Policy, which, together with the university's Privacy Policy, establishes the framework for the proper functioning and use of the website nextgen.upt.ro.

Taking into account the provisions of EU Regulation No. 679/2016 of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union from April 27, 2016, concerning the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data, as well as the repeal of Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation), and in compliance with the right to private, family, and personal life, as stipulated in Article 26 of the Romanian Constitution, the Politehnica University of Timișoara has adopted this Cookie Usage Policy. Together with the Data Privacy Policy, it establishes the framework for the proper functioning and use of the website nextgen.upt.ro.

The NextGen website primarily uses Google Analytics services to collect standard information related to a browsing session on the site and details about visitor behavior patterns. This data is gathered through Google Analytics cookies, referred to as First Party Cookies, which are detailed in Section 3 – Cookies used on the website nextgen.upt.ro

Additionally, cookies from Facebook, YouTube, and Google Maps services—identified as Third Party Cookies—are used to connect to these services and provide content to users through them. The way these cookies are used is presented in Section 3 – Cookies used on the website nextgen.upt.ro.

What is a cookie?

A cookie is a special, often encoded text that is sent to a web browser by a web server and then sent back by the browser each time the website is accessed, allowing for the identification of a user or device. A cookie consists of two parts: the name and the content or value of the cookie.

An "Internet Cookie" (also known as a "browser cookie" or "HTTP cookie" or simply "cookie") is a small file made up of letters and numbers that is stored on a user's computer, mobile device, or other equipment used to access the Internet.

The cookie is installed via a request issued by a web server to a browser (e.g., Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, Opera) and is completely "passive" (it does not contain software programs, viruses, or spyware, and it cannot access information from the user's hard drive).

A cookie consists of two parts: the name and the content or value of the cookie. Additionally, the lifespan of a cookie is determined; technically, only the web server that sent the cookie can access it again when a user returns to the website associated with that web server.

Cookies themselves do not request personal information to be used and, in most cases, do not personally identify internet users.

There are two main categories of cookies:

1. **Session Cookies** – These are temporarily stored in the web browser's cookie folder so that the browser can remember them until the user leaves the website or closes the browser window (e.g., when logging in or out of a webmail account or social media).
2. **Persistent Cookies** – These are stored on a computer's hard drive or device (and generally depend on the predetermined lifespan of the cookie). Persistent cookies also include those placed by a website other than the one the user is currently visiting—known as 'third party cookies'—which can be used anonymously to remember a user's interests, allowing for the delivery of more relevant advertising to users.

What kind of information is collected?

The Google Analytics service is used to collect information such as the number of visitors to the site or various pages of interest, the profile of these visitors—such as the IP address of a computer, the type of operating system used, the type of device from which a page was accessed, the type and version of the browser used, demographic data, and whether the user reached one of the UPT website pages via an external link.

For more information on how Google Analytics collects and uses data, please consult the following web resources:

- Google Privacy Policy: <https://policies.google.com/privacy?hl=ro&gl=ZZ>
- Google Analytics Data Practices and Commitment to Privacy and Data Security: <https://support.google.com/analytics/answer/6004245?hl=ro>

According to the Google Analytics policies: *"Analytics offers the anonymizeIp feature in the ga.js JavaScript library and ga('set', 'anonymizeIp', true) in the analytics.js library, allowing site owners to request that all user IP addresses are hidden within the product. This feature is designed to help site owners comply with privacy policies or, in some countries, recommendations from local data protection authorities, which may prohibit the storage of full IP addresses. The anonymization/masking of IP addresses occurs as soon as the data is received by the Analytics collection network, before storage or processing takes place."*

Source: Google Analytics – Technical Documentation:

The NextGen website uses this option to comply with current privacy policies.

3. Cookies used on the website nextgen.upt.ro

In the tables below, you will find the classification and description of the cookies used on the website nextgen.upt.ro:

First Party Cookies

Cookie Name	Purpose	Information
Google Analytics	ga, _gat, _git, __utma	These cookies are used to collect information about how visitors use our website. We use the information to compile reports and help improve the website. The data is combined with data from thousands of other visitors to create an overall view of website usage. The visitor is never individually or personally identified. https://policies.google.com/

Third Party Cookies

Cookie Name	Purpose	Information
Google Maps/ 1P_JAR, CONSENT, NID	Google has set a number of cookies on any page that includes a Google Map. The website nextgen.upt.ro has no control over the cookies set by Google. These cookies collect information to identify the number and behavior of Google Maps users, with the information being collected by Google. These cookies do not personally identify you unless you are already logged into a personal Google account.	https://policies.google.com/
Youtube/ GPS, PREF, VISITOR_INFO1_LI VE, YSC, CONSENT, S_GL, IDE	YouTube may set cookies on the user's computer once the visitor clicks on the YouTube video player. These cookies do not personally identify you unless you are already logged into a personal Google account.	https://www.youtube.com/yt/about/policies/#community-guidelines
Facebook / The cookies used by Facebook may change from time to time as	Cookies allow Facebook to provide you with Facebook Products and to understand the information they receive about you, including information about your use of other websites and applications,	https://ro-ro.facebook.com/policies/cookies/

Facebook improves and updates its products.	regardless of whether you are registered or logged in to them. The cookies provided by Facebook are created and controlled by Facebook, which has full control over the data collected and how it is used.	
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4. Disabling cookies

If you do not wish to provide the information collected through cookies, you can choose to configure your web browser not to accept cookies. However, in this case, you acknowledge that the website or certain parts/features of it (which use cookies) may not function properly.

Disabling cookies is a process that varies depending on the web browser you are using. Below, you will find the necessary information to disable cookies in the main existing browsers. You can also consult the help menu of your web browser for this operation.

Disabling cookies in Internet Explorer

1. Choose the “Tools” menu, then select “Internet Options.”
2. In the newly opened window, click on the Privacy tab.
3. Click on the Advanced button and select the Block option for cookie settings.

Disabling cookies in Google Chrome

1. Select “Settings” from the menu that opens in Chrome.
2. At the bottom of the opened page, click on the “Advanced” link.
3. Under the “Privacy and security” section, click on “Content settings.”
4. Click on the “Cookies” option and choose the desired blocking options.

Disabling cookies in Safari

1. Select the “Preferences” menu, then choose the “Privacy” option.
2. Click on “Remove all Website Data.”

Disabling cookies in Firefox

1. Choose the “Options” menu.
2. Click on the “Privacy & Security” link.
3. Find the “Cookies and Site Data” section and select the option to “Block cookies and site data.”

Disabling cookies in Opera 6.0 and earlier versions

1. Select the “Files” menu, then click on the “Preferences” option.
2. Choose “Privacy” and select the corresponding options to block cookies.

5. Updates

The Politehnica University of Timișoara reserves the right to make any additions or changes to this cookie policy. To stay informed about the latest updates, please visit this page periodically to be aware of any modifications or additions made.

6. Tips for safe and responsible browsing based on cookies

Due to their flexibility and the fact that most of the most visited websites, including the largest ones, use cookies, they are almost unavoidable. Disabling cookies will prevent users from accessing the most popular and widely used sites, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Gmail, Yahoo, and others.

Here are some tips to ensure you browse safely while using cookies:

- **Customize your browser settings** regarding cookies to reflect a comfortable level of security for your use of cookies.
- If you don't mind cookies and are the only person using the computer, you can set long expiration periods for storing your browsing history and personal access data.
- If you share access to the computer, consider setting the browser to delete individual browsing data every time you close the browser. This is a way to access websites that place cookies while deleting any visit information when the browsing session ends.
- **Install and regularly update** your anti-spyware applications. Many spyware detection and prevention applications include site attack detection. This helps prevent the browser from accessing websites that may exploit browser vulnerabilities or download harmful software.
- **Ensure that your browser is always updated.** Many cookie-based attacks occur by exploiting vulnerabilities in older browser versions.

Cookies are everywhere and cannot be avoided if you want to enjoy access to the best and largest websites on the Internet—whether local or international. With a clear understanding of how they operate and the benefits they provide, you can take the necessary security measures to navigate the Internet with confidence.

7. What to do if you do not want cookies installed on your computer?

There are individuals for whom the storage of information extracted from their computer or mobile device is relatively invasive, especially when that information is stored and used by unknown third parties.

If you prefer, you have the option to block all cookies, only some of them, or even to remove cookies that have been installed on your device. However, be aware that you may risk not being able to use certain functions. To enable this blocking, you need to modify your browser's privacy settings.

Some third-party operators have developed tools that allow you to disable the collection and use of data through cookies. Disabling and refusing to accept cookies can make

certain websites impractical or difficult to visit and use. Additionally, refusing to accept cookies does not mean that users will no longer receive or see online advertising.

You can adjust your browser settings to ensure that these cookies are not accepted, or you can set your browser to accept cookies only from a specific website. However, for example, if a user is not logged in using cookies, they will not be able to leave comments. All modern browsers offer the ability to change cookie settings. These settings are usually found in the “Options,” “Settings,” or “Preferences” menus of the browser.

8. Deleting cookies from your device

You can delete all cookies that are already on your device by clearing your browser's browsing history. This action will remove all cookies from all the websites you have visited. However, keep in mind that you may lose some saved information (for example, saved login data or site preferences).