

Brussels Privacy Hub Newsletter

Issue 6 - December 2016



1st Annual Brussels Privacy Symposium: a great success!



On 8 November 2016, in partnership with the [Future of Privacy Forum](#), the Hub hosted the 1st Annual [Brussels Privacy Symposium Identifiability: Policy and Practical Solutions for Anonymization and Pseudonymization](#). The one day workshop was a great success, with presentations from numerous speakers based on [selected papers](#). The [presentations](#) and [photos](#) of the day are now available. The Hub looks forward to continuing this collaboration in 2017.



As explored in the IAPP's Sam Pfeifle's excellent write-up of the event, [Anonymized? PII? What day is it?](#), the conversation revolved around the following questions: "Can data truly be anonymized, though? And when does data truly become pseudonymous, so as to allow for certain permitted uses under the GDPR? And what happens if the definitions of anonymous and pseudonymous are different between the EU and countries with adequacy decisions?".



"It seems the first misunderstanding is that it's not possible to use data and draw learning from it for the public interest or profit if it's personal data and not anonymized. That would be wrong. You can do a lot with personal data, provided your processing is legal, whether you have consent or another legal basis." -Paul Nemitz, European Commission

Upcoming Events

24 January 2017 • CPDP 2017 Launch Event atterns, Profiling and PNR: The new PNR Directive and its implications



The Brussels Privacy Hub and [Privacy Salon](#) are pleased to announce the 2017 Edition of the CPDP Launch Event on **Patterns, Profiling and PNR: The new PNR Directive and its implications**.

This event will address concerns with the implementation of the 2016 Directive on the use of PNR data for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and serious crime, and the general implications of the Directive for data protection and fundamental rights.

Speakers include [Ms. Sophie in 't Veld \(MEP\)](#) and [Mr. Willem De Beuckelaere \(Belgian Privacy Commissioner\)](#), with more to be confirmed soon.

Date: 24 January 2017

Time: 18:00 - 19:30, followed by a drinks reception

Venue: Grande Salle, Belgium Permanent Representative to the EU, Rue de la Loi 61-63, 1000 Brussels

Registration: before 20 January 2017

The event is supported by the [Privacy Camp](#).

[Register](#)

6 February 2017 • Workshop on the current trends and practices in biobanking in the light of European and national data protection requirements

This workshop, hosted by the Hub in cooperation with law firm [Covington & Burling](#), will discuss the state of biobanking in the EU. It will focus on the limitations posed by European and national data protection law and the effects that the GDPR may (or may not) have.

The [programme](#) is now available.

Date: 6 February 2017

Time: 12:30 - 14:30 (lunch included)

Venue: Lisbon Conference Room, Institute for European Studies (IES) of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Pleinlaan 5, 1050, Brussels

Registration: e-mail info@brusselsprivacyhub.org



26-30 June 2017 • 2nd European Data Protection Law Summer School: The GDPR is Now

This [Summer School](#) will equip participants to deal with the many challenges that lie ahead when the GDPR starts applying in May 2018. This practical dimension will be combined with a more general exploration of the evolving global and European privacy landscape, with a particular emphasis on transatlantic issues and current policy debates (including the ongoing review of the EU E-Privacy Directive).

Date: 26-30 June 2017

Venue: Institute for European Studies (IES) of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Pleinlaan 5, 1050, Brussels

Language: English

Target audience: Legal practitioners, public and private sector data protection professionals - including compliance officers, data protection officers, data policy officers - civil society professionals, early career academic researchers, and others who work in the areas of privacy and data protection law. Prior familiarity with the field is required.

Registration:

Early bird registration: 31 March 2017

Standard registration: 2 June 2017

[Register](#)

Recent Events

November 2016 • Hub members speak at Cyberspace Conference in Brno, Czech Republic



On 25 November 2016 Hub Co-Director Prof. Christopher Kuner gave a keynote speech on internet regulation and the global reach of EU data protection law at the **Cyberspace Conference** in Brno, Czech Republic.

Prof. Kuner questioned the limits of EU law and discussed the tensions arising from the EU and its Member States' shared competence to regulate matters related to the online environment. Prof. Kuner suggested that the EU aims at increasing its regulatory powers at the expense of the Member States. He urged the EU to go beyond its legal obligations to promote EU values and consider that internet governance is a decentralised endeavour in which different actors may have a say.

Other VUB-LSTS colleagues, including Prof. Paul Quinn, Dariusz Kloza and Raphaël Gellert, also presented at the event.

The fourteenth edition of the international Cyberspace Conference was organised by the Masaryk University and the European Academy of Law and ICT.

- 9 December 2016 • The Hub hosted a **workshop on Scientific Research and Data Protection** as part of its GDPR Workshop Series
- 18 November 2016 • Hub members Raphaël Gellert and Prof. Gloria González-Fuster contributed to a **conference on the GPDR at KU Leuven**

Brussels Privacy Hub
Law Science Technology & Society
(LSTS)
Building B, room 4B315
Vrije Universiteit Brussel
Pleinlaan 2
B-1050 Brussels
Belgium
info@brusselsprivacyhub.org



Photo credit for Brussels Privacy
Symposium photos:
Nele Van Schelverge
<http://aimforlene.tumblr.com/>