

14th Meeting of Central and Eastern European
Data Protection Commissioners
Kyiv, 21-22 May 2012

Declaration on support for the European data protection reform

Expressing the need to continue our cooperation and exchange of experiences in the field of personal data and privacy protection commenced during the 1st Meeting of Central and Eastern European Data Protection Commissioners which took place in Warsaw on 17 December 2001;

Confirming the provisions contained in the Declaration on future cooperation adopted in Smolenice on 24 May 2005 and further specified in the Declaration on cooperation adopted in Kazimierz Dolny on 3 June 2008;

Confirming the provisions contained in the Declaration on cooperation in amending the Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data adopted in Sopot on 19 May 2010;

Taking into consideration Article 8 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;

Considering Article 16 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;

Having regard to Article 8 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

Considering the ongoing works on the European data protection standards, both at the Council of Europe's and European Union's level;

Recognizing that the Council of Europe's Convention 108 for the Protection of Individuals with Regard to Automatic Data Processing of Personal Data as an agreement open to all interested parties is of paramount importance in the development of universal data protection standards;

Recognizing the proposals of a comprehensive reform of the EU legal framework on the protection of personal data presented by the European Commission aimed at strengthening individual rights and tackling the challenges of globalisation and new technologies as well as the proposals of modernisation of the Council of Europe's Convention 108, and welcoming in particular the following crucial objectives:

- the strengthening and further clarification of the rights of data subjects;
- the accountability of data controllers and processors;
- the reduction of some administrative burdens and the strive for consistency;

- the assigning of key role do data protection authorities and strengthening of their independence and powers, and the requirement of active cooperation between DPAs;
- the development of more comprehensive data protection framework applicable across all areas.

Considering continuous technological changes and the arising needs to face technological challenges;

Confirming the need to guarantee a solid and comprehensive data protection framework;

Acknowledging the essential role played by data protection commissioners in the process of creation and implementation of the future legal framework for data protection;

Emphasising, however that all the data protection commissioners participating in the works of the Group of Central and Eastern European Data Protection Commissioners are members of the Council of Europe and that the data protection reform will influence them, and hence stressing the importance for them to have a possibility to express their opinion on the modernisation of the data protection rules;

Taking into consideration the fact that we also cooperate with data protection commissioners from the countries which are not EU Member States and hence do not have a full possibility to give their opinion on the future legal framework for data protection in the EU;

Taking into consideration the previous results of our cooperation on this forum and the need to elaborate common positions which are to be presented on other fora;

We, the undersigned Commissioners,

hereby declare:

- our support for the European data protection reform as well as for the actions aimed at the success of the modernisation of the European data protection framework;
- the willingness to continue our cooperation and to undertake joint actions within the framework of works on the new Council of Europe's and EU legal framework for data protection.

Present at the meeting, with the exception of the Estonian Data Protection Inspectorate:

Commissioner for Personal Data Protection, Albania

Office for Personal Data Protection, Czech Republic

Hungarian National Authority for Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Hungary

Agency for Personal Data Protection, Montenegro

Commission for Personal Data Protection, Republic of Bulgaria

Directorate for Personal Data Protection, Republic of Macedonia

National Center for Personal Data Protection, Republic of Moldova

Inspector General for Personal Data Protection, Republic of Poland

Commissioner for Information of Public Importance and Personal Data Protection, Republic of Serbia

State Service of Ukraine on Personal Data Protection, Ukraine