

16th Meeting of Central and Eastern European

Data Protection Commissioners

Skopje, 02-03 of April 2014

Declaration on mutual assistance and enhanced cooperation

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 and the Declaration on support for the European data protection reform adopted in Kyiv on 21-22 May 2012;

Having in regard the current state of works on change of the EU data protection framework;

Referring also to the modernization of the Convention for the protection of individuals with regard to automatic processing of personal data and to the work of the Consultative Committee – T-PD;

Based upon the commitments of the European Union to respect the fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals, in as much as they are ensured by the European Convention on Human Rights and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of Individuals in the European Union;

Bearing in mind the necessity of closer and mutual cooperation as compliance of personal data protection with common principles cannot be achieved in isolation by any particular country;

Addressing the rapid spread of new information and communication technologies, in particular the increased volume of personal data flow (Big Data) and various applications of cloud computing;

Taking into account the ongoing works on the ‘one-stop-shop’ system within the future EU data protection framework, which provides for specific competences and scope of responsibilities of DPAs in the context of transborder data processing?

Establishing the necessity to apply appropriate organizational and technical measures for safeguarding the protection of privacy of individuals within all members of CEEDPA

Considering the fact that addressing these common challenges of protection of privacy as well as protection of personal data constitutes a challenge for Signatories;

Having regard to the future of the countries which are not yet Member States of the European Union;

We, the hereundersigned Commissioners/DPA representatives

Hereby declare:

- To provide mutual assistance for ensuring an adequate implementation level of personal data protection in our countries;
- To establish mutual cooperation both when it results from the necessity of 'one-stop shop' system and in other situations arising from future EU regulation on data protection;
- To continue encouraging EU authorities to take further steps on the prompt implementation of the procedure for the future EU regulation data protection package;
- To call for Council of Europe and European Union urging them to guarantee consistent framework on data protection legislation within EU and for non-EU member states and to support activities for building capacities of the DPA in non EU member states;
- To provide various forms of collaboration when initiating activities related to education and promotion of the principles, rights and obligations concerning personal data protection;