



## Executive Committee ICDPPC

# Communique

Newsletter of the Executive Committee of the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners

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### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Message from the Chair
- Calling resolutions for debate at the Amsterdam Conference
- Special Rapporteur on the Right to Privacy
- From the Archives

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## Message from the Chair

Last year the Executive Committee approved a process for the receipt and assessment of proposals to host the International Conference, that would give the host authority sufficient time and certainty to make their arrangements.

I am pleased to announce that at our July meeting the Committee endorsed the proposal from the Moroccan Data Protection Authority (CNDP) to host the Conference in 2016. We congratulate President Ihraï on the CNDP's successful proposal and look forward to another African authority joining the Executive Committee.

In the meantime, the Executive Committee has advanced arrangements for the 37<sup>th</sup> Conference in Amsterdam. The Committee has agreed on an agenda for day one of the Closed Session, which as announced in the last will cover two quite distinct topics. The session on Genetic and Health Data: Challenges For Tomorrow" will feature presentations from three highly qualified French and US experts who will address the commercial, medical, information technology and legal/ethical issues associated with accessing and processing medical and genetic data.

The second session "Data Protection Oversight of Security and Intelligence: The Role of Data Protection Authorities in a Changing Society" will hear

tion Agreement that was discussed in Mauritius last year. The Executive Committee has resolved to delegate to the Secretariat responsibility to receive and assess Notices of



about the new security environment, and the contribution data protection authorities can make to the oversight of intelligence and security agencies, and in giving their communities assurance that measures are proportionate and appropriate. We will be joined by selected non-DPA oversight agencies to build connections and enrich our discussion.

If you haven't registered yet, be sure to do so soon at <https://www.privacyconference2015.org/>.

Since our last newsletter, a number of DPAs have convened in Ottawa to discuss the implementation of the International Enforcement Coopera-

tion Agreement that was discussed in Mauritius last year. The Executive Committee has resolved to delegate to the Secretariat responsibility to receive and assess Notices of Intent. The Secretariat will provide an online form for lodging Notices of Intent which will be available later in the year. Most should be able to be approved after a simple administrative check, but any that are more complex will be referred back to the Committee. If you are curious about the business of the Committee, do check on the website. We will be loading the minutes of each meeting as soon as they are approved.

*John Edwards - New Zealand Privacy Commissioner and Chair of the ICDPPC Executive Committee*

## Submission of Proposed Resolutions for debate at the Amsterdam Conference

The final deadline for submitting proposed resolutions to the Secretariat and host for the 37<sup>th</sup> Conference is **25 September 2015**.



However, if your authority is considering submitting a resolution please do not leave it to the last minute – if possible give the Secretariat a heads up as soon as possible about your plans and submit the completed proposal earlier if that is feasible. This will help the

Executive Committee in planning how much time to allocate for discussion and to ensure dissemination of documentation in plenty of time to the membership.

In preparing resolutions please remember that they should be clearly and concisely expressed; address matters that are sufficiently related to the purposes of the Conference; and offer enduring guidance or contribute to public debate on matters related to data protection of privacy rights.

More details on the requirements for proposing a resolution are set out in the [Conference rules and procedures](#). Proposed resolutions must have a proposer and at least three other cosponsors, representing different cultural,

geographic and legal backgrounds.

The rules anticipate that if a resolution concerns complex technical or policy issues or relates to a topic that otherwise may require a longer review and comment period and these should be submitted somewhat earlier.

Proposed resolutions may be submitted in English or in another language. If presented in another language, they must be accompanied by an English version. Members proposing resolutions with the ability and the resources to do so are encouraged to translate proposed resolutions into other languages.

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## Developments on the Amsterdam Conference

The registration process has opened for the October Conference and each day new participants are confirming that they will be joining us in Amsterdam. In case you have not yet done so, please register as soon as possible to ensure your participation!

We are pleased to confirm that Ms Jourova, the EU Commissioner for

Justice, will deliver a keynote speech. The Secretary of State for Security and Justice of the Netherlands has also confirmed his presence.

For the Data Protection Tour du Monde that will be presented on Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup>, input of member DPAs is being sought. Please send any major, significant or interesting developments in jurisprudence, legislation, local DPA funding or structure, or other significant events related to data protection in your coun-

try or economy, to the host's researcher Emily Barabas via

data.protection.year.in.review@gmail.com



## Highlights of the Executive Committee meeting

The Executive Committee met on 15/16 July 2015 via telconference. A few highlights:

- The Committee resolved to publish its minutes on the [website](#) once approved at a subsequent meeting and so the July minutes will be published after the September meeting. Minutes of the earlier meetings have been uploaded to the website.
- The Committee endorsed the programme outline and speakers for two half day sessions to be held at the closed session on the topics of genetics and data protection oversight of intelligence organisations. More details will follow in subsequent newsletters..
- The Committee noted the several applications for membership and observer status already.
- The Committee resolved to propose to the conference some revisions to the rules to more simply, flexibly and strategically handle observer applications.
- The Committee noted the success of the process used this year to select a host for the 2016 Conference and the Chair undertook formally to write to Morocco confirming its selection as host. The Secretariat will engage with Morocco over the coming months to settle matters of detail and to offer assistance.
- The Committee agreed that it would be desirable to advance the process for selection of the 2017 host so that approval can be given even earlier in the year than had been possible for the 2016



# ICDPPC

International Conference of Data Protection & Privacy Commissioners

conference. The process for seeking expressions of interest for 2017 will be initiated by the Secretariat.

- The Committee delegated to the Secretariat powers to create a system to receive and assess notices of intent under the International Enforcement Cooperation Arrangement.

## Growing Resource: ICDPPC Website Updating

The Secretariat has been working hard over the last few months to build up the Conference website. If you've not visited the website for a while we'd encourage you to do so. It is becoming the key repository for key Conference documentation that has otherwise been hard to find or inaccessible.

We won't describe all the website updates – instead we encourage people to browse the site to see for themselves. However, a few highlights include:

- An expanded picture gallery: If you're a regular attender and can't find your picture there feel free to share your snapshots with the Secretariat and we may post them online!
- Authoritative lists of members with dates of joining and links to accreditation resolutions.
- Resolutions: we have even traced 3 'ancient' resolutions from 1989!
- Many more working group reports
- Minutes of all Executive Committee meetings

The Secretariat is making efforts to post all relevant documentation although it is difficult to locate materials prior to about 2003. If any authority holds useful documentation in its archives the Secretariat would appreciate receiving a copy.

## United Nations appoints Special Rapporteur on the Right to Privacy



Professor Joseph (Joe) Cannataci, Head of the Department of Information Policy and Governance at the University of Malta, has been appointed as the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Privacy.

The relevant UN Resolution and a complete [list of candidates](#) for the Special Rapporteur role is available at the website of the Office of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Joe Cannataci's own application and [biographical notes](#) demonstrate over thirty years of professional experience in the field of human rights and privacy. He might reasonably claim to be well connected academically across the world being a senior academic currently affiliated to four Universities in three continents

(Netherlands, Malta, Australia and the USA).

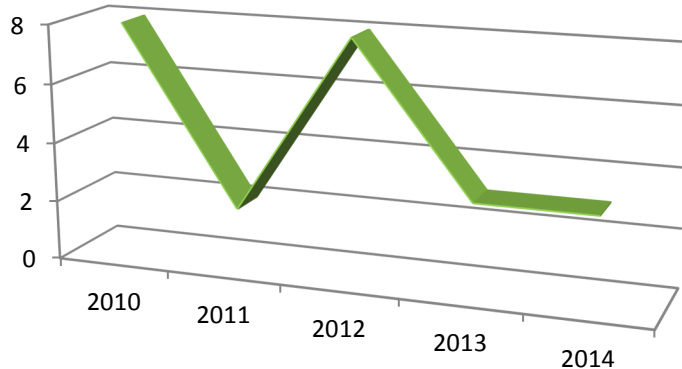
Joe studied law at the University of Malta and the University of Oslo. He later qualified in the UK as a Chartered Information Technology Professional and Chartered Fellow of the British Computer Society. He received a Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Malta in 1986 with a thesis on privacy and data protection law published by the Norwegian University Press in 1987. Joe was T54 Project Director at the Norwegian Research Center for Computers and Law during 1986-1987 before he joined the Department of Public Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Malta, where in 1988 he established the Law & IT Research Unit. In 2006 he was appointed (full) Professor of Law at the University of Central (UK). In 2011 he was appointed Head of the De-

partment of Information Policy & Governance at the Faculty of Media & Knowledge Sciences of the University of Malta and also Chair of European Information Policy & Technology Law within the Faculty of Law at the University of Groningen. Further afield geographically, he is additionally Adjunct Professor at the Security Research Centre, School of Computer and Security Science at Edith Cowan University, Australia. Joe has during the period also performed various expert consultancies for the Council of Europe and other bodies.

Executive Committee Chair, John Edwards, has written to Professor Cannataci on behalf of the Conference to congratulate him on the appointment "to the very critical and crucial role" he is to perform.

### Factoid

**No. of new Conference members accredited to the Conference in the last 5 years**



■ No. of new members accredited since 2010



## Commissioner Profile New South Wales, Australia: Dr Elizabeth Coombs

**Dr Elizabeth Coombs,  
New South Wales Privacy  
Commissioner, Australia**

### **Where did you grow up?**

Leeton, a small country town in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area of New South Wales (NSW).

### **When did you first become involved in data protection or privacy?**

As the Senior Executive within the Premier's Department responsible for introducing the 'workforce profile', a database of NSW government employees. We worked closely with the then Privacy Commissioner (Chris Puplick) to develop a Code of Practice to govern the collection, storage and use of this personal information.

### **What was the first International Conference that you attended?**

2013, Warsaw Poland

### **What did you do before you became a commissioner?**

I've had a public sector career in a variety of State organisations and independent statutory roles. These ranged from CEO, Department of Fair Trading through to NSW Commissioner, Land Government Grants Commission

### **What is the funniest thing that you saw, or happened to you, at an International Conference?**

The funniest thing that happened to me was the expression on people's faces when I attempted to speak Polish. They were very polite but it was obvious that my linguistic efforts were not good! (I still

wonder what it was that I had actually said – it was clearly something they were not expecting).

### **What is the best thing about participating in the International Conference?**

The range of views, experiences that are expressed and the willingness to share knowledge and resources.

### **Who is your 'privacy hero' and why?**

The drafters of the U.N Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.



## Commissioner Profile Korea: Hakyung Jeong

**Hakyung Jeong, Chair-  
man, Personal Infor-  
mation Protection Com-  
mission, Korea**

### **Where did you grow up?**

I was born and grew up in Seoul, the capital city of Korea.

### **When did you first become involved in data protection or privacy?**

When I was the Assistant Minister for National Information Strategy in the Ministry of Public Administration and Security in 2009, I took part in proposing the Personal Information Protection Act.

### **What was the first International Conference that you attended?**

I have participated in the Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities

(APPA) Forums a few times but I haven't had a chance to attend the International Conference yet.

### **What did you do before you became a commissioner?**

I had worked in Korean Government for about 30 years in the field of public human resources management, government organization management and national information strategy before I was appointed to the Deputy Commissioner of PIPC in 2011 and the Chairman of PIPC in 2013.

### **What is the funniest thing that you saw, or happened to you, at an International Conference?**

I am looking forward to participating in ICDPPC and having a funny experience in the nearest future.

### **What is the best thing about participating in the International Conference?**

It will be great to meet my global business partners and exchange experiences and views on data protection.

### **What is the best thing about being Data Protection Commissioner?**

I am very proud of my job being in charge of protecting the most valuable human rights of privacy. In addition, as the Chairman of Personal Information Protection Commission I feel worthwhile to seek harmony between protection and utilization of personal data in fast developing information society.



## From the archives: 11 September 2002

The 24<sup>th</sup> Conference assembled in Cardiff, UK, on 11 September 2002 exactly one year from the terrorist hijacking and crashing of airliners over New York Washington DC and Pennsylvania in 2001. By that stage Commissioners well recognised the significance of the global response to those events even if they could not fully predict or understand the long term effects. Accordingly, each delegation was invited to submit a written report to the closed session of the conference reflecting upon the impact of 11 September 2001 over the previous 12 months.

As part of the Conference Secretariat's ongoing efforts to create an accessible repository of Conference documentation those reports have

been assembled and made public for the very first time. The [28 page compilation](#) in the website's document archive contains brief accounts from the authorities in 21 economies that took the opportunity to file reports. There are accounts of new laws, of government reviews, meetings to explore the issues, security measures and sustained attempts by com-

missioners to encourage governments to strike appropriate balances between the desire for public safety and concerns for freedom from surveillance.



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## Scottish Honour for Hustinx

Peter Hustinx, who retired as the European Data Protection Supervisor last year, has been awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science in Social Science by the University of Edinburgh.

This rare distinction, recognising Peter's "achievements and leadership in the field of information privacy and data protection" was conferred during an elaborate Graduation Ceremony which took place in Edinburgh's famous Usher Hall in July.

The other Honorary Doctorate was awarded to Prof. Fabiola Gianotti, whose research with the Large Hadron Collider confirmed the existence of

the Higgs boson. Her award was witnessed by Prof. Peter Higgs who received the Nobel Prize for establishing the theoretical possibility of this particle which bears his name.

So Peter stood tall alongside two Greats of Science whose work may yet reveal the Origins of the Universe.

But, in the meantime, perhaps most people will treat the safeguarding of their privacy as a more immediate practical concern.

*(News item contributed, with thanks, by Richard Thomas.)*