Executive Committee ICDPPC

Communique

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

Volume 1, Issue 6 September, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Update on previous resolutions
- 37 Conference: Closed session
- Commissioner profiles
- GPEN Network of Networks

Inside this issue:

Message from the Chair

It is only three weeks now until we gather in Amsterdam for the 37th meeting of our collective. The Executive Committee and host have put a great deal of effort into organising a stimulating and relevant agenda for the closed, and public sessions.

However the success of the events will be determined by the level of engagement with the wider conference community. I urge all members to contribute to the success of the conference by coming prepared to discuss the issues we face in dealing with technological advances in genetics and health data, and the role that DPAs can have in their national conversation about the legitimate role of and constraints on security and intelligence organisations.

Please also take the time to review the proposed rule changes and resolution on our strategic direction, to continue the evolution and maturity of the conference, and if there are aspects or proposals you disagree with, to make constructive suggestions for alternative formulations.

We will be discussing a resolution on Transparency Reporting, which builds on the work of the Berlin Group and others, one to provide for the assistance to, and support of the UN Special Rapporteur on Privacy, and another on Privacy in International Humanitarian Action.

We will of course need also to reconstitute our Executive Committee as Mauritius and the USA will retire, and Morocco, as the next host will join. We will need to elect a new member to represent the Americas, and I am pleased to advise that the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada has signalled its willingness to fill that role. Having served one year as Chair of the Executive Committee I am starting to understand the dynamics and mechanics of working with such a diverse range of independent authorities, and am happy to offer to continue to provide the leadership and secretariat functions for a further term to build on the progress we have made.

I look forward to meeting old friends and new ones in Amsterdam!

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

The London Initiative – Communicating Data Protection and Making it More Effective

Those with long memories may well remember the influential "London Initiative", so called after venue of the 28th Conference in 2006 when it was launched.

The London Initiative was the first time our international community of data protection and privacy commissioners came together to work, not on policy issues, but on the practical ways in which we could rise to the many organisational and presentational challenges we faced. In many ways it represented a "coming of age" for DPAs - a recognition that we are grown-up organisations with an important job to do that requires us to evaluate our working methods and maximise our efficiency and effectiveness – something that other organisations do routinely. The aims of London Initiative remain important and relevant today.

The idea for the London Initiative came from Alex Turk, President of the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL). He was quickly joined by Peter Hustinx (EDPS) and Richard Thomas (UK Information Commissioner) who, with the support of several other authorities from around the world presented their initiative to the 2006 Conference. There was no resolution for adoption but many other authorities accepted the invitation to support the initiative and join its activities that followed for several years.

The starting point for the Initiative was a realisation that our vital work protecting citizens' personal data would only become a reality if data protection rules were to be complied with in practice. For this to happen we would have to be more effective in communicating our messages, to work with other stakeholders, and to make good use of our powers of investigation and enforcement.

Building on this starting point, the London Initiative went on to identify three challenges which successful DPAs need to rise to:

keeping up with the pace of technological change;
responding to legal developments especially around anti-terrorism legislation;
fostering a positive reputation for both data protection and for DPAs.

To address these challenges three lines of action were proposed. DPAs would:

* Change practices so as to act in new, more effective and relevant ways. This included being more coordinated, strategic and technological and less legalistic. DPAs would need to set priorities concentrated on the main risks for individuals and be pragmatic and flexible.

* Reflect together on how to obtain better international recognition of our work and how to involve other stakeholders. This included improving the functioning of the Conference, promoting the development of an international convention, and cooperating with civil society.

* Develop and implement new communications strategies at national and international levels. This included seeing better communications as a key objective, initiating powerful and long term targeted awareness campaigns and employing communications professionals.

Supporting these lines of action and integral to the London Initiative was a set of closed workshops for DPAs to share experience and develop good practice. Examples of such workshops included:

* Public Awareness and Communications (Host: CNIL, Paris)
* Strategies for Data Protection Authorities (host: ICO, London)
* Enforcement Activities (Host EDPS, Brussels)
* Internal Organisation of DPAs (Host: OPCC, Ottawa).
* Responding to Data Breaches (host: EDPS, Brussels)
* Strategic planning and Asia Pacific Experience (host: NZ OPC, Wellington).

Was the London Initiative a success? From our vantage point in the UK it's undoubtedly the case that DPAs have become more effective and efficient. And we're certainly getting better at communicating our messages – take for example, the setting up of the ICDPCC website and this Communique.

Of course not all these developments are down just to the London Initiative but it certainly played its part. The reform of the organisation of our Conference stemmed directly from the London Initiative as did, less directly, our new arrangement for enforcement cooperation. The workshops really did involve the sharing of ideas on good practice. A communication officers' network was estab-

-lished, we've all increased our technological capability and many of us now develop and publish strategies.

So where to now? Should we try to repeat our success? I'd suggest not. The London Initiative was of its time. To the credit of everyone involved the programme of workshops ran its course and then stopped. The thinking behind the Initiative undoubtedly remains valid but it's doubtful if, for the time being at least, we have either the capacity or the energy to organise further workshops on such a wide range of topics at a global level.

In any case we need to be true to our own word and set priorities at International Conference level. Rightly we're concentrating now on international enforcement cooperation which is a necessary response to the increasingly globalised nature and extent of the threats to privacy and data protection.

Furthermore while the London Initiative workshops attracted participation from around the world, involvement came predominantly from the larger European authorities. Perhaps any collective effort we might have to spare would be better now used building confidence and capacity amongst the newest, smallest and least strong of our DPA community.

By David Smith - Deputy Commissioner , Information Commissioner's Office, UK

Credit: Stephen J Johnson – creative commons licence

Resolution on Children's Online Privacy (2008)

Continuing our series on past Conference resolutions

Since the resolution on Children's Online Privacy was adopted at the 30th Conference in 2008, much effort has been directed at helping to safeguard the privacy of children and youth in the online environment.

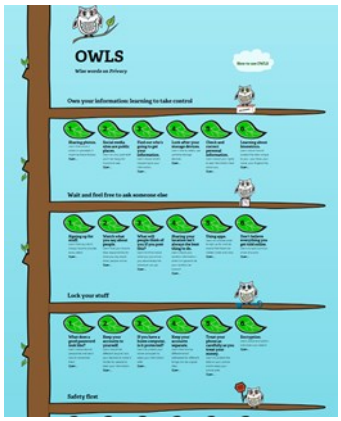
Data protection agencies from around the world have developed and made tools available to schools and parents in the form of lesson plans, curricula, and tip sheets. These resources teach young children and older youths about their privacy rights and how to protect their personal information online. Many offices have also engaged youth through the creation of webpages, which host interactive tools such as privacy quizzes, activity sheets, and graphic novels, to name a few.

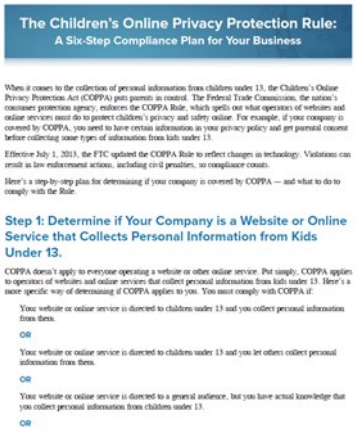
Over the last several years, several landmark investigations have served to clarify legal requirements around the collection, use and disclosure of children's and youth's personal information online and have provided useful guidance to industry about acceptable practices. Issues investigated include the use of children's personal information for behavioural advertising and privacy controls on a youth social media site.

Earlier this year, privacy professionals from 29 DPAs participated in the Global Privacy Enforcement Network's (GPEN) Sweep of Children's Websites to highlight the privacy issues currently facing children online. Sweepers assessed whether the apps and websites they examined collected personal information from children and whether protective controls existed to limit that collection. The results of this collaboration are providing great insight into the challenges that children encounter online.

The resolution is even more relevant today than in 2008 with the rise in mobile technologies and the constant connection individuals now have with their devices and the internet. Although much has been done to help protect the privacy rights of children, we need to continue our efforts as the online environment evolves and the way youth interact with these technologies change.

By Barbara Bucknell, Director of Policy and Research, Office of Privacy Commissioner of Canada





Developments on the Amsterdam Conference

The preparations for the Amsterdam Conference are in the final stages. More than 60 delegations from data protection and privacy authorities have already registered for the Conference, and we look forward to welcome you all to Amsterdam on Sunday 25 October 2015. Also for the Open Session, the number of registrations is growing fast.

For those of you attending the Closed Session dinner on Monday evening, we have a special treat in store. The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (RCO), will be rehearsing at the dinner venue and has agreed to allow all guests to attend part of their rehearsal. They will be playing the first part of Rimsky-Korsakovs' Sheherazade suite. A representative of the RCO will explain more about the Orchestra and their international performances. On the Conference website, you will find more information about the dinner and the musical rehearsal.

We are looking at a full Conference week. Next to the 1,5 days of Closed Session and 1,5 days of Open Session, both the Tuesday and Thursday afternoons have been filled with various interesting side events. We certainly encourage you to attend some of these events, and maybe join IAPP for their George Orwell-themed welcome reception on Tuesday night. More information on the side events is available on the Conference website.

We are pleased to announce that Eberhard van der Laan, mayor of the city of Amsterdam, will officially open the public Conference on Wednesday 28 October.

If you have not yet registered for the Conference, please do so in the coming days to make sure you won't miss the chance to take part in all these International Conference events. If you can't find your registration code, please do not hesitate to contact Rosalien Stroot at the Dutch DPA: r.stroot@cbpweb.nl

By Paul Breitbarth, Senior International Officer , Dutch DPA

"The Privacy Fringe": Side events in vicinity of October Conference

Nowadays major established events are often accompanied by peripheral happenings. Sometimes these 'fringe' events are orthodox meetings simply taking advantage of the presence of a groups of people having a common interest. In other cases they offer something a little more 'edgy' or avant-garde than the main offering.

The Dutch DPA has successfully encouraged other organisations to arrange their events on the margins of the Amsterdam conference and this will likely make delegates' travel to the 37th Conference more worthwhile.

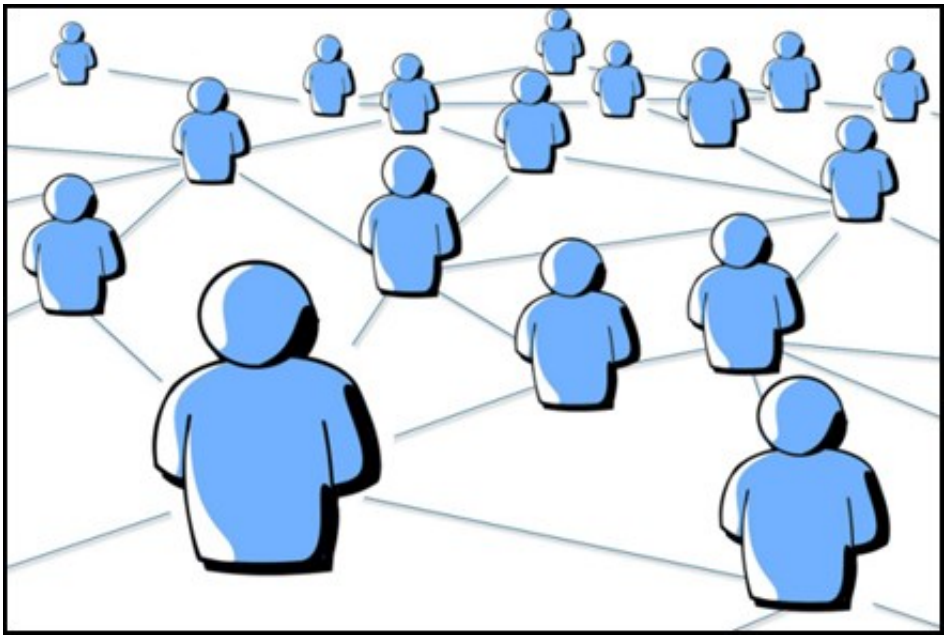
Two large public events are the APC and PLSC Conferences - the Amsterdam Privacy Conference and the Privacy Law Scholars Conference..

The following list mentions a selection of the smaller events that have been arranged. Please note that some events are invitation-only or member-only or may in some cases already be booked out. Details of side-events that are open to attendance can be found through the links at www.privacyconference2015.org/side-events/:

* NYMITY: Getting to Accountability: Maximizing Your Privacy Management Program
* PHAEDRA Workshop: Cooperation between DPAs under the GDPR: prospects, practicalities and a to-do list
* GPEN Meeting: 2016 and beyond – A New Era in Global Enforcement Cooperation
* CIPL & NYMITY: Bridging Disparate Privacy Regimes through Organizational Accountability
* IAPP: Privacy in Art – Orwell's 1984
* NGFG & CEDPO: DPO: Building Bridges Between International Legislation and the Data-Driven World
* Common Thread Network: Next Steps for Data Protection in the Commonwealth
* Microsoft: Data Centre Tour
* Working Group on Digital Education: Competitions and tutorial kits on privacy: Which best approach to efficiently target at young people?
* Future of Privacy Forum: New Technologies – New Privacy Approaches?
* Symantec: Privacy perceptions of European consumers 2015/ Preventing Personal Data Loss in the Corporate Environment
* University researchers: The Anonymization of Clinical Trial Data in Practice
* Information Accountability Foundation: Ethical Data Stewardship for a 21st Century Data World
* UN Global Pulse Privacy Advisory Group Annual Meeting

GPEN - Networking the networks

The GPEN Network of Networks project was launched in June at the International Enforcement Cooperation Meeting in Ottawa, Canada. The project is based on recognition that there are many networks of privacy enforcement authorities globally, as well as other enforcement-related networks, and there is significant value in leveraging the combined strengths of these networks in furtherance of our respective mandates.



Under the project, GPEN plans to reach out to other networks involving privacy enforcement authorities, and other relevant enforcement authorities, and offer to provide a link into GPEN through a 'Liaison Officer Programme'. A Liaison Officer will, in most cases, be a member of GPEN and the connecting network. Practically speaking, members of GPEN and other participating networks will be able to, via the Liaison Officer, share information and knowledge, and seek to identify suitable areas for collaboration between the networks. Perhaps most importantly, the Liaison Officer will provide a day-to-day contact point between the two networks. Where the Liaison Officer is a member of GPEN they will be able to share information about their network directly via a Network Page on the GPEN website.

To start with, the GPEN Committee have identified a number of networks to join a project pilot, and welcomed the Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities group and the London Action Plan as the first two networks. These networks have provided a Liaison Officer, and we will be looking to develop these relationships over the coming months. Feedback so far has been positive, with the London Action Plan seeking to pursue a similar project in the anti-spam world.

GPEN aims to include regional networks from around the globe, networks based on linguistic commonalities, and networks from multiple sectors. In this way, this new GPEN project should maximize the transfer of good enforcement practices among networks and, ultimately, enhance and promote the privacy enforcement community's development.

If you are a member of another Network and would like to explore the possibility of establishing greater links between that network and GPEN, please contact the GPEN Committee, via the GPEN site to discuss participation in the Network of Networks initiative.

By Adam Stevens, Team Manager– Intelligence Hub (Enforcement), Information Commissioner's Office, UK

Highlights of the Executive Committee meeting

The Executive Committee met on 22/23 September 2015 via teleconference. Particular focus was on settling matters for the forthcoming closed session of the annual conference. A few highlights:

* The Committee considered 5 applications for accreditation as new members and 14 observer applications.
* The Committee resolved to recommend to the Conference a set of changes to the rules.
* The Committee adopted a proposed strategic plan to guide the Conference for the next 3 years.
* The Committee endorsed the notices prepared by the Secretariat to enable implementation of the Enforcement Cooperation Arrangement.
* The Committee rejected New Zealand's proposal for a workable plan to fund the Secretariat.

ICDPPC
International Conference of Data Protection & Privacy Commissioners

Invitation to submit proposals to host 2017 proposals

Member authorities are invited to submit proposals to host the 39th Conference in 2017. Guidance for submitting proposals is available on the website. The deadline for submitting written proposals to the Executive Committee Secretariat is **30 November 2015.**

Comings and goings

* José Alejandro Bermúdez Durana, Data Protection Superintendent for Colombia retired in July and has been replaced by German Bacca.
* José Luis Rodríguez Álvarez, director of the Spanish Data Protection Agency retired in July and is replaced by Mar España Martí.
* Allan Chiang completed a five year term as the Hong Kong Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data in August. The new commissioner is Stephen Kai-yi Wong.
* Australian Privacy Commissioner Timothy Pilgrim became acting Australian Information Commissioner in July replacing John McMillan. John has become NSW Ombudsman.

37th Conference Closed Session: Profiles of Panel Speakers

This year the Conference has two themes - Genetics and Health Data: Challenges for tomorrow and Data Protection Oversight of Security and Intelligence: the role of data protection authorities in a changing society. Below you will find profiles of panel speakers. We asked panel speakers questions related to their topic to give you a flavour of what lies ahead in Amsterdam.

Panel speakers for the Genetics and Genetics and Health Data: Challenges for tomorrow.

Dr. Yaniv Erlich is a Core Member at the New York Genome Center and Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Columbia University and. Prior to these positions, he was a Principal Investigator at the Whitehead Institute, MIT. He received a Bachelor's

degree from Tel-Aviv University, Israel (2006) and a PhD from the Watson School of Biological Sciences at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (2010). Dr. Erlich's research interests are computational human genetics. Dr. Erlich is the recipient of the Burroughs Wellcome Career Award (2013), Harold M. Weintraub award (2010), the IEEE/ACM-CS HPC award (2008), and he was selected as one of 2010 Tomorrow's PIs team of Genome Technology.

What is the biggest privacy risk of an increasing trend to collect and study of people's genetic information?

Studying genetic data has a strong potential for improving human health. However, the premise of this process relies on participation from patients, family members, and healthy donors. My biggest fear is that the combination of bad science (e.g. rasicm or unsustained claims) and data mishendling will erode public trust in this important endeavour.

Dr Mark Taylor is Senior Lecturer in the School of Law, University of Sheffield. He is a mid-career Fellow of the British Academy, Chair of the Confidentiality Advisory Group for the Health Research Authority (HRA), a member of the National Data Guardian's Panel, the Ethics Advisory Committee for Genomics England, and the Ethics, Regulation & Public Involvement Committee (ERPIC) for the Medical Research Council.

He has written extensively on the subject of information governance and genetic privacy and is author of "Genetic Data and the Law" (CUP,2012). Dr Taylor is currently on secondment as Data Policy Advisor to the HRA.

What kind of oversight is needed to ensure genetic research accommodates a person's right to privacy?

Oversight must be able to ask, and answer, three questions: Does the individual have reason to expect this research? Does this use respect the individual's preferences? Does the individual have reason to accept the use? If all efforts are made to let people know how their data are used, if

individual preferences regarding use are maximally upheld (consistent with mutual respect for all), and, importantly, compelling reasons can be offered to accept use (even when not expected or preferred), then *both* privacy and the public interest in genetic research may be respected.

(For more see, http://bit.ly/1MBeroC).

Laurent Alexandre is a panel speaker for Genetics and Health Data: Challenges for tomorrow. He wasn't available to provide his profile.

Panel speakers for Data Protection Oversight of Security and Intelligence: the role of data protection authorities in a changing society.

Sir **David Omand** GCB is a visiting professor in the War Studies Department, King's College London. His career in UK government service included the posts of Security and Intelligence Coordinator, and surveillance. His book, Securing the State, was published in 2010.

Permanent Secretary of the Home Office and Director of GCHQ, the signals intelligence and cybersecurity organisation. He served for 7 years on the Joint Intelligence Committee. He is Senior Independent Director of Babcock International Group plc and a member of the Bildt Commission on Global Internet Governance and was a member of the recent UK inquiry into privacy and surveillance. His book, Securing the State, was published in 2010.

Do we need an Interpol for data protection?

We need enhanced cooperation between national data protection authorities working on issues concerning transnational companies. Whether Interpol or some other international institutional framework is the right model for governance and facilitating the necessary liaisons in data protection is open to debate..

As data collection becomes more and more ubiquitous, is it inevitable that that trend will be matched by data protection and privacy authorities getting more enforcement powers?

Yes, this trend is already evident in the deliberations on the new European Data Protection Regulation with the responsibilities placed on national authorities and the proposed higher level of financial penalties on companies that fail adequately to protect customer data.

Ira Rubinstein is a Senior Fellow at the Information Law Institute, NYU School of Law, where he teaches courses in privacy law. Rubinstein lectures and publishes widely on issues of privacy and security and has testified before Congress on these topics five times. Until 2007, he was an Associate General Counsel in Microsoft's law department. In 2010, he joined the Board of Directors of the Center for Democracy and Technology. He also serves as Rapporteur of the EU-US Privacy Bridges Project, and on the Board of Advisers, American Law Institute, Restatement Third, Information Privacy Principles. Rubinstein graduated from Yale Law School in 1985.

Will it be possible to resist the increasing tracking and recording of our everyday lives?

Certainly it is increasingly difficult. Cookies and other online tracking devices remain ubiquitous. Networked sensors and recording devices in public spaces are proliferating, thereby adding images, sounds, and movement to the massive personal dossiers already maintained on oridnary individuals by government agencies and private firms alike. Unfortunately, the processes for capturing, storing, managing, and analyzing personal data remain opaque and the tools for controlling such data inadequate. We need a simple and easy method for individuals to signall their resistance to tracking and recording in both online and offline settings along with new technical designs and legal principles to ensure that such signals are received and acted upon consistent with fundamental rights of privacy. And these new methods must be as convenient and automated as the underlying data collection techniques or indiviauls will remain forever at a disadvantage.

Cheryl Gwyn was appointed as New Zealand's Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security commencing 5 May 2014, for a three year term. The Inspector-General's role includes reviewing the legality and propriety of intelligence

Photo: Hagen Hopkins/NZ Listener

and security agency activities and investigating complaints relating to the agencies. The Inspector-General has power to initiate her own inquiries.

Ms Gwyn has broad public law experience, having spent ten years as Deputy Solicitor-General in the New Zealand Crown Law Office, where she provided legal advice and representation to Ministers and Departments, principally in constitutional matters.

That position was preceded by two years managing a large policy group, as Deputy Secretary for Justice.

Before entering the public service, Ms Gwyn was a litigation partner at two of New Zealand's largest law firms.

What's the most important role for Data Protection Authorities in helping make intelligence agencies more effective organisations?

Intelligence services have a strong interest in ensuring that information they hold on legitimate targets is fair, accurate and up-to-date. Failure to do so will affect their effectiveness and reputation. DPAs have a significant role in assisting effectiveness, including through:

* Close cooperation between DPAs and between DPAs and specialist intelligence and security oversight bodies: intelligence and security agencies cooperate and share information across national boundaries, so should oversight bodies. Cooperation can ensure clarity as to which national legislation applies and avoid a lacuna in oversight.
* Keeping up with technological developments: in order to keep the public informed of technical solutions to issues such as the need for bulk collection of data by SIG INT agencies; means to control personal data.
* Contributing to policy and legislative developments.

Profile of partners in Privacy: Council of Europe

Sophie Kwasny (my maiden name immediately indicates Polish origins, which enables our Polish colleagues to tell me off for my poor linguistic skills…) – I am the Head of the Data protection Unit of the Council of Europe (international organisation based in Strasbourg, France). The Unit is located within the Human Rights and Rule of Law General Directorate, which I often underline to recall that our work is about protecting human rights, and the human beings behind such rights.

What does your position/ role involve? How long have you been performing this role?

I have been managing the Data Protection Unit for nearly five years now. A deep dive into a sea of review, revision and modernisation! The Council of Europe had just started the modernisation work of the data protection Convention ('Convention 108') when I arrived and it was a perfect time to start working on those issues. I have really enjoyed working in this field, especially as my position implies a variety of roles: managing the intergovernmental work (the standard-setting and policy work of the Committee of Convention 108), promoting the Convention and our achievements throughout the world, providing bilateral assistance to countries wishing to work with us, and also supporting the work of our data protection Commissioner.

What is your background? How did you become involved in data protection or privacy?

I have the incredible chance of being civil servant for a Human rights based organisation in which I deeply believe. Lawyer by education, the principles and values we defend and promote in the Council of Europe are at the basis of my professional path. I have been working for this organisation for nearly twenty years, working on various topics such as prisons' reform, independence of the judiciary, nationality law and, more lately privacy and data protection. I have to say that joining the privacy community, or rather family, at a time when fathers and mothers of the first generation of laws were still around to guide us, has been an immense privilege.

Is there anything else about yourself you wish to add?

I am French by nationality (and mood often ;) and if I complain and object strongly, please understand that this is a fault I was taught since I was a child. I grew up in the South of France, on the Mediterranean sea, and have been living in the North for quite some time now, I can bring the best of those two very different worlds together and maintain warmth while acting with rigour.

What is the name of the entity you are profiling? If it is a committee please explain how it relates to the structure of the organisation.

The difficulty here is that several bodies within the Council of Europe deal with privacy: the European Court of Human rights, which protects the right to private life as enshrined in Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, The Commissioner for Human Rights, and at intergovernmental level (or rather inter-country as several countries are represented by their independent authorities), the Committee of Convention 108,, together with the Unit providing support to it, the Data Protection Unit. The present profile is the one of the Data Protection Unit solely.

What is the role of the entity? What are its objectives?

Our Data Protection Unit is entrusted with the task of providing the Secretariat to the Committee established by Convention 108. This notably implies convening and organising meetings, liaising and working with experts in supporting the further development of right-based legislative and regulatory frameworks on data protection and the effective implementation of data protection principles in all Parties to the Convention and candidate countries, promoting Convention 108 throughout the world, as well as representing the Committee in-house. For the past years, an important part of the work has been to deal with the modernisation of Convention 108, and in that context, the Unit also provided the Secretariat to an ad hoc Committee. Furthermore, we are very active in the field of technical co-operation, that is providing support (legal expertise, trainings, etc.) to a country or an authority requesting our assistance. This can be done on a bilateral or multilateral (for instance regional) basis. Our main objective is the efficiency and sustainability of the protection system established by Convention 108, which is unique in its kind.

What have been its most notable achievements in the last few years? What has the entity being working on recently?

A series of achievements can be noted, but the most publicised one is certainly the progress made on the modernisation of Convention 108 (to deal with new technological challenges and enhance the follow-up mechanism of the Convention). This work is not yet completed, we are waiting for the final step.

The fact that the Convention now counts a non-European country (Uruguay) and that several others are in the process of acceding (currently Morocco, Mauritius, Senegal and Tunisia) is a great opportunity for our protection through the Convention.
A number of soft-law instruments are to be mentioned too, such as for instance our new text on the processing of personal data in the context of employment, or the ones regarding the protection of human rights and search engines, and human rights and social networking services.

During 2015 what is the entity focusing on? What might be of most interest to Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners?

We have a lot to work on in the coming months, starting with the finalisation of the modernisation of Convention 108, that everyone is now eager to witness. On more specific topics, we will continue our work on issues such as mass surveillance, use of personal data in a law enforcement context, big data, as well as the processing of health data. Our work plan can be found on our website for further details (see the address below).

Is there anything else about yourself you wish to add?

I would like to thank the Executive Committee for its great work and for offering us the opportunity to introduce our Unit and present our work to persons who are not necessarily aware of it. I will be, together with my colleagues, attending the 37th International Conference in Amsterdam and would be very happy to meet any of the readers interested in learning more about Convention 108 and our work, or simply willing to practice a bit of French ...

Data Protection Unit
Council of Europe
Email: dataprotection@coe.int
Website: www.coe.int/dataprotection

Commissioner Profile
Hong Kong: Stephan Kai-yi WONG

Stephen Kai-yi WONG; Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, Hong Kong; Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, Hong Kong; Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, PRC

Where did you grow up?

Hong Kong

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

1990

What was the first International Conference that you attended? (City and if you can remember it, the year)?

Being a newly appointed Privacy Commissioner for Hong Kong, I look forward to my first International Conference in Amsterdam to meet with my learned colleagues and also the opportunity for experience and knowledge sharing.

What did you do before you became a Commissioner?

Barrister-at-law; Secretary, Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong; Deputy Solicitor-General of Hong Kong

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

Sharing of knowledge and experience; picking wisdom of others

What is the best thing about being Data Protection Commissioner?

Embracing the challenge of trying to strike a balance between the protection of individuals' data and the free flow of information in the best interests of the community.

Commissioner Profile
Gibraltar: Paul Canessa

Paul Canessa. C.E.O. Gibraltar Regulatory Authority & Data Protection Commissioner. Gibraltar.

Where did you grow up?
Gibraltar.

When did you first become involved in data protection or privacy?
January 2004

What was the first International Conference that you attended? (City and if you can remember it, the year)?

London 2006.

What did you do before you became a Commissioner? I worked as a broadcast journalist/producer with the Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation and was Head of News for 10 years. Took over as C.E.O. of the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority (GRA) on its creation in October 2000 with responsibility for regulating the telecommunications and broadcasting sectors in Gibraltar. In 2004, the Data Protec-

tion Act assigned the duties of Data Protection Commissioner to the GRA.

What was the funniest thing that you saw, or happened to you, at an International Conference?
Not very funny at the time, but losing my luggage for 48 hours at the Mexico City conference in 2011.

What is the best thing about participating in the International Conference?
Exchanging ideas with other Commissioners and meeting colleagues from around the world.

What is your favourite privacy quotation?
Ireland's Data Protection Commissioner's comment on social networks in 2013: "Acknowledge the 'right to be silly'. Sharing your life with the world may not be a good idea, but its your life!".

Commissioner Profile
Zurich, Switzerland: Bruno Baeriswyl

Bruno Baeriswyl, Privacy Commissioner, Data Protection Authority Canton of Zurich, Switzerland.

Where did you grow up?
In the German speaking part of Switzerland, in a small town not far from Zurich.

When did you first become involved in data protection or privacy?
In my former position with an international computer company data protection was an issue in its data security aspect. In that period Switzerland hadn't yet got a data protection legislation.

What was the first International Conference that you attended? (City and if you can remember it, the year)?
1995, Copenhagen, Denmark

What did you do before you became a Commissioner?
Prior to my appointment as the Privacy Commissioner of the Canton of Zurich, I held management positions in the public administration sector, at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and at an international computer company.

What was the funniest thing that you saw, or happened to you, at an International Conference?
At first it wasn't very funny but it turned out to be. At the International Conference in Hong Kong (1999) a tornado deranged a whole conference day in a way that all participants were blocked in their hotels. In the lobby of my hotel we had the most intensive and funniest discussion about privacy now and in the future!

What is the best thing about participating in the International Conference?
I'm expecting from an International Conference good talks by speakers with different backgrounds and I'm looking for the opportunity to network with other participants

Please explain the meaning of privacy and why it is important in the form of a 'tweet'
Privacy and democracy are twins. You don't get the one without the other. Take care of both of them.

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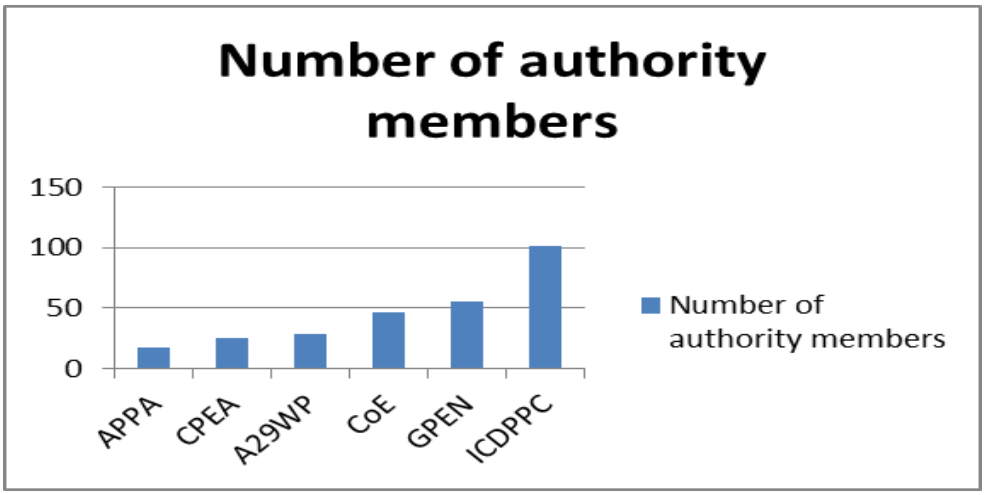
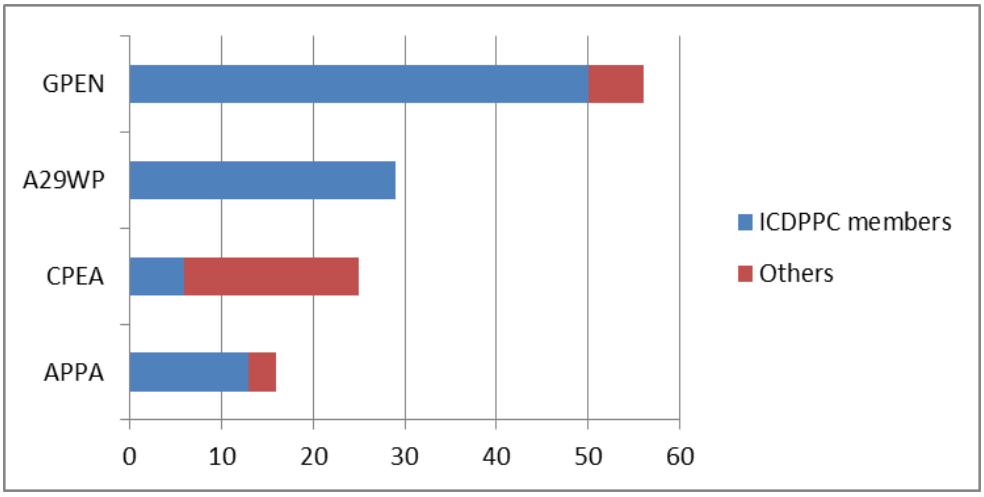
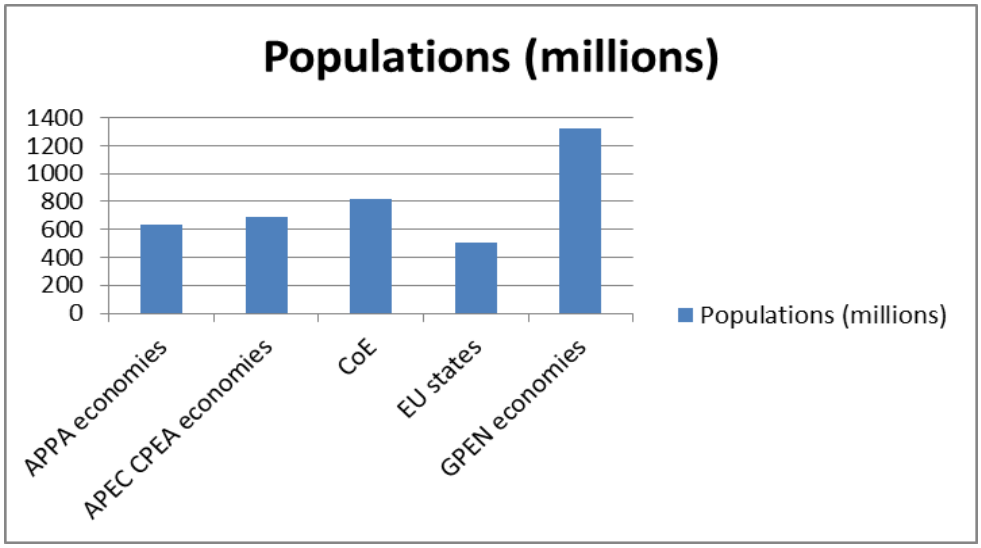
Factoid



Member authorities in selected networks



ICDPPC member authorities in other networks



Population statistics

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