African Network of Data Protection Authorities

Overview: A network fostering pan-African collaboration on data protection to better protect the rights of Africans online, strengthen the data economies of African countries, and amplify the African voice with global partners.

Current focus includes: Strengthening the network's international presence, promoting legislation on data Protection across Africa, and building cooperation amongst members, including capacity building.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities

Overview: Bi-annual meeting of privacy authorities in the Asia Pacific region providing a forum for members to form partnerships, discuss best practices and share information on emerging technology and developments in privacy regulation.

Current focus includes: Exploration of common technology related issues, collaboration to develop and promote Privacy Awareness Week themes, and use of statistics to share knowledge and improve regulatory performance.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

British, Irish and Islands Data Protection Authorities

Overview: BIIDPA facilitates formal and informal exchange of information and expertise on common privacy issues across the membership, often owing to shared data flows and similar common law jurisdictions.

Current focus includes: Activities are shaped by current and pressing issues facing members, with a focus on establishing common interpretations and approaches in relation to businesses and sectors straddling several member jurisdictions.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Central and Eastern Europe Data Protection Authorities

Overview: CEEDPA supports the implementation of international data protection standards and provides members with opportunities for sharing experience and best practice.

Current focus includes: Data protection awareness raising campaigns, law enforcement use of personal data, and data protection and the internet.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Conference of the European Data Protection Authorities

Overview: The 'Spring Conference' is the continent's forum for all European data protection regulators. It aims to bridge borders and foster practical collaboration and exchange of best practice among its Members to promote and uphold the protection of personal data and privacy in Europe. It is supported in this endeavour by an annual operationally-focused 'Case Handling Workshop' (CHWS).

Current focus includes: Aligning the conference and CHWS, strengthening the conference's vision / purpose, and developing a conference format and framework guide.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

International Enforcement Cooperation Working Group

Privacy and data protection networks - snapshot (2021)



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European Data Protection Board

Overview: The mission of the EDPB is to ensure the consistent application of European Union / European Economic Area data protection rules and to promote effective cooperation among supervisory authorities throughout the EEA.

Current focus includes: Facilitating engagement between EDPB members and supervisory authorities of 'third countries', focusing on enforcement cooperation cases involving organisations located outside the EEA.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

European Free Trade Association Expert Group on Data Protection

Overview: A grouping of representative of EFTA states to support information exchange and actively monitor EU data protection initiatives.

Current focus includes: Exchanging experience on the implementation and enforcement of data protection legislation, and monitoring and sharing information on negotiations of international data flows.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Nordic Data Protection Authorities

Overview: An annual meeting to foster closer cooperation between the Nordic data protection authorities based on Nordic values around respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, transparency and the rule of law. Declarations are adopted following meetings.

Current focus includes: Maintaining close contact amongst the membership by means other than annual meetings during the ongoing pandemic.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Association Francophone des Autorités de Protection des Données Personnelles

Overview: A network bringing together French-speaking data protection authorities and governments (currently 21 members) to promote protection of personal data and spread Francophone vision and expertise internationally.

Current focus includes: Implementing a 5 year strategy to strengthen the network, including capacity building of its members and advocacy / support for states in developing and implementing data protection laws.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Common Thread Network

Overview: A forum for Commonwealth data protection authorities and governments (as observers) to promote cross-border cooperation, capacity building, and knowledge sharing.

Current focus includes: Strengthening the network through more regular meetings, encouraging active participation, and improving cooperation. Ongoing support of emergent data protection frameworks.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Linguistic and cultural networks

Ibero-American Data Protection Network

Overview: An inclusive forum of Ibero-American data protection authorities, and other public and private bodies with an interest in data protection. The RIPD supports exchange of experience and knowledge, and advocates regulatory developments advancing personal data protection across the region.

Current focus includes: Recommendations and guidance on AI, protection of children online, combatting digital violence against women and girls.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

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APEC Data Privacy Sub-Group

Overview: A sub-group of APEC's Digital Economy Steering Group, the DPS leads APEC's privacy-focused work with a view to supporting trade and investment and reducing impediments to business in the APEC region.

Current focus includes: Support implementation of CBPR and PRP systems, update APEC privacy framework and support domestic implementation of privacy laws, review privacy implications of emerging technologies including AI.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Consultative Committee of Convention 108

Overview: The Committee facilitates the application of C108, interpret its provisions, and improves its implementation. The Committee comprises 55 state parties and 34 observers (including data protection authorities and networks) reaching around 70 countries around the world.

Current focus includes: Follow-up to the modernisation of the Convention (C108+), guidance development (including on FRT, children and profiling), and capacity building of Committee members and those of other networks such as the African network of data protection authorities.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Global Privacy Enforcement Network

Overview: GPEN supports cross-border cooperation between privacy enforcement authorities via the creation of an inclusive forum that facilitates dialogue, information exchange (including on confidential matters) and joint actions amongst its members.

Current focus includes: A global sweep on privacy and Covid-19 solutions, a recent best practices workshop with the International Consumer Protection Enforcement Network, and ongoing teleconferences on relevant privacy and enforcement matters such as FRT.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

International Working Group on Data Protection in Technology

Overview: The 'Berlin Group' convenes data protection authorities, international organisations, independent experts, scientists and civil society to exchange experience, discuss and reach common positions on privacy challenges in technology, published in working papers.

Current focus includes: Development of working papers on data portability, web tracking, sensor networks, and voice-controlled devices.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

OECD Working Party on Data Governance and Privacy

Overview: The OECD is responsible for some of the foundational global instruments on data protection, including the OECD Privacy Guidelines (adopted in 1980, reviewed in 2013, and subject to a review concluding in March 2021) and the OECD Recommendation on Cross-border Cooperation in the Enforcement of Laws Protecting Privacy.

Current focus includes: Evidence gathering on legal regime incompatibility; sharing best practice for cross-border coordination; reviewing the OECD recommendation on cross-border cooperation.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant

Unsolicited Communications Enforcement Network

Overview: UCENet promotes international spam enforcement cooperation amongst a broad range of agencies with relevant competence including data protection authorities, telecoms agencies and consumer protection authorities. Members discuss cases, best practices and challenges to effective enforcement.

Current focus includes: Covid-19 focused meetings, and launch of an intelligence working group to strengthen information sharing on live investigations and horizon scanning activities.

Intersection with IEWG focus: some / much / significant