



GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards 2023

Entry Form

To submit an entry to the GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards please complete and email this form to secretariat@globalprivacyassembly.org **no later than 9 June 2023**.

Note: GPA member authorities can submit as many entries as they wish, but a separate form should be used for each different entry, submitted by the deadline above.

Languages: The GPA documentation Rule 6.2¹ applies.

1. CONTACT DETAILS FOR THIS ENTRY

Privacy/Data Protection Authority:	Information Commissioner's Office	
Person completing this form:	Nicholas	Patterson
	<i>First name</i>	<i>Last name</i>
Job title:	Senior Policy Officer	
Email address:	Nicholas.patterson@ico.org.uk	

2. ELIGIBILITY

By submitting this entry, I confirm that (*please tick all boxes to confirm*):

- The Authority is a member of the Global Privacy Assembly
- The initiative described in this entry was undertaken since January 2022.
- I am aware that the information in the entry (other than the contact details in 1(a) above) will be publicised by the GPA Secretariat.

3. CATEGORIES

Please indicate which category you wish to enter.

*Please tick **one**; please use a separate form for each category you wish to enter:*

- Education and Public Awareness
- Accountability
- Dispute Resolution and Enforcement
- Innovation
- People's Choice

¹ [GPA Rules and Procedures](#), Rule 6.2 'Assembly documents':

Without prejudice to section 4.2, Assembly documents, including accreditation and observer applications may be submitted in English or in another language. In the latter case, the documents shall be accompanied by an English version. Members with the ability and the resources to do so are encouraged to translate proposed resolutions and other Assembly documents such as the Assembly Rules and Procedures.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATIVE

a. Please provide a brief summary of the initiative (no more than 75 words)

The ICO's Technology Department published draft guidance on Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PETs) in September 2022 helping organisations unlock the potential of data using a data protection by design approach.

The ICO Innovation Hub with support from the Technology Department acted as data protection mentors for participating teams in the UK-US PETs Prize Challenges.

Using insights gathered from the prize challenges, the final version of our ground-breaking PETs guidance will be published in June 2023.

b. Please provide a full description of the initiative (no more than 350 words)

The prize challenges inspired innovators on both sides of the Atlantic to develop privacy preserving federated learning solutions leveraging input and output privacy enhancing technologies for two scenarios: forecasting pandemic infection and detecting financial crime.

The Innovation Hub's support for the prize challenges initially comprised collaboration with fellow UK and US regulators and government bodies to deliver 2 regulatory context setting workshops based on financial crime and public health use cases. These sessions outlined the relevant regulatory contexts in which participants were developing their proposed solutions, such as the UK data protection framework and the key things to consider to ensure compliance.

The Hub then offered 'Office Hour' sessions to each team leading to the development of bespoke work plan agreements with 2 teams. These agreements detailed the specific data protection matters the teams required support with and how the Hub would provide that support. Workshops were held with both teams and advice was provided on matters including identifiability, security and how to ensure the explainability of AI systems.

Finally, the Hub delivered a data protection regulatory themes webinar to participating teams providing specific advice about the implementation of PETs.

Alongside this workstream, the Technology Department have developed guidance on PETs. Our guidance explores applications that PETs can be used for to enable compliant and safer processing of personal data. The guidance discusses how PETs can be used to mitigate the risks to the rights and freedoms of individuals, and how they can help to fulfil the data protection principles of data minimisation, confidentiality, and security. The insights gathered during the prize challenges have informed Technology's work to produce the final version of our ground breaking PETs guidance.

c. Please explain why you think the initiative deserves to be recognised by an award
(no more than 200 words)

The PETs guidance and the Hub's work in the prize challenges have increased industry's understanding of how to develop privacy enhancing solutions by putting a data protection by design approach into practice. Our work has given industry regulatory certainty about how to develop end to end privacy preserving solutions and this will protect individuals from harm.

The ICO PETs guidance is the first of its kind from any data protection authority, both in Europe and Worldwide. The guidance is a valuable resource for DPOs within organisations who would like to learn more about how PETs provide protection and how they can be used to reduce risks and aid compliance with the UK GDPR. Additionally, the ICO will be publishing PETs case studies to demonstrate how PETs can be used to process personal data while mitigating the risks to individuals. These case studies will be informed by the insights we have gathered during the prize challenges.

d. Please include a photograph or image, if you wish *(This will be published with your entry on the GPA website. The image can be pasted into the box below, be sent as an attachment or a link may be provided)*

Information Commissioner's Office

Privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs)

June 2023

ico.
Information Commissioner's Office

- e. Please provide the most relevant link on the authority's website to the initiative, if applicable (*The website content does not need to be in English*)

[Privacy-enhancing technologies \(PETs\) | ICO](#)

- f. Please provide any other relevant links that help explain the initiative or its impact or success (*e.g. links to news reports or articles*):

[U.K.-U.S. prize challenges | Privacy-Enhancing Technologies \(petsprizechallenges.com\)](#)

[At Summit for Democracy, the United Kingdom and the United States Announce Winners of Challenge to Drive Innovation in Privacy-Enhancing Technologies that Reinforce Democratic Values - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation on Twitter: "Data protection and financial regulators helped innovators to understand the regulatory environment for PETs. @ICOnews are explaining how #PETs can enable data protection by design. https://t.co/uHiCgK0bvk" / Twitter](#)