

EU

Cybersecurity Directive Agreed

The EU Parliament, Council and Commission have agreed on the text of the Network and Information Security Directive after trialogue discussions concluded. The directive introduces a requirement for companies in various critical sectors, such as transport, energy and finance to ensure that their digital infrastructure can withstand cyber-attacks. These companies will also be required to report serious security breaches to the relevant public authority. The requirements will apply in addition to some larger internet service providers. The next stage of the legislative process will be for the Parliament's Internal Market Committee and Council Committee of Permanent Representatives to formally approve the text.

[Press release](#)

European Data Protection Supervisor Recommendations on Police, Justice and Criminal Matters Directive

The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) has released its own recommendations on the text of the Directive for data protection in the police and justice sectors. This is alongside the three texts proposed by the Commission, Parliament and Council. These comments function only as recommendations and are not one of the official draft texts.

[EDPS recommendations \(PDF\)](#)

European Council Confirms Passenger Name Record Directive

The European Council has confirmed that an agreement has been reached with the European Parliament on the draft directive on the use of passenger name record data. The directive aims to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute terrorist attacks and severe crime. Under the directive, flight companies will be under an obligation to transmit passenger data to the relevant Member State regarding flights entering or departing the EU. Member States will also have the right to collect passenger data for intra-EU flights. Data will be stored initially for six months, and then for four and a half years under strict access conditions. The next stage will be for Parliament's Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee to vote on the text of the directive. It will then be voted on by the European Parliament. The EDPS has urged caution over the scheme because of the potential for large scale data processing of the data of non-suspect passengers.

[Press release](#)

[EDPS statement \(PDF\)](#)

US-EU Collaboration on Cybersecurity

In a press release, the participants of the US-EU Cyber Dialogue noted the areas of co-operation that have been undertaken internationally during 2014-15. The dialogue noted the progress in cybersecurity including the success of the US-EU cybersecurity awareness month in October 2015. The dialogue also emphasised the obligation of states to ensure protection of human rights online in accordance with international law.

[Press release](#)

Germany

Bundestag Passes Law on E-Health

The German Federal Parliament (Bundestag) has passed a law on e-health. The law will introduce telematics infrastructure into healthcare and will launch an electronic health card. The aim is to make patient information available more quickly. The law has previously been criticised by privacy and consumer organisations for insufficiently protecting medical data and for patients not having access to their data.

[Bundestag resolution \(in German\)](#)

Associations Criticise Dissolution of Corporate Data Protection by General Data Protection Regulation

In a press release, the Professional Association of German Data Protection Officers (*Berufsverband der Datenschutzbeauftragten Deutschlands – BvD*) and the Society for Data Protection and Data Security (*Gesellschaft für Datenschutz und Datensicherheit – GDD*) have commented critically on the trialogue negotiations for the EU General Data Protection Regulation. The associations warned against the quasi-dissolution of the corporate obligation to deploy data protection officers as this would severely diminish the German level of data protection. Due to a lack of incentives, the associations do not expect that companies will voluntarily appoint data protection officers.

[BvD article \(in German\)](#)

UK

Further Enforcement Against Unsolicited Marketing Calls

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has issued another enforcement notice in its crack-down on unsolicited marketing calls. The ICO has ordered businessman Aurangzeb Iqbal to cease any unsolicited calls for direct marketing purposes to individuals who have previously requested not to receive calls directly or who are registered with the telephone preference service.

[Enforcement notice \(PDF\)](#)

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