
Brussels, 20 October 2011

ARTICLE 29 DATA PROTECTION WORKING PARTY

The Article 29 Working Party held its 82nd plenary meeting on 13 and 14 October 2011 in Brussels

- New legal framework for data protection (mechanism to ensure consistency)

With regard to the revision of the EU data protection legal framework, the Article 29 Working Party discussed mechanisms to ensure that data protection authorities across the EU can consistently apply the EU data protection rules. The Working Party concluded that consistent application cannot be delivered without consistent rules and once again highlighted the need for a high level of harmonisation offering a high level of protection. The Working Party will shortly send its proposals for a mechanism to ensure cooperation and coordination between Data Protection Authorities and to ensure consistent application of the law to Vice President Reding.

- WADA

The Working Party has agreed to deliver a contribution to the EU Commission's comments regarding the revision of WADA's World Anti-Doping Code, which will take place in 2013. The Working Party will inform the European Commission of the remaining data protection concerns with regard to the most recent version of the Standard on the Protection of Personal Information and will draft recommendations for the upcoming revision.

- Meeting with representatives from European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA)

Professor Udo Helmbrecht, Executive Director of ENISA, attended the Article 29 Working Party's plenary meeting to present and discuss the work done by ENISA and the topics both ENISA and the Working Party have an interest in, notably on data breach notification. Both ENISA and the Working Party recognise the benefits of cooperation and have therefore decided to intensify their dialogue.

- Meeting with a representative from the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA).

A representative of the Fundamental Rights Agency, Mr Mario Oetheimer addressed the Article 29 Working Party's plenary meeting. He presented the FRA data protection related projects that will be undertaken in the near future such as a project on redress mechanisms and a Handbook on European data protection case law.

Background information

The European data protection authorities (the Article 29 Working Party on the Protection of Individuals with regard to the Processing of Personal Data) is an independent advisory body on data protection and privacy, set up under Article 29 of the Data Protection Directive 95/46/EC. It is composed of representatives from the national data protection authorities of the EU Member States, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the European Commission. Its tasks are described in Article 30 of Directive 95/46/EC and Article 15 of Directive 2002/58/EC. The Article 29 Working Party is competent to examine any question covering the application of the data protection directives in order to contribute to the uniform application of the directives. It carries out this task by issuing recommendations, opinions and working documents.

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/data-protection/index_en.htm