
Brussels, 3 October 2012

ARTICLE 29 DATA PROTECTION WORKING PARTY

The Article 29 Working Party held its 87th plenary meeting on 25 and 26 September 2012 in Brussels.

- **Data protection reform (meeting with European Parliament rapporteurs and Cypriot Presidency)**

On Tuesday 25 September 2012 the Working Party met with rapporteurs Mr Jan Albrecht and Mr Dimitrios Droutsas, responsible for the data protection reform proposals on behalf of the European Parliament. The rapporteurs informed the members of the Working Party on the content of the discussions taking place in the European Parliament. The intention is to finalise the reform package before the end of term of this legislature. On Wednesday 26 September, the Cypriot Presidency of the Council updated the members of the Working Party on the reform discussions in the Council, notably on the Council's DAPIX working group's article by article approach and the future timeframe. Both the European Parliament rapporteurs and the representatives from the Council welcomed further input and guidance from the Working Party on the reform and encouraged the Working Party to deliver any further input as soon as possible.

- **Mobile apps**

Considering the rapid increase in the use of smartphones, the amount of downloaded apps worldwide and the existence of many small-sized app-developers, the Working Party, in its Work Programme published in February 2012, already announced its intention to publish guidance on mobile apps. At the 87th plenary meeting a first outline was discussed with a view to be able to adopt an opinion early next year.

- **Third country adequacy**

During the summer, the Working Party adopted a positive opinion regarding the level of data protection of Monaco, attesting that the data protection legislation of Monaco guarantees an adequate level according to Directive 95/46/EC. The Working Party was furthermore informed that the European Commission has positively decided on the adequacy of Uruguay, following the Working Party's positive opinion regarding the level of data protection in Uruguay (in 2010). The Working Party has also issued a positive opinion regarding the level of data protection in New Zealand (in 2011). In the coming months, the Working Party will examine the adequacy of Québec.

- **Meeting with representatives from the Accountability Project**

The Working Party met with Marty Abrams and Richard Thomas, representatives of the so-called Accountability Project, an international initiative that brings together multi-stakeholders to 'Get Accountability Right with a Privacy Management Programme'. During the plenary meeting, the members of the Working Party were updated on the state of play of the project. The Working Party encouraged the work of the project, especially in the light of the European data protection reform, that includes the notion of accountability for data controllers.

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