



# DATA PROTECTION DAY 28-01-2025

## A NEW MANDATE FOR DATA PROTECTION



**Charlemagne Building**  
Rue de la Loi 170, 1040, Brussels, Belgium  
and online

## About CPDP - Data Protection Day

*To mark Data Protection Day (28 January), the Council of Europe (CoE), CPDP Conferences and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) are co-organising a one-day event focused on exploring the current and future landscape of data protection.*

*The CPDP - Data Protection Day event takes place on 28 January as a celebration of the opening for signature in 1981 of Convention 108, the first legally binding international instrument to protect privacy in the digital age. While celebrating this historical milestone, this conference serves as a platform for discussing the challenges and opportunities that arise when emerging technologies and privacy risks intersect on one hand, and those that arise when innovation meets regulatory frameworks.*

## Programme: a new mandate for data protection

*CPDP - Data Protection Day arrives at a pivotal moment, as new EU political mandates begin to shape the policy landscape, with the recent election of the European Parliament and subsequent appointment of a new European Commission. These changes also coincide with the new mandates of the Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights and the European Data Protection Supervisor.*

*At the same time, new technological developments in areas such as Artificial Intelligence and neuroscience bring new challenges to the right to the protection of personal data and other fundamental rights. Recurrent challenges, such as access to data for law enforcement and national security purposes, remain high on the political agenda.*

*During the 2025 edition of CPDP - Data Protection Day we invite participants to reflect on and discuss the evolving mandate of data protection, particularly its essential role as safeguard of our democratic society against excessive intrusions in citizens' privacy by public or private actors.*





# DATA PROTECTION DAY 28-01-2025

## A NEW MANDATE FOR DATA PROTECTION



**Charlemagne Building**  
Rue de la Loi 170, 1040, Brussels, Belgium  
and online

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

TIME	TITLE	TOPIC	ROOM
08:30 – 09:30	REGISTRATION AND WELCOME COFFEE		Reception Area 2 floor
09:30 – 09:45	Opening Remarks		De Gasperi Room 2 floor
09:45 – 10:30	Organisers' Panel	Data Protection Day: what to celebrate?	De Gasperi Room 2 floor
10:30 – 11:00	COFFEE BREAK		Reception Area 2 floor
11:00 – 12:00	Main Session 1	EU institutions and data protection: what lies ahead?	De Gasperi Room 2 floor
12:00 – 13:00	Main Session 2	What's in your mind? Neuroscience and data protection	De Gasperi Room 2 floor
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK		Reception Area 2 floor
14:00 – 15:15	Side Session 1	Access to data: balancing between effective law enforcement and mass surveillance	De Gasperi Room 2 floor
14:00 – 15:15	Side Session 2	Beyond Privacy: unveiling the true Stakes of data protection	Jenkins Room 0 floor
14:00 – 15:15	Side Session 3	Trainees event	Mansholt Room 0 floor
15:15 – 15:45	COFFEE BREAK		Reception Area 2 floor
15:45 – 16:45	Main session 3	Forging the future: reinventing data protection	De Gasperi Room 2 floor
16:45 – 17:00	Closing Remarks	Closing Remarks by the Polish Presidency of the EU Council	De Gasperi Room 2 floor
17:00 – 18:30	FAREWELL RECEPTION		Reception Area 2 floor
18:00 – 22:00	SPECIAL EVENT - Data Protection Day celebrations organised by the Permanent Representation of Poland to the EU. A separate registration is mandatory.		Rue Stevin 139 1000 Brussels





# DATA PROTECTION DAY 28-01-2025

## A NEW MANDATE FOR DATA PROTECTION



**Charlemagne Building**  
Rue de la Loi 170, 1040, Brussels, Belgium  
and online

## SESSIONS' DESCRIPTION

### **ORGANISERS' PANEL:** [Data Protection Day - What to celebrate?](#)

09:45-10:30, De Gasperi Room - 2 floor

*This panel will kick off Data Protection Day 2025 with a reflection on the anniversary that we celebrate. It will be the opportunity to take stock of the important contributions of data protection to democratic societies and reflect on crucial milestones in the development of data protection, as well as to look forward to how data protection can deliver better. The panellists will walk us through the past, present, and future of data protection as an introduction to the other sessions of the day.*

Moderator: Kait Bolongora, Managing Director, MLex

Speakers:

- Prof. Paul de Hert, Vrije Universiteit Brussels
- Representative of the Council of Europe, TBC
- Wojciech Wiewiórowski, European Data Protection Supervisor

### **MAIN SESSION 1:** [EU institutions and data protection: what lies ahead?](#)

11:00-12:00, De Gasperi Room - 2 floor

*With the appointment of a new European Commission, data protection will face a new political agenda. A new 'Data Union' strategy is expected to free the untapped potential of data, through simplified, clear and coherent legal framework for businesses and administrations, while respecting high privacy and security standards.*

*Political pressure is rising to ensure that the implementation of EU data protection law remains in line with the objectives of digital transformation and responds to law enforcement and commercial needs. At the same time, the co-legislature is expected to advance the work on burning topics from the previous mandate, such as the proposal for procedural harmonisation of GDPR enforcement and the proposed regulation to combat child sexual abuse material. In parallel, the number of cases pending before the Court of Justice of the European Union reveals an increasingly important role for this institution in ensuring the correct interpretation and application of EU data protection law.*

*This panel will give the floor to actors directly involved in the activities of the EU institutions, and will be the opportunity to hear their views on the burning topics to be discussed during the next five years.*

Moderator: Anna Buchta, Head of Policy and Consultation Unit, EDPS

Speakers: TBC





# DATA PROTECTION DAY 28-01-2025 A NEW MANDATE FOR DATA PROTECTION



**Charlemagne Building**  
Rue de la Loi 170, 1040, Brussels, Belgium  
and online

## MAIN SESSION 2: **What's in your mind: neuroscience and data protection?**

12:00-13:00, De Gasperi Room - 2 floor

*Neurotechnology refers to a spectrum of devices, tools, systems, and algorithms used to understand and/or influence, access, monitor, assess, emulate, simulate or modulate the structure, activity and function of the nervous system. The convergence of advancements in neuroscience and engineering poses ethical and legal challenges as well as risks for the protection of personal data.*

*This panel will explore the concepts of mental data, cognitive data, neural data and mental privacy and how to mitigate privacy challenges by addressing the current debates on neurotechnologies, human rights, and existing regulatory initiatives.*

Moderator: TBC

Speakers:

Prof. Marcello Lenca, Professor of Ethics of AI and Neuroscience, School of Medicine and Health, Technical University of Munich

Prof. Siobhan O'Sullivan, Chair of the Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO), Council of Europe, Executive Director, Royal Irish Academy

Alessandra Pierucci, Member of the Committee of Convention 108, Chair of the Italian Data Protection Authority

## SIDE SESSION 1: **Access to data: balancing between effective law enforcement and mass surveillance**

14:00-15:15, De Gasperi Room - 2 floor

*As a result of the rapid digitalisation of nearly all aspects of our lives, we have seen an exponential increase in data creation, transmission, and storage. Since this data can help detect criminal activity, there is ongoing debate about law enforcement and criminal justice access to electronic data. Privacy advocates warn that general and indiscriminate retention and access to communication and other data could lead to serious infringements on fundamental rights, such as privacy and data protection, amounting in some cases to mass surveillance.*

*On the other hand, the law enforcement community argues that restricting access to potential electronic evidence could result in the impunity of online criminals. The number of CJEU judgments concerning data retention legislation and the heated discussions surrounding the controversial CSAM proposal are just two examples of how complex and contentious the issue is.*

Moderator: Plamen Angelov, Head of Sector JHA, EDPS

Speakers: TBC





# DATA PROTECTION DAY 28-01-2025

## A NEW MANDATE FOR DATA PROTECTION



**Charlemagne Building**  
Rue de la Loi 170, 1040, Brussels, Belgium  
and online

### SIDE SESSION 2: [Beyond Privacy: unveiling the true stakes of data protection](#)

14:00-15:15, Jenkins Room - 0 floor

*This panel delves into the essence and core purpose of data protection, emphasising the fundamental values and societal interests these laws serve to protect while also reflecting on how they can be defended in the face of modern challenges. Inadequate data protection may gradually erode democracy and social cohesion, especially in the age of AI and other data-hungry technologies. Privacy and data protection laws are means and an end in itself. They are instruments designed, among other things, to give individuals control over their data, protect their fundamental rights, and empower them in an increasingly data-driven world.*

*Why should we care about data transfers, targeted advertising, abuse of sensitive data, or automated decision-making? How can data protection protect individuals and society? How do we define the harm when even recent decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) highlight the difficulties in quantifying damage when privacy is breached? While exploring these questions, the panel will remind us what the essence of data protection law is and why it is still relevant in a world of data-driven technologies.*

Moderator: Romain Robert, Legal Officer, Policy and Consultation Unit, EDPS

Speakers:

- Gloria González Fuster, Research professor and director of the Law, Science, Technology & Society (LSTS), Vrije Universiteit Brussels
- Max Schrems, Honorary Chairperson, *noyb* – European Centre for Digital Rights
- Evgueni Boev, Senior Legal Advisor, European Court of Human Rights
- Nathalie Laneret, VP of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Criteo
- Itxaso Domínguez de Olazábal, Policy Advisor, EDRI

### SIDE SESSION 3: [Trainee event](#)

14:00-15:15, Mansholt Room - 0 floor

*Traineeships within the EDPS, EDPB and the CoE are a genuine opportunity to see how data protection is put into practice within a policy and public body perspective. Trainees are usually involved in the work of their institution and might even be the future voice of data protection in their careers.*

*That is why we think it is essential to hear their views on the subject and let them organise a panel on a subject of their choice to hear from speakers who they think will be shaping the future of data protection. More information on this panel will be provided soon.*

Moderator: TBC

Speakers: TBC





# DATA PROTECTION DAY 28-01-2025

## A NEW MANDATE FOR DATA PROTECTION



**Charlemagne Building**  
Rue de la Loi 170, 1040, Brussels, Belgium  
and online

### MAIN SESSION 3: [Forging the future: reinventing data protection?](#)

15:45-16:45, De Gasperi Room - 2 floor

*Whereas the digital world is subject to constant change, so are the laws that govern it. Recent legislative developments have led to a complex legal landscape which may be difficult to navigate at times. This panel aims to stimulate reflection on the role of data protection within this dynamic regulatory environment. It also aims to explore possible alternative approaches to the application of data protection in an era of rapid technological advancement. Key areas of focus will include:*

- *Regulatory models best suited to keep pace with technological innovation*
- *Learnings from newer regulatory approaches such as DSA, DMA, and AI Act*
- *Exploring new paradigms for data protection (e.g., should consent, transparency and user control be redefined?)*

*The panel aims to chart a course for the future of data protection that is both robust and flexible, navigating through the challenges discussed during the day. The panellists will discuss whether we still are on track to achieve the main objectives of data protection regulation without avoiding this important question: should the GDPR be reopened and why?*

Moderator: Cristina Caffarra, Vice Chair Steering Committee, Competition Policy Research Network

Speakers:

- Johnny Ryan, Director of Enforce, Irish Council for Civil Liberties
- Ralf Bendrath, Political Advisor, The Greens/ EFA
- Nora Ni Loideain, Senior Lecturer and Director, Information Law and Policy Centre, University of London
- Representative of the Centre for Information and Privacy Leadership
- TBC

### CLOSING REMARKS: [Polish Presidency of the EU Council](#)

16:45-17:00, De Gasperi Room - 2 floor

### FAREWELL RECEPTION: [Get together to chat and network on Data Protection Day](#)

17:00-18:30, Reception Area - 2 floor

### SPECIAL EVENT: [Data Protection Day Celebration](#)

18:00-22:00 at the Polish Permanent Representation to the EU, Rue Stevin 139 1000 Brussels

*Back to old traditions! The Council of Europe (CoE), CPDP and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) invite you to register for the Data Protection Day Celebration organised by the Permanent*





# DATA PROTECTION DAY 28-01-2025

## A NEW MANDATE FOR DATA PROTECTION



**Charlemagne Building**  
Rue de la Loi 170, 1040, Brussels, Belgium  
and online

*Representation of Poland and the Polish Ministry of Digital Affairs on 28th January 2025 (18:00–22:00) at the Permanent Representation of Poland to the EU (Rue Stevin 139 1000 Brussels).*

*A dedicated registration is mandatory to participate in this event. More information and registration link will be disseminated in the following weeks. Stay Tuned!*

