

The Digital Clearinghouse met for the second time today.

It was attended by 20 authorities responsible for enforcement of competition, data protection and consumer law.

Discussions focused on the problems for individuals arising from insecure connected devices, mergers in the digital space, 'fake news' and micro targeting and use of personal data for marketing. Areas for collaboration to be further considered were:

1. Best practice for data protection and consumer authorities to support competition authorities in the case of digital sector mergers.
2. Cases of connected things which fail to meet basic standards for privacy by design and product safety, and regulatory approaches to them.
3. Follow-up on the issues around "fake news" and data-driven political campaigning, in light of the ongoing work of the European Commission, EDPS, and national regulatory authorities, including in media and electoral law enforcement.
4. Specific examples of tackling data collection and analysis for marketing purposes with the focus on potentially manipulative profiling and targeting practices.
5. Exploring institutionalized cooperation mechanisms and information sharing protocols between regulatory authorities, and existing networks of regulatory authorities.

It was intended to pursue discussions on other pressing issues at the intersection of data protection, consumer, and competition law, such as liabilities of intermediaries and unfair price discrimination.

The next meeting of the Digital Clearinghouse will be organised for late Spring or early Summer 2018.

Brussels, 27 November 2017