

Advancing Global Privacy in the Digital Age



The **European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)** is an active member of the **Global Privacy Assembly (GPA)**, which is formerly known as the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners (ICDPPC). The EDPS hosted the 2018 ICDPPC that gathered more than 1000 delegates discussing **Digital Ethics** and the challenges of a **Data Driven Society**.

For more than four decades, the Assembly has been the **premier global forum for data protection and privacy authorities**, providing leadership at international level and connecting the efforts of more than 130 supervisory authorities from across the globe. The Assembly supports Working Groups in the fields of international enforcement and cooperation, policy standards, consumer protection, digital economy and ethics, among others.

The Covid-19 pandemic worldwide means the annual conference in Mexico City is postponed until 2021. This year, instead, supervisory authorities will meet together online between 12-15 October to discuss key elements of their international cooperation. The EDPS promotes a fair and sustainable digital economy and a common vision on digitisation and technology. Our goal is to **shape a safer digital future** for all, as a building block of effective **international cooperation**.



A vibrant digital economy needs products and services that **respect the fundamental rights of individuals**. However, technological developments in the fields of Artificial Intelligence, machine learning and facial recognition puts the fundamental rights of the digital society at stake. Data can play a key role in health and well-being, the environment, transparent governance and other public services.

Data protection laws and regulations are necessary to ensure that data-driven business models benefit society as a whole and are sustainable in the long run. Policymakers and businesses who think long-term will realise that data protection and privacy regulations are indispensable for a digital society to be grounded in a trustworthy digital economy.

Data protection and privacy are the foundations for **democracy** in a time of digitisation. Technology should serve humankind and be re-engineered along the lines of **fundamental rights and values**, alongside **strict liability rules**.

www.globalprivacyassembly.org/gpa2020/

