



13 March 2017

Press Statement

2018 International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners to be hosted in Brussels

The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS), Giovanni Buttarelli and the Chairman of the Commission for Personal Data Protection of the Republic of Bulgaria, Ventsislav Karadjov thank the Members, the Chair and the Executive Committee of the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners ([ICDPPC](#)) for their confidence in them to jointly host the prestigious 40th annual conference in October 2018.

The conference will be an important step in the recently launched international debate on the ethical dimension of data protection in the digital era.

Up to one thousand national regulators, government representatives, NGOs and experts will come to Brussels to attend the conference in a year when the EU General Data Protection Regulation comes into force. Accompanying conference events will also take place in Bulgaria.

It is the first time that the conference will be organised by an EU institution together with a national supervisory authority. The 2018 conference is a unique opportunity for the EDPS, as the independent supervisory authority for the [EU institutions](#), to highlight the leading role that the European Union has played over the years in data protection, privacy and freedom of information throughout the world.

The Commission for Personal Data Protection of the Republic of Bulgaria is currently vice-chair of the [Article 29 Working Party](#), the EU Advisory Body on Data Protection and Privacy. The 2018 international conference will be a timely follow-up to the Bulgarian Presidency of the EU which also takes place in 2018.

Preparations for the 2018 conference will now begin. More details on this and the activities of the [Ethics Advisory Group](#) will follow in due course.

The International Conference is a worldwide annual forum at which independent regulators on privacy, data protection and freedom of information adopt high level resolutions and recommendations addressed to governments and international organisations. The Conference first met in 1979 and for almost four decades now, it has provided international leadership to data protection, privacy and freedom of information. It does so by connecting the efforts of 115 privacy and data protection authorities from across the globe.

Questions can be directed to: press@edps.europa.eu

EDPS - The European guardian of data protection
www.edps.europa.eu



Follow us on Twitter: [@EU_EDPS](https://twitter.com/EU_EDPS)