



## Digital Clearinghouse

The Digital Clearinghouse met for the sixth time today.

The roundtable was attended by authorities responsible for enforcement of competition, data protection, consumer law from the EU and across the globe.

The roundtable started with presentations by Babak Jahromi, IT Standards Architect at Microsoft, and Paul-Olivier Dehaye, founder of PersonalData.IO, discussing the [Data Transfer project](#) as well as alternative models of data sharing and citizen-consumer empowerment.

On the basis of an academic background note prepared by the Universities of Namur and Tilburg on the regulation of data sharing in the EU, participants then discussed how the regimes of competition, data protection and consumer law position themselves towards data sharing. The background note points at tensions within and between the three regimes as well as at complementarities between the regimes regarding limits and enablers of data sharing. In particular, the background note illustrates that an optimal regulatory framework needs to maximise the benefits of data sharing while minimising risks relating to privacy, autonomy and collusion. Stronger collaboration between the relevant regulatory authorities will better ensure consistent interpretation of the existing instruments that, if implemented effectively, already facilitate or even impose sharing of data in many circumstances.

In the afternoon, Michael Maguire, Director Private Sector Compliance at the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, provided participants with an update on the plans of the Digital Citizens and Consumer Working Group to explore overlaps between data protection, competition and consumer law.

Afterwards, two case studies of data sharing were discussed, namely access to car data based on a presentation by Bertin Martens, senior economist at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, and access to financial data within the UK Open Banking initiative based on a contribution from Helene Oger-Zaher, Technical Specialist at the UK Financial Conduct Authority.

During the roundtable, tribute was paid to Giovanni Buttarelli who passed away in August 2019 and who was the key initiator of the Digital Clearinghouse in 2016. Christian D'Cunha, Head of the Private Office of the European Data Protection Supervisor, explained the intentions and ambitions of Giovanni Buttarelli to stimulate collaboration between data protection, competition and consumer authorities. We will continue the Digital Clearinghouse in his spirit.

The next meeting of the Digital Clearinghouse will be organised for spring 2020.

Brussels, 19 November 2019