

MISSION REPORT: Workshop: Data Protection Within International Organisations

EDPS Participant(s)	<p>Organisers: [REDACTED] (also moderator and joint master of ceremonies with WFP), [REDACTED] (also speaker), [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (also moderator) and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p> <p>Speakers: Wojciech WIEWIÓROWSKI and [REDACTED] (remote intervention)</p>
Type of activity	Workshop
Organisers	EDPS and WFP
Where/When	Hybrid - Rome (WFP headquarters), 12-13 May 2022
Subject(s) covered	Data protection within international organisations
Objective(s) of the mission + assessment	<p>The goal of this series of workshops is to support international organisations in their commitment to develop robust data protection safeguards and to share best practices and challenges with one another.</p> <p>The EDPS co-organised the 10th edition together with the WFP that also hosted the event at their headquarters in Rome. Wojciech Wiewiórowski gave a keynote opening speech. In addition to the Supervisor' s intervention, the EDPS was very active in the discussions, with [REDACTED] moderating a fire starter panel on trends in international organisations; [REDACTED] moderating a constructive and overall rather positive panel on international transfers to international organisations; [REDACTED] intervening remotely on the challenges posed by cloud service providers; and [REDACTED] delivering the concluding remarks.</p> <p>With over 100 participants representing more than 50 organisations from across the world, the event offered us the chance to find out more about the challenges faced by IOs as well as be reassured as to their commitment to design data protection frameworks. The feedback received on this edition of the workshop was excellent.</p> <p>The discussions have shown that IOs are devoting more and more attention and resources to data protection and are eager to face the most complex challenges in the field, while bearing mind the specificities of the legal status of IOs and of their mission.</p>
Case file number	2021-0719

MAIN ISSUES DISCUSSED

A pertinent keynote speech on the current ethical dilemmas arising from the use of technology, delivered by a private sector consultancy, kicked off the agenda. The first panel session of the workshop was an opportunity to hear from various stakeholders and from international organisations about significant legal, policy or technological updates related to privacy & data protection from the perspective of their work.

The Supervisor had the opportunity to deliver a keynote to recall the objectives of this workshop; that this meeting is an occasion to recognise the place in time and history that we are at today, why it matters for International Organisations and why International Organisations in themselves matter.

The second panel session considered Data Subjects' Rights, specifically the challenges and opportunities for International Organisations. The aim was to get an overview of current best practices and the challenges of enforcing data subjects' rights and discussions included governance, response time and technology used.

The participants were then invited to take part in a practical discussion about responding to a data breach. The panellists kicked off the session with an overview on how an appropriate response to a data breach should be planned and implemented. This was then followed by an engaging case study and the sharing of experiences and best practice by participants.

The first session on the second day focused on transfers of personal data to International Organisations, and was followed by a lively Q&A. The main objective of the following session, on privacy risk management, was to share views on how privacy and data protection risks are being managed by International Organisations, from governance, technical and resource management perspectives.

The final session of the workshop "Digital Transformation and Data Protection an Oxymoron?" looked at the tension between innovation and data protection and considered the challenges including anonymisation, role determination, security, data sharing, for instance in AI, cloud computing or Blockchain.

FOLLOW UP

Conclusions/Ideas to Take Home/Further steps:

- The workshop should be organised next year, in order to keep this forum alive as a useful tool to facilitate exchange of best practices and ideas among IOs.
- Adding to the communication efforts to promote this workshop - we live tweeted during the event and this was noticed and appreciated by some participants - a blogpost by Wojciech Wiewiórowski was published on 16 May.
- An evaluation questionnaire will be send out to be taken into account in the organisation of next session.