



PRESS RELEASE

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CEDPO on the rise!

With the accession of three new member associations the **Confederation of European Data Protection Organisations (CEDPO)** confirms its position as key player in the area of data protection, bringing together organisations representing thousands of DPOs and other data protection practitioners from across the European Union.

Together with the new members, namely ADPO (*Association of Data Protection Officers*) of Ireland, ARGE DATEN of Austria and SABI (*Stowarzyszenie Administratorów Bezpieczeństwa Informacji*) of Poland, the Confederation aims to promote the role of the data protection officer (DPO) in Europe as well as balanced, practicable and effective data protection. Just like the founding members of CEDPO, each of the new member organisations provides hands-on experience in the implementation of European data protection provisions. The founding members of CEDPO from France (AFCDP), Germany (GDD), Spain (APEP) and The Netherlands (NGFG) have expressed their enthusiasm about the three new members now confirming their interest in CEDPO's initiatives.

"We take this opportunity to emphasise the positive impact of DPOs which is already proven by a study of the Dutch Ministry of Justice. We are pleased to hear that this fact is recognised at European level" Dr. Sachiko Scheuing, board member of the Dutch NGFG says. *"We have made good experiences with the DPO in Germany since 1977. DPOs help to make data protection more effective, to reduce unnecessary administrative burdens, and to create trust. The adhesion of the new members is an important step in the efforts of CEDPO to contribute to a better harmonisation of data protection practices across the EU"* Christoph Klug of the German GDD continues. *"Already in September 2013, our Austrian, Irish and Polish colleagues had fully endorsed CEDPO's declaration calling upon EU institutions to create incentives to stimulate the appointment of DPOs for a better data protection, which was released on the occasion of the 35th International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners "A Compass in a turbulent world" in Warsaw. We are therefore enthusiastic that they confirmed their interest in CEDPO's initiatives as it shows that they also see the DPO's role as a "compass" to drive the protection of personal data"* declares Pascale Gelly, Vice-President of the French AFCDP.



All three new member organisations are delighted to have joined CEDPO officially now.

"Being the leading data protection organisation in Austria, we have been training DPOs over the last two decades. We look forward to sharing our knowledge and experience in order to achieve effective data protection practices far beyond our national borders" states Hans G. Zeger, Chairman of the Austrian ARGE DATEN. The development of the European DPO profession was also a key factor for the Irish ADPO. *"We run regular workshops and conferences on current 'hot' topics such as BYOD and cookies and we look forward to opportunities to share DPOs' best practices and ideas for a harmonisation of regulation and practices"* declares Fintan Swanton, Chairman of the Irish ADPO.

Polish SABI's Chairman of the Board, Maciej Byczkowski declares that at his organisation *"We believe that it is essential to enhance the position of the DPO. We are very active at national level with our data protection authority, GIODO, our government and our Parliament to make things progress in this respect. We are actually at the origin of a bill pending before the Parliament. We therefore are eager to join forces with our European colleagues to make things progress at a wider scale"*.

"At CEDPO we are very positive for the future. EU-wide, more and more companies and bodies are realising the competitive advantages of having their own privacy culture and professionals who know how to drive the change to a digital economy which needs privacy for its development", says Cecilia Alvarez, Vice-President of the Spanish APEP. CEDPO already shared its pan-European experiences on various topics of the data protection reform, including a comparative study on the function of the DPO in 12 EU Member States. Now being supported by additional associations, CEDPO will continue to provide practical input to the EU institutions in the context of the development of a new legislative framework for the protection of personal data. A strong focus of the confederation's activities will be on the future role of the DPO.

About CEDPO:

CEDPO was founded in September 2011 by European Data Protection Organisations, namely, AFCDP (*Association Française des Correspondants à la Protection des Données à Caractère Personnel*) of France, APEP (*Asociación Profesional Española de Privacidad*) of Spain, GDD (*Gesellschaft für Datenschutz und Datensicherheit*) of Germany, and NGFG (*Nederlands Genootschap van Functionarissen voor de Gegevensbescherming*) of The Netherlands. The Confederation was soon joined by ADPO (*Association of Data Protection-Officers*) of Ireland, ARGE DATEN of Austria and SABI (*Stowarzyszenie Administratorów Bezpieczeństwa Informacji*) of Poland.



CEDPO aims to promote the role of the Data Protection Officer, to provide advice on balanced, practicable, and effective data protection and to contribute to a better harmonisation of data protection law and practices in the EU/EEA.

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France: AFCDP, *Association Française des Correspondants à la Protection des Données*, was created in 2004, following the modification of the Data Protection Act, which created the function of DPO ("Correspondant à la protection des données à caractère personnel" also called CIL, "Correspondant Informatique & Libertés"). AFCDP is a wide forum which welcomes any person interested in the protection of personal data: CIL, data protection managers, lawyers, HR specialists, IT and IS experts, quality and compliance managers, professionals of the e-commerce and marketing sectors ... Over 1400 individuals have joined so far this non-profit association. AFCDP promotes discussion and information sharing on the protection of personal data in order to facilitate exchange among its members and to promote best practices. AFCDP maintains relationship with the French National Data Protection Commission (CNIL) and other authorities at French and European level involved in the protection of personal data.

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Spain: The Spanish Association of Privacy Professionals (*Asociación Profesional Española de la Privacidad*) was created in 2009 by and for different profiles related to data protection and privacy professional interests, of both the private and the public sectors: in-house lawyers and external legal counsels, IT, IS and CTI experts as well as academics. In 2010, it launches the APEP certification for accountable professionals in order to put in value the DP professional roles and thus to contribute creating trust in the dynamic and emerging privacy market. The APEP has established stable links with several DPAs as well as with privacy-related associations and institutions at the domestic, EU and international levels.

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Austria: ARGE DATEN is Austria's leading privacy organisation. The society is committed to the protection of personal data and privacy in the age of global communication. Areas of focus are member support, public relations, information service, comments on draft laws/regulations and training. ARGE DATEN works in close cooperation with research institutions, universities, the industry and related authorities to achieve these aims. ARGE DATEN Privacy Austria was founded in 1983 as a working group and was registered as association under Austrian law in 1991. It is a non profit making and non governmental politically independent membership corporation. ARGE DATEN has about 700 members mostly companies and other organisations (public authorities, universities, NGOs).

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dpo.ie the association of data protection officers

Ireland: The Association of Data Protection Officers (ADPO) is a membership organisation for those who are actively working as Data Protection Officers in their organisations. ADPO offers data protection officers the opportunity to share ideas, voice concerns, seek clarity on new legislation, and offer their own insights on the demands and challenges of the job. Membership is open to anyone with a data management role within their organisation, whether formally or informally. ADPO's objective is to provide clarity on issues, raise awareness of data protection legislation and to offer its members a forum where these topics can be discussed.

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Germany: The German Association for Data Protection and Data Security (*Gesellschaft für Datenschutz und Datensicherheit – GDD*) was founded in 1977 and stands as a non-profit organisation for practicable and effective data protection. With more than 2400 – mostly company – members the GDD is Germany's leading privacy association. Besides offering various member services such as education, training and certification of Data Protection Officers, guides for practitioners and networking opportunities for data protection professionals all across Germany, the GDD also represents member positions at national and European level.

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The Netherlands: *Het Nederlands Genootschap van Functionarissen voor de gegevensbescherming* (NGFG) is the Dutch association of Data Protection Officers, a position specified in article 62 of the Dutch Personal Data Protection Act, the *Wet beschermingpersoonsgegevens* (WBP). WBP has a provision where businesses, branch organisations, governments and institutions are allowed to appoint an internal supervisor for protecting the rights of data subjects, i.e. Data Protection Officers. These individuals supervise the proper implementation, as well as ensuring compliance to applicable laws, regulations and professional codes of conducts, in the field of data protection within their organization. Thanks to the statutory tasks, responsibilities and authorities, Data Protection Officers have the ability to act independently within their organizations. The appointment of Data Protection Officers is how WBP implemented the 'Data Protection Officials' as referred to in article 18, second paragraph of the Directive 95/46/EC.

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Poland: The Association of Information Security Administrators (Stowarzyszenie Administratorów Bezpieczeństwa Informacji) is a non-profit volunteer organization, which aims to strengthen the privacy professionals community. It was created in 2007 and it counts about hundred members. The activities of SABIA focus mainly on integration and development of privacy professionals, who can share their experience and by building best practices. SABIA strives to spread knowledge about privacy and ethical standards of privacy officers, thus it has implemented DPOs' Code of Professional Ethics.

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