

# ICDPPC Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards

2018

## Entry Form

**Deadline 29 June 2018**

To submit an entry to the ICDPPC Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards please complete and email this form to [ExCoSecretariat@icdppc.org](mailto:ExCoSecretariat@icdppc.org) no later than 29 June 2018.

Note: ICDPPC member authorities can submit as many entries as they wish but a separate form should be used for each different entry. Please complete the entry in English.

**1. Contact details for this entry:**

- a. Name and email address of person completing this form:
- b. Name of Data Protection or Privacy Authority: **European Data Protection Supervisor**

**2. Eligibility:** By submitting this entry I confirm that:

- a. The Authority is a member of the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners.
- b. The initiative described in this entry was undertaken since the last edition.
- c. I am aware that the information in the entry (other than the contact details in 1(a) above) will be publicised by the ICDPPC Secretariat.

**3. Please indicate which category or categories you wish to enter (delete those that do not apply; you can enter multiple categories):**

- a. Innovation
- b. People's Choice

**4. Description of the initiative**

- a. Please provide a brief summary of the initiative (no more than 75 words):

**The EDPS Ethics Initiative**

The EDPS Ethics Initiative is a currently running, multifaceted four-year programme, consisting of a series of projects which all aim at exploring the consequences of current and emerging digital technologies on society. The initiative is devised as a continuous call upon the European and global community to reflect on rights and values in data-driven live from an ethics and forward-looking viewpoint. This also includes, very centrally, to stimulate a public debate on how digital ethics can serve to strengthen core data protection principles and legal compliance.

- b. Please provide a full description of the initiative (no more than 350 words):

In 2015, the EDPS launched the Ethics Initiative, a multifaceted programme that explores the consequences of big data and the internet of things on digital rights today and in the future. It was devised against the background of trends that reduce individuals to mere data subjects and of increasing threats to human dignity and autonomy. The Ethics Initiative has thus far included the following elements:

- In September 2015, the EDPS published its **Opinion Towards a New Digital Ethics: Data, Dignity and Technology**, urging the EU and other international players to promote an ethical approach to the development and employment of new technologies.
- From February 2016 to January 2018, the **EDPS Ethics Advisory Group (EAG)**, consisting of six independent experts, analysed the relationships between human rights, technology and markets, mapping threats to the right to privacy and data protection in the digital environment.
- The results of the EAG's work were summarised in a final report published in January 2018 and entitled **Towards a Digital Ethics, EAG Report 2018**. It refreshes the common understanding of fundamental values and rights essential to maintaining the well-being of society as a whole and of individuals in the digital age.
- The EAG Secretariat, provided by the EDPS, organised **two workshops** on digital ethics.
- Through **horizontal mainstreaming of ethics**, the EDPS integrated ethical insights into its day-to-day work as an independent regulator and policy advisor.

The Ethics Initiative continues running, with two further elements currently in preparation:

- The **EDPS Public Consultation on Digital Ethics**, currently open for submissions, enables the large public to contribute to the discussion on digital ethics.
- The **40th International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners**, co-hosted by the EDPS in October 2018 will be dedicated to *Debating Ethics: Dignity and Respect in Data Driven Life*.

Recognising that data protection and digital ethics are concerns of global and cross-sectorial scope, throughout all listed activities, the EDPS reached out beyond the community of EU officials, lawyers and IT specialists, towards other international players and towards thinkers of all fields who are equipped to judge the medium to long-term implications of technological change and regulatory responses.

- c. Please explain why you think the initiative deserves to be recognised by an award (no more than 200 words)

Technological advancement, most centrally the interconnectedness of digital devices and big data processing, allow for the collection and usage of personal data in increasingly complex and opaque ways, thus posing significant threats to privacy and data protection.

Against this background, the EDPS has been calling for a broad understanding of data protection and privacy as core values central to protecting human dignity, autonomy and the democratic functioning of our societies. Data has now become the basis of powerful scoring and rating systems, of political profiling and nudging, of tracking and surveillance, and in all these applications an inexhaustible source of profit. It is crucial that all data protection efforts take place in full conscience of this background.

In this, the EDPS Ethics Initiative has served as a wake-up call for the data protection community. Unconventional and daring in its thinking, the EDPS has contributed to launching a much-needed debate on digital ethics. Awarding its call for embracing new technologies only when they are of true benefit for society, and for refreshing our understanding and appreciation of our longstanding European human rights culture, would multiply its impact and further stimulate the debate on digital ethics.

- d. Include a photograph or image if you wish (note this will help illustrate the description of the entry on the ICDPPC website; the image can be pasted into the entry or sent as an attachment or a link may be provided):



*Giovanni Buttarelli, European Data Protection Supervisor, with members of the EDPS Ethics Advisory Group at the CPDP 2017.*

- e. Please provide the most relevant link on the authority's website to the initiative (if applicable) (The website content does not need to be in English):
- [https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/our-work/ethics\\_en](https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/our-work/ethics_en)
- f. Please provide any other relevant links that you wish that help explain the initiative or its impact or success (e.g. links to news reports or articles):
- [https://edps.europa.eu/sites/edp/files/publication/15-09-11\\_data\\_ethics\\_en.pdf](https://edps.europa.eu/sites/edp/files/publication/15-09-11_data_ethics_en.pdf)
  - [https://edps.europa.eu/sites/edp/files/publication/15-12-03\\_termsofreference\\_ethics\\_en.pdf](https://edps.europa.eu/sites/edp/files/publication/15-12-03_termsofreference_ethics_en.pdf)
  - [https://edps.europa.eu/sites/edp/files/publication/18-01-25\\_eag\\_report\\_en.pdf](https://edps.europa.eu/sites/edp/files/publication/18-01-25_eag_report_en.pdf)
  - <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/jan/30/europe-google-facebook-technology-ethics-eu-martin-schulz>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-SOHo-oVBs>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QT1IJL0K2s>
  - <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/PublicConsultationDigitalEthics2018>
  - <https://www.privacyconference2018.org/en>