



Data Privacy

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Definition

- Who owns our personal data after it leaves us?
 - Our name, phone number, address
 - Our financial and medical data
 - Who we talk to, what we say
 - Etc. etc.
- Free information range vs. a system of information ownership?

Examples

- Can your boss read your e-mail?
- Can marketing companies legally and illegally acquire and sell sensitive information about you?
- Can citizen access records of ministerial meetings?
- Should AT&T allow National Security Agency (NSA) to wiretap and data-mine Americans' communications (Feb 06)?
- Should Google comply with a subpoena for records in conjunction with child protection law (Jan 06)?

Panel Topics

- Personal Data Protection – security guidelines (Mr. Fawaz)
- Public Data principles - Freedom of Information Acts (Mr. Meouchi)
- Legal framework for data protection (Me. Hajj Chahine)
- Data privacy issues in the context of ISPs (Mrs. Saliba)

Recommendations: Law for Public Data

- Rights of the Citizen to Access Public Information
 - Transparency & Openness: Access to how the decisions are made and the decisions
 - Any and all documents produced by government institutions
- Exceptions
 - National security, intl relations
 - The privacy of individuals

Recommendations:

Private Sector Self Regulation

- Every business should have a sound data privacy policy and a data security policy (see ISO 27001) which should be made publicly disclosed
 - Company should disclose security breaches optionally
- Every business should follow ICC guidelines for data privacy and protection
 - Lawful and fair collection
 - Data quality
 - Purpose specification
 - Use limitation
 - Security
 - Openness
 - Right of access
 - Accountability

Recommendations:

Legal Framework for Data Privacy & Protection

- Define General principles for the privacy of personal data
 - Everyone has the right to respect for his or her private and family life, home and communications
 - Personal data must be processed fairly on the basis of the consent of the person concerned
 - Everyone has the right of access to data which has been collected concerning him or her, and the right to have it rectified
- Companies shall be bound by commitments made to individuals at the time of the collection of data

Recommendations:

Legal Framework for Service Providers

- Service providers using the Internet as a medium are particularly vulnerable to data protection issues (how much data to retain, how long to retain, to whom to disclose, under which standards to disclose, etc.)
 - They need some kind of protection in order to remain neutral in liability suits
 - On the other hand they have to apply reasonable data protection standards
- Note: Citizens and businesses should be aware that the level of protection of data on the Internet is only as good as the lowest level of protection of the information chain