

Data Protection Ireland

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Headlines

- Yahoo's Dublin move prompted by UK spying?, p.17
- Government establishes inquiry after allegations of widespread phone tapping, p.19
- NSA may start transparency reports, p.20

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EU DPAs and APEC team up to produce checklist on data transfers

The EU Data Protection Authorities and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation ('APEC') economies have issued a checklist on the requirements that organisations need to consider when applying for authorisation of Binding corporate Rules ('BCRs') and/or certification of APEC's Cross-border Privacy Rules ('CBPRs').

The Article 29 Working Party and APEC members, which comprise 21 countries including Australia, China, Japan, Singapore and the US, announced last year that they were seeking

to develop new 'tools' to make it easier for businesses to transfer personal data overseas.

According to the CNIL, the French privacy regulator, the new guidance does just that, representing a 'practical tool for multinational organisations'.

The document, which has 'informal' status, is not aimed at having organisations achieve mutual recognition of both systems. However, it could serve as a basis for 'double certification'.

Data protection policies of applicant international companies operating both in the EU and the APEC areas have to be approved respectively by the relevant bodies in the EU Member States and in the APEC economies, in accordance with the applicable approval procedures.

The document was endorsed by APEC Senior Officials at their meeting of 27th and 28th February 2014, and the EU Data Protection Working Party adopted an opinion/working

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Reding says reform is 'irreversible' as Parliament rubber stamps proposals

The European Parliament has voted in plenary on the draft Regulation, approving its content by 621 votes to 32.

"The message the European Parliament is sending is unequivocal: This reform is a necessity, and now it is irreversible," EU Justice Commissioner, Viviane Reding, Commented.

The vote means the position of the Parliament will not change even if the

composition of the Parliament changes following the European elections in May. To become law, the proposed Regulation has to be adopted by the Council of Ministers. The European Parliament stands ready to negotiate with the Council of the EU as soon as the Council defines its position.

Meanwhile, the Justice and Home Affairs Council has continued its legislative deliberations

on the EU Data Protection Regulation, with a meeting on 3rd March, and an orientation debate on 4th March.

The debate focussed on international data transfers, territorial scope, pseudonymisation, data portability, the role of controllers and processors, and profiling.

At the meeting, the Ministers agreed that

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