News Release



Bussum, August 4, 2020



EAB publishes its "Misunderstandings in Misunderstanding on Biometrics" response to the EU-Spanish EDPS-AEPD Data Protection Authorities

The EAB has put together an itemized response at:

https://eab.org/files/documents/2020-08-01_EAB-EDPS_aepd-response.pdf

to the joint EU-Spanish EDPS-AEPD Data Protection Authorities paper entitled: "14 Misunderstandings with regard to identification and authentication" which was made public on June 24, 2020 at:

https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/our-work/publications/papers/14-misunderstandings-regard-biometric-identification_en

In its response paper, entitled "Misunderstandings in Misunderstandings on Biometrics", EAB felt there was a need to bring to the attention of both Data Protection Agencies its proposal for a more complete and exacting analysis of the respective strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for Biometrics to successfully drive the assessment of digital ID's authenticity.

The way forward proposed in EAB's article, above and beyond the initial EU DPAs' report, is to promote further recommendations jointly with them, to keep strengthening the positive impact of sound practices and operations in the use of Biometrics by all European citizens.

A quote from the paper's own abstract:

"The intention of this paper is to provide input and to comment on the joint EDPS-aepd publication "14 Misunderstandings with regard to Biometric Identification and Authentication" that was published in June 2020. It indicates what the members of the European Association for Biometrics (EAB) identified as missing information in the aforementioned publication. Our suggestion is to revise and augment the EDPS-aepd-publication, such that it includes a full picture of the current state of the art in biometrics and the availability of standards and privacy enhancing techniques..."

From the paper's own conclusion:

"... The European Commission is invited to support research and development, industrial follow ups as the adoption and deployment of ISO/IEC standards [ISO19794-1], [ISO39794-1] as well as the interaction with the European Association for Biometrics.

In view of the importance of the current topics and challenges covered, the EAB invites EDPS and aepd to contact EAB, to create a joint position paper together with the European Association for Biometrics."

About EAB

The European Association for Biometrics (EAB) is the leading voice for digital ID & biometrics in Europe. We are a non-profit, nonpartisan association.

EAB's mission is to tackle the complex challenges facing ID in Europe, ranging from migration to privacy rights. Our role is to promote the responsible use and adoption of modern digital identity systems that enhance people's lives and drive economic growth.

Through a series of EAB initiatives we support all sections of the ID community across Europe, including governments, NGO's, industry, associations and special interest groups and academia. Our initiatives are designed to foster networking and debate, whether at an EAB hosted event across Europe, or in providing impartial advice & support to individual members.

We ultimately serve the citizens of Europe in the advancement of modern digital identity systems that are fair, accessible, secure & private.

More info: www.eab.org