News Release





the Netherlands, 2018-10-15

FIRST CONFERENCE ON BIOMETRICS AND PRIVACY

Stakeholders talk about the challenges of biometric data use within the legal framework of Europe's GDPR.

The European Association for Biometrics (EAB), KU Leuven and the University of Kent join forces and host the first conference on biometric data and the GDPR. On **9 November 2018**, major stakeholders will meet at the KU Leuven to discuss the impact of GDPR's legal framework on the processing of biometric data.

Legal and technical academics from the biometrics community, policymakers, governments, businesses and legal professionals will talk about challenges and share best practices and opportunities. The conference marks a first step towards identifying both obstacles and opportunities that define the way Europe can protect its citizens from threats to privacy and how technology can be used both as a means and an end to accomplish this.

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In the 21st century, the protection of privacy is more important than ever: social media companies mishandling user data, surveillance models of authoritarian regimes to exert control over their citizens, ... These are two well-known examples of what happens when privacy is threatened or when data is breached. Probably most privacy or data security breaches will remain undetected and therefore unknown. It is therefore critical to protect one's individual identity to preserve privacy and freedom. Privacy is about personal self-determination and the right of every individual to personally control their own data and

the freedom of choice to use, share and delete that data.

Identity protection is specifically important when biometric identity recognition is used as an automated identifier. Europe's General Data Protection Regulation specifies rules and regulations on data protection and privacy for all individuals within the EU, but more is needed. Innovation, privacy preserving techniques and affordability are equally import to further privacy by design: the privacy-enhancing approach to data protection by incorporating its objectives into the design of products and services.

Facts about the conference

Date 2018-11-09

Location KU Leuven, Faculty of Law

Tiensestraat 41, 3000 Leuven

Belgium

aula number DV1 01.54

Programme <u>www.eab.org/events/program/166</u>

Conference fee normal: 150,00 €

EAB members: $75,00 \in$ Students $0,00 \in$ Speakers: $0,00 \in$

Chair Dr. Els Kindt

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About EAB

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

The 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 biometric identity systems that are fair, accessible, secure, while respecting privacy.