

# Foreword

On 23 January 2012, the European Commission presented its proposal for a new “Data protection package”. With the new package, the Commission seeks to strengthen data protection for the European citizens and set a standard for the rest of the world. The proposal has indicated clear directions for the future of data protection on the agenda. These include a ‘right to be forgotten’, stricter rules regarding online profiling, and stronger sanctions for non compliance. Although the proposal clearly follows the avenue already taken with Directive 95/46/EC, it also introduces controversial new elements as well as uncertainty. And thus, as expected, the new and re-considered, directions put forward by the Commission have spurred and extensive highly challenging process of discussion, negotiation and lobbying in 2012 and 2013. At the time of writing this foreword (June 2013), the European Parliament is discussing the almost 4,000 amendments that were tabled as a result of these discussions and everyone in the field is eagerly awaiting the outcome of the parliamentary decision making.

The sixth annual CPDP conference, held in Brussels on 23–25 January 2013, was sharply influenced by the fresh release of the European Commission’s new plans and proposals, and quite some attention was given to the new or reformulated concepts of the package. This “reloading” of data protection, or even its “rebooting”, has given a boost to reflection and research on the subject. This book volume bears witness to this reloading of data protection.

The present book is one of the products of the sixth edition of the annual Brussels based international International Conference on Computers, Privacy and Data Protection. CPDP 2013, was held under the same title: *Reloading data protection*. The conference welcomed 750 participants at ‘our’ venue—the magnificent *Les Halles*, while another 1,200 people were reached through free public events organized in the evenings, also in Brussels. The 3 day conference offered participants 45 panels and several workshops and special sessions, with 199 speakers from academia, the public and private sectors, and civil society.

This volume brings together 16 chapters offering conceptual analyses, highlighting issues, proposing solutions, and discussing practices regarding privacy and data protection. The first section of the book, provides an overview of developments in data protection in different parts of the world. The second section focuses on one

of the most captivating innovations of the data protection package, namely how to forget and the right to be forgotten in a digital world. The third section proposes five chapters on a recurring, and thus, obviously still important and disputed theme of the CPDP-conferences : the surveillance, control and steering of individuals and groups of people and the still more performing tools (data mining, profiling, convergence) to realise those objectives, and this with illustrations from the domain of law enforcement and smart surveillance. The book concludes with five chapters that aim at increasing our understanding of the changing nature of privacy (concerns) and data protection.

The chapters in this volume stem from two tracks. Nine chapters (3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15) originate from responses to the conference's call for papers and have thus already been presented during the conference. The remaining chapters (1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 16) were submitted by invited speakers in the months following the conference. All the chapters of this book have been peer reviewed and commented on by at least two referees with expertise and interest in the subject matter. Since their work is crucial for maintaining the scientific quality of the book we would explicitly take the opportunity to thank them, *ad nominatim*, for their commitment and efforts: Claudia Aradau, Petra Bard, Rocco Bellanova, Laurent Beslay, Diana Alonso Blas, Caspar Bowden, Ian Brown, Lee Bygrave, Johann Ças, Helena Carrapiço, Claudia Diaz, Rodrigo Firmino, Gus Hosein, Simone Fischer-Hübner, Catherine Flick, Marieke de Goede, Gloria González Fuster, Antonella Galetta, Seda Gürses, Dara Hallinan, Marit Hansen, Hans Hedbom, Hielke Hijmans, Gerrit Hornung, Julien Jeandesboz, Christopher Kuner, Eleni Kosta, Marc Langheinrich, Daniel Le Métayer, Tobias Mahler, Gary Marx, Lucas Melgaço, Charles Raab, Joseph Savirimuthu, Dimitra Stefanatou, Anton Vedder, John Vervaele and Tal Zarsky.

May this book meet the reader's expectations and contribute to the quality of the, today particularly actual and pertinent, debate about the next steps of the becoming of privacy and data protection.

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Reloading Data Protection

Multidisciplinary Insights and Contemporary Challenges

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