

MEXICO CITY DECLARATION

33rd International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners

Whereas convening the 33rd International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners in Mexico highlights the global nature of both personal information applications and data protection;

Whereas technologies such as the internet and mobile telephony have global reach, data protection authorities must create one community to foster norms, standards and methodologies that have similar coverage despite increasingly different stakeholders and notwithstanding the diversity of cultures and local or regional approaches to data protection and privacy.

Whereas the field of data protection has grown from a handful of authorities to a global presence, having expanded most recently into Latin America, Asia and Africa and at the same time, former privacy frameworks are going through amendments like in Europe and in the United States;

Whereas data protection and privacy authorities have been charged with more effectively protecting privacy as a fundamental right in this era of rapid transformation;

Whereas taking into account the aspects described above, this conference has adopted a resolution on international coordination of privacy enforcement that builds on the basis of the London Initiative and cooperative agreements among data protection authorities in Europe; and Asia Pacific.

Whereas the sessions in this 33rd International Conference reflect the explosive growth of computers, communications media, and analytics, the rapid proliferation of personal data, and the deployment of monitoring, tracking and sensor-based technologies, often referred to as “big data”;

Whereas globalization, “big data” and innovative web services such as cloud computing present even greater challenges for the effective protection of fundamental rights;

Whereas personal information security requires mechanisms to be implemented by organizations to identify and mitigate risks suffered by individuals with a preventive approach and also when a security breach has taken place;

Whereas self-regulation schemes and privacy certification processes and the accountability principle represent additional ways in which organizations and data protection professionals can engage in an active role in data protection;

Whereas data protection professionals from agencies, companies and civil society demonstrate that they can further effective data protection when they all work together to address common issues;

Whereas stakeholders in non-governmental agencies and academia possess greater sophistication with information technology;

The Commissioners of the Federal Institute for Access to information and Data Protection of the hosting authority urge this Conference to confront the challenges of protecting individuals' privacy in a global era by working cooperatively with selected stakeholders to:

1. Engage in dialogue to:
 - a. share knowledge among themselves and with privacy validation bodies and organizations of privacy professionals;
 - b. discuss how authorities, public bodies, corporations and other organizations might set priorities about how they may best allocate available resources to reach agreed-upon common goals, and
 - c. explore how to provide more effective transparency and other mechanisms that will help individuals understand their rights and protect their own interests as they relate to personal data;
2. Encourage sharing of information with new Data Protection Authorities about how organizations use data; effective tools available to encourage excellent privacy practices; and how data protection laws could be most effectively enforced when such encouragement fails;
3. Ensure that such a dialogue does not compromise the independence or effectiveness of data protection and privacy authorities, and
4. Reconvene at the 34th International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners to discuss our progress in working together to further effective data protection in an era of globalization and big data.