

Symposium – 9 March 2016 – Frankfurt (Main), Germany

## “The Culture of Privacy and Data Protection in the EU and the U.S.”

When we speak of „data protection“, what we mainly mean is the protection of individuals’ privacy. But what does “privacy” or “the right to informational self-determination” actually stand for in various European countries and in the U.S. (where tremendous amounts of European’s personal data are stored and processed) ? Do we protect the same values and resources when we protect individual privacy ? Or are there significant differences in the cultures defining what is or ought to be “private” information ? What value is attached to the right to control one's own personal data in the individual EU member states and the U.S. ? How do we balance the individual's right to privacy with the sovereign authorities of the state?

These are questions to be discussed after the EU General Data Protection Regulation is finalised, especially as one of the regulation's objectives is the EU-wide harmonisation of data protection legislation.

Date: Wednesday, 9 March 2016 – 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Venue: **Goethe University Frankfurt**  
**Campus Westend, Casino, Renate-von-Metzler-Saal**  
Grüneburgweg 1, D-60323 Frankfurt (Main), Germany

Conference language: English

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### Schedule:

10.30 **Admission / Coffee**

11.00 **Welcome**

Prof. Dr. Dr. Matthias Lutz-Bachmann  
(Director, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities  
of Goethe University)  
Frederick Richter, LL.M.  
(Director, German Foundation for Privacy and Data Protection)

11.05 **Welcoming Speech**

**“Der Staat Hessen – Geburtsort des Datenschutzrechts”**

Dr. Wilhelm Kanther (Head of the Legal Department,  
Hessian Ministry of the Interior and Sports)

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## Session I: “International Perceptions of Data Privacy: Differences and Similarities”

### 11.15 **The German Perspective**

Prof. Dr. Michael Ronellenfitsch  
(Data Protection Officer of the State of Hesse, Wiesbaden)

### 11.30 **The French Perspective**

Prof. William Gilles, LL.D.  
(President, Institut du Monde et du Développement – IMODEV, Paris)

### 11.45 **The Estonian Perspective**

Ivar Tallo  
(Founder, e-Governance Academy Foundation, Tallinn)

### 12.15 **The American Perspective**

Prof. Marc Rotenberg,  
(President, Electronic Privacy Information Center – EPIC,  
Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC)

### 12.30 **Panel Discussion**

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13.30            *Lunch Break*

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## Session II: “Public Privacy? – Shift of Borders and the implications of digitization”

### 14.15 **Privacy as a Value for Democratic Societies**

Prof. Dr. Beate Roessler (University of Amsterdam)

### 14.45 **Posting Your Children's Pictures on Social Media - On Autonomy and Choice in a Publicly Private Realm**

Prof. Dr. Oliver Zöllner  
(Institute for Digital Ethics – IDE, Stuttgart Media University)

15.15 [individual title]  
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15.45            *Coffee Break*

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### **Session III: Perspectives on National Policies**

16.05 **German Expectations**

Prof. Dr. Niko Härting (HÄRTING Rechtsanwälte)

16.15 **European Solutions**

Dr. Alexander Dix

(European Academy for Freedom of Information and Data Protection)

16.25 **American Proposals**

Prof. Dr. Henry Farrell (George Washington University)

16.35 **Panel Discussion**

17.20 **Closing Remarks**

17.30 **Get Together**