Timed with six months left before the GDPR enters into force in May 2018, Brussels' premier annual data privacy gathering, now in its 8th year, will discuss the challenges and opportunities that have arisen during the implementation period of the regulation, as well as to explore more broadly the future of data protection and privacy in Europe post 2018, in the context of technological innovation and global political developments.

09:15 – 10:15 Keynote Session – Data Protection and Privacy: What’s next?

09:15 – 09:35 Urmas Reinsalu, Minister of Justice, Republic of Estonia (confirmed)

09:35 – 09:55 Giovanni Buttarelli, European Data Protection Supervisor, EDPS (confirmed)

09:55 – 10:00 Isabelle Falque Pierrotin, Chairwoman of CNIL, Chairwoman, Art. 29 Working Party (confirmed)

10:00 – 10:15 High-level discussion with the above speakers – Moderated by Paul Adamson, Chairman, Forum Europe (confirmed)

10:15 – 10:30 Morning Coffee Break

10:30 – 11:45 Panel 1 - Protecting Privacy: Facilitating international trade

As we live in a globally networked society, continued international cooperation is crucial to ensure that the facilitation of international trade coexists with appropriate safeguards to protect individual’s personal data. Over the past few years, more and more countries have updated or developed new legislations in the area of data protection and privacy, and therefore greater compatibility between different systems is required to boost international data flows and open up new trade channels. Following the US-EU Privacy Shield review in September and in the context of the formulation of international trade agreements with different regions, this session will explore the current state of play and the future of data protection globally.

Possible questions: How efficient have current tools and measures to ensure the protection of personal data flowing internationally proven? What more needs to be done? What is the EU doing to engage with third countries to reach adequacy decisions and promote data protection standards? How will data protection concerns keep developing in the context of international trade agreements and how can these be addressed? In order to promote continued innovation, support economic growth and social prosperity, what is being done to develop international transfer mechanisms that remain adapted to the particular needs of specific industries and business models?

Moderated by: Erika Mann, Senior European policy advisor, Covington & Burling LLP (tbc)

Speakers:
Bruno Gencarelli, Head of Unit International data flows and protection, DG Justice (confirmed)
Jason Biros, Legal Adviser, U.S. Mission to the European Union (confirmed)
Darryl Leong, Counsellor (Economics), Singapore Mission to the European Union (tbc)
R.S Sharma, Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (tbc)
Thomas Boué, Director General, Policy — EMEA, BSA | The Software Alliance (confirmed)
Ilias Chantzos, Senior Director, Government Affairs EMEA & APJ, Symantec (confirmed)

11:45 – 12:30 Thinking Point - Protecting Privacy: Facilitating law enforcement cooperation

In our connected societies, the international exchange of personal data can be of paramount importance for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of crimes. The respect of strong data protection safeguards in the context of law enforcement is however equally crucial to ensure citizens’ trust.

Session moderated by Paul De Hert, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (confirmed)

11:45 – 12:00 Opening speech by:
Caroline Goemans-Dorny, Data Protection Officer, Interpol (confirmed)

12:00 – 12:30 Remarks and discussion with:
Rita Balogh, Public Policy & Government Relations, Google (confirmed)
Joe McNamee, Executive Director, EDRi (confirmed)
Caroline Goemans-Dorny, Data Protection Officer, Interpol (confirmed)
Paul De Hert, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (confirmed)

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 13:50 Afternoon Keynote Speech

Věra Jourová, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, European Commission (confirmed)

13:50 – 15:00 Panel 2 - Implementation and compliance with the GDPR in a digitally transformed society - Beyond 2018

With 6 months to go before the GDPR applies across all of Europe, this session will address how stakeholders have been preparing for the final steps in implementing their GDPR compliance requirements, and will discuss future challenges and opportunities in the area of data protection - all in the context of the digitization of our economies.

Possible questions:
- What will the roles of Governments, National DPAs and the European Data Protection Board be going forward? How can it be ensured that the GDPR rules will be enforced in a consistent manner across European countries, taking into account the number of ‘opening clauses’ included in the GDPR?

- How successfully have, so far, public and private organisations established necessary measures in their policies to comply with the new rules and how has this impacted, if at all, on their abilities to innovate? Are both private and public bodies set to meet the deadline for implementation, and if not, what additional guidance is still missing? With organisations increasingly going through digital transformation and adopting emerging technologies such as the Internet of Things, Cloud Computing, Big Data, and Machine Learning, what tools will be available to organisations to ensure that their compliance strategies remain adequate and sustainable in the future?

- How can organisations embrace the GDPR as a driver for innovation?
*at time of conference

Moderated by: Alea Fairchild, Research Fellow, The Constantia Institute (confirmed)

Speakers:
Dr Andrea Jelinek, Director, Austrian Data Protection Authority (confirmed)
Daniele Nguyen, Group data privacy officer, Schneider Electric (confirmed)
Joan Antokol, Managing Partner, Park Legal LLC (confirmed)
Karel Ribbens, Founder at Atrix* NV (confirmed)
Ingo Dauer, Group Legal Director, L’Occitane en Provence (tbc)

15:00 – 15:15 Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:30 Panel 3 - The ePrivacy Regulation: An appropriate regulation for an innovative digital ecosystem?

Following the January 2017 release of the European Commission proposal for a new e-Privacy Regulation – which has the objective of ‘enhancing security and confidentiality of communications’ - this session will, almost a year later, discuss the state of play of this proposal, and more crucially discuss its possible impact on Europe’s digital ecosystem.

Possible questions: To what extent can the proposed ePrivacy updates concretely help deliver a future-proofed framework fit for the digital society? What will the implications of the proposal be for both users and providers of electronic communication services?

Is the interrelationship between the GDPR provisions and the ePrivacy proposed rules appropriately addressed in order to avoid unnecessary overlap and conflicts between both frameworks? Is the deadline of having the ePrivacy Regulation enter into force on the same date as the GDPR realistic and practical? What technical and financial challenges will data controllers face implementing actions to comply with this new regulation while finalizing their GDPR compliance strategy?

How have concerns with regards to the scope of the renewed ePrivacy rules been addressed?

Does the approach undertaken offer the necessary balance between privacy requirements and the support for future innovation? What possible new opportunities will this open for businesses? Are the provisions regarding location-based services and behavioural advertising that are used to improve consumers experience (including form Smartphone and IoT devices), adequate and balanced to support innovation?

With regards to end-to-end encryption, what are the different stakeholders views on the proposed ban of the implementation of so-called “backdoors”?

Moderated by: Magnus Franklin, MLex

Speakers to include
Rosa Barcelo, Deputy Head of Unit Cybersecurity and Digital Privacy, European Commission (confirmed)
Jeremy Rollison, Director, EU Government Affairs, Microsoft (confirmed)
Fanny Hidvégi, European Policy Manager, Access Now (confirmed)
Birgit Sippel, Member, European Parliament (confirmed)
Kimon Zorbas, Vice President Government Affairs and Privacy Europe, Nielsen (confirmed)
Representative, GSMA (confirmed – name of speaker tbc)
16:30 – 17:45  Data Protection and Privacy: A fundamental right for users, a myriad of opportunities for developers

In order to gain and maintain consumer trust - in line with the objectives of the overall European data protection framework and the Digital Single Market Strategy - software and hardware developers have to design privacy-friendly products, respecting principles such as privacy-by-design / privacy-by-default, while also adapting to consumers changing needs and evolving perception of what privacy is. Putting uncertainties and challenges aside, this session will look at how technology itself can be part of the solution, enabling consumers to take back control over their data and gain value from it.

Possible questions: Having to translate privacy regulations into the design, engineering and deployment of digital products and services, what will the key privacy and security opportunities for apps, software and systems developers be?

How can legitimate uses of data for new and innovative purposes be balanced with the protection of consumer privacy?

How can regulation and technology address the dynamic needs of consumers and respond to the ‘privacy paradox’ where consumers demands for data privacy is not reflected in their behaviours?

What positive impact could the blockchain have on consumers’ privacy and data security?

How can Artificial Intelligence and Big Data Analysis combine innovation with privacy compliance? To what extent will these ensure data quality? How can European companies reap the benefits of the opportunities offered by these technologies in an emerging algorithm economy?

Moderated by: Nick Wallace, Senior Policy Analyst, ITIF’s Center for Data Innovation (confirmed)

Speakers:
Eva Kaili, Member, European Parliament (confirmed)
Ursula Pachl, Deputy Director General, BEUC (confirmed)
Marc Joye, Fellow & Security Technologist, NXP Semi-Conductor (confirmed)
Alastair Johnson, CEO and Founder of Nuggets (confirmed)
Rand Hindi, Founder & CEO, Snips.ai (confirmed)

17:45 – Conference Close and Cocktail Reception