

38th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
DATA PROTECTION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONERS

Marrakesh, 18 October 2016

Resolution for the Adoption of an International Competency Framework on Privacy Education

The 38th International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners:

Recalling the international agreements specifically referring to children's rights:

- The Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child, September 26, 1924;
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, November 20, 1989;

Having regard to the international recommendations pertaining to the education of children and adolescents, namely:

- The Recommendation Rec(2006)12 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to member states on empowering children in the new information and communications environment, 27 September 2016;
- The Declaration of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on protecting the dignity, security and privacy of children on the Internet, 20 February 2008;
- The OECD's Recommendation of the Council on the Protection of Children Online, 16 February, 2012;
- UNESCO's Resolution on Internet-related issues, including access to information and knowledge, freedom of expression, privacy and ethical dimensions of the information society, adopted in November 2013 at the 37th session;

Referring to International Declarations, designed to encourage States, in their mid- and long-term efforts to foster quality education and to make education for all a priority, including digital education:

- UNESCO's 2015 Incheon Declaration, which defines the *Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all* Framework for Action, to promote in particular, global citizenship education by drawing on Information and Communication Technology (ICT);

Recalling the two Resolutions of the 30th International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners in 2008:

- The Resolution on Privacy Protection in Social Network Services;

- The Resolution on Children’s Online Privacy, which encouraged Commissioners to develop digital education programs in particular for young people;

Recalling the Resolution of the 35th International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners in 2013, on Digital Education for All, which recommended that Commissioners:

- Promote data protection and privacy education in digital literacy programs;
- Participate in the training of relay persons, by organizing or collaborating on the “training of trainers” on data protection and privacy;

Realising that, for many States, digital education for school-aged children is today, at a national or sub-national level of governance, a priority for action;

Recognising that according to member jurisdictions, education policy aimed at schools rests with different levels of government and that privacy laws vary from country to country, and that this resolution can still be meaningful under these circumstances;

Considering that in order to effectively equip individuals to be active in today’s digital society and digital economy, it is now important to raise children’s awareness, as soon as they start school, of the implications of using and sharing data as well as on a common base of concrete and operational competences with regards to data protection and privacy; and that, in this regard, highlighting data protection issues as part of digital literacy education, tailored to domestic conditions, is an essential element of teaching citizenship and respect for human rights;

Recognising that, in spite of the quality of pedagogical resources produced with regard to data protection, there is a lack of training for educators regarding data protection and privacy, except in a few countries;

Recalling that the training of educators has an impact on the teaching of students and that schools must have the means to educate citizens on how to use new technologies responsibly and ethically;

Considering that, in collaboration with education professionals, government representatives, and other concerned stakeholders, data protection authorities, owing to their expertise, can make a useful contribution to this training;

Determining, in this regard, that it is necessary to propose a common base of concrete and operational competencies within an international Competency Framework for teaching school students on data protection and privacy, for educators

The Authorities present at the 38th International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners consider it an important priority to recommend the following actions:

- Include data protection and privacy education in study programs and curricula ;
- Train educators on data protection and privacy by providing them both essential knowledge as well as practical expertise in this sphere, enabling them this way to help young people develop their critical thinking on how personal information is used;

- With this in mind, initiate training activities that are focused both on the benefits and risks involved in using new technologies and the practices that enable us to live in a digital environment with confidence, clarity and respect of individual rights.

Consequently, the present authorities:

1. Adopt the international Competency Framework for school students on data protection and privacy attached in annex and draw the attention of governments and, in particular, responsible authorities for education as well as other stakeholders working in the education field, to the importance of:
 - Promoting in cooperation with data protection authorities the use and the practical development of the Competency Framework, as part of study programs or curricula and training of educators, regardless of the discipline taught;
 - Encouraging research in pedagogy and didactics related to data protection and privacy, so that the development of activities and resources in this field is based on scientific studies and professional experience.
2. Mandate the International Working Group on Digital Education to:
 - Ensure that data protection authorities can propose or contribute to, in co-operation with their domestic government authorities and relevant stakeholders, the production of pedagogical resources tailored to the specific framework competence addressed and the age group concerned;
 - Ensure follow-up of progress made in the development of data protection and privacy competencies regarding digital education in educational programs.

The U.S. Federal Trade Commission abstains because the resolution adopts a single international framework without recognizing that other approaches reflecting the diversity of privacy laws and cultural values that exist around the world could also achieve the common aim of promoting digital education.