

File identification

Resolution of the rights protection procedure no. PT 81/2022, urged by Mr. (...) against the General Directorate of Police of the Department of the Interior of the Generalitat of Catalonia.

Background

1.- On 30/08/2022 the Catalan Data Protection Authority received a letter from Mr. (...) (hereinafter, the person making the claim), for which he made a claim for the alleged neglect of the right to delete personal data that he had previously exercised before the General Directorate of Police (hereinafter, DGP).

The claimant certified that, on 28/02/2022, he submitted to the DGP a request to exercise the right to delete his personal data that appeared in the files in the area of the information systems of the Police of the Generalitat (SIP PF) relating to police proceedings no. (...) (for an alleged crime of usurpation of real estate).

He also provided a copy of the certificate dated 02/21/2022, issued by the Court of Inquiry (...) of Cerdanyola del Vallès, relating to the previous proceedings (...) which led to the police proceedings (...), indicating that in said procedure an interlocutory order of dismissal was issued on 10/31/2019, which became final.

2.- On 09/14/2022, the claim was transferred to the DGP, so that within 15 days it could formulate the allegations it deemed relevant.

3.- On 04/10/2022, the DGP presented his letter of allegations where, in summary, he set out the following:

- That on 02/28/2022, the claimant requested the deletion of several personal data recorded in the file of the SIP PF area, related to police proceedings no. (...), which resulted in Preliminary Proceedings no. (...), instituted by the Court of Inquiry (...) of Cerdanyola del Vallès.
- That the interested person provided as supporting documentation the interlocutory notice of free dismissal, attesting to its firmness.
- That on 30/08/2022, the Director General of the Police issued a resolution in which he agreed to delete the requested personal data.
- That the resolution was notified to the claimant on 09/06/2022, at the address indicated in the application for notification purposes.

The DGP provided, among others, the resolution issued by the Director General of the Police on 30/08/2022 and the accreditation of its notification on 06/09/2022.

Fundamentals of Law

1.- The director of the Catalan Data Protection Authority is competent to resolve this procedure, in accordance with articles 5.b) and 8.2.b) of Law 32/2010, of October 1, of the Catalan Data Protection Authority.

2.- The personal data subject to treatment by the DGP referred to in this claim relating to the request to exercise the right of deletion made before the DGP on 02/28/2022, are within the scope of application of Organic Law 7/2021, of 26 May, on the protection of personal data processed for the purposes of prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses and the execution of criminal sanctions (LO 7 /2021).

3.- Okay with the above, it is necessary to go to article 23 of LO 7/2021, which in relation to the right of deletion provides the following:

"2. The person responsible for the treatment, on his own initiative or as a consequence of the exercise of the right of deletion of the interested party, will delete the personal data without undue delay and, in any case, within a maximum period of one month from the date of knowledge, when the treatment infringes articles 6, 11 or 13, or when personal data must be deleted by virtue of a legal obligation to which it is subject.

3. Instead of proceeding with the deletion, the controller will limit the processing of personal data when any of the following circumstances occur:

a) The interested party doubts the accuracy of the personal data and its accuracy or inaccuracy cannot be determined.

b) Personal data must be kept for evidentiary purposes.

When the treatment is limited by virtue of letter a), the person responsible for the treatment will inform the interested party before lifting the limitation of the treatment".

"(...) 5. When the personal data have been rectified or deleted or the treatment has been limited, the person responsible for the treatment will notify the recipients, who must rectify or delete the personal data that are under their responsibility or limit their treatment".

Likewise, it should be borne in mind that in case of restrictions on the rights of information, access, rectification, deletion of personal data and the limitation of their treatment, it is necessary to refer to articles 24 and 25 of LO 7/2021, which determine that:

"Article 24. Restrictions on the rights of information, access, rectification, deletion of personal data and the limitation of its treatment.

1. The controller may postpone, limit or omit the information referred to in article 21.2, as well as deny, in whole or in part, requests to exercise the rights contemplated in articles 22 and 23, provided that, having taking into account the fundamental rights and legitimate interests of the affected person, it is necessary and proportionate to achieve the following goals:

a) Prevent inquiries, investigations or judicial proceedings from being obstructed.

b) Avoid causing damage to the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses or the execution of criminal sanctions. c) Protect public safety.

d) Protect National Security.

e) Protect the rights and freedoms of other people.

2. In case of restriction of the rights contemplated in articles 22 and 23, the person responsible for the treatment will inform the interested party in writing without undue delay, and in any case, within one month from the date of knowledge of said restriction, of the reasons thereof, as well as of the possibilities of filing a claim before the data protection authority, without prejudice to the

remaining judicial actions that can be exercised by virtue of the provisions of this Organic Law. The reasons for the restriction may be omitted or replaced by neutral wording when the disclosure of the reasons for the restriction may jeopardize the purposes referred to in the previous section.

3. The person responsible for the treatment will document the de facto or derecho grounds on which the decision denying the exercise of the right of access is based. This information will be available to the data protection authorities".

"Article 25. Exercise of the rights of the interested party through the data protection authority.

1. In cases where there is a postponement, limitation or omission of the information referred to in article 21 or a restriction of the exercise of the rights contemplated in articles 22 and 23, in the terms provided for in article 24, The interested party may exercise their rights through the competent data protection authority. The data controller will inform the interested party of this possibility.

2. When, by virtue of what is established in the previous section, the rights are exercised through the data protection authority, this must inform the interested party, at least, of the completion of all the necessary checks or the corresponding review and of his right to file a contentious-administrative appeal".

In paragraph 1 of article 52 of LO 7/2021, relating to the regime applicable to procedures processed before the data protection authorities, it is foreseen that:

"1. In the event that the interested parties appreciate that the processing of personal data has violated the provisions of this Organic Law or their request to exercise the rights recognized in articles 21, 22 and 23 has not been met, they will have the right to file a claim before the data protection authority (...)"

In line with the above, article 16.1 of Law 32/2010, of the Catalan Data Protection Authority, provides the following:

"1. Interested persons who are denied, in part or in full, the exercise of their rights of access, rectification, deletion or opposition, or who may understand that their request has been rejected due to the fact that it has not been resolved within within the established period, they can submit a claim to the Catalan Data Protection Authority."

4.- Next it is necessary to analyze whether the DGP has attended to the right of deletion exercised by the person making the claim in accordance with the regulatory framework of application, given that his reason for complaint was the fact of not having obtained any response within of the period provided for the purpose.

With regard to the alleged neglect of the right that is the subject of the claim, in accordance with what has been explained in the background, it is known that on 28/02/2022, the person making the claim here exercised before the DGP the right to delete the your personal data relating to police proceedings no. (...) contained in the SIP PF file.

In the case that concerns us here, in accordance with article 20.4 of LO 7/2021, the DGP had to resolve and notify within a maximum period of one month from the date of receipt of the deletion request submitted by the person making the claim. In accordance with the above, it

has been established that although the claimant submitted the request to exercise the right to delete the data before the DGP on 02/28/2022, the estimated resolution of the your request was issued on 30/08/2022 and notified on 06/09/2022, that is to say, well past the resolution and notification deadline of one month provided for the purpose. That being the case, it can be concluded that the DGP extemporaneously resolved the request of the person making the claim.

5.- Regarding the substance of the request for the deletion of the personal data that appeared in the SIP PF file, the DGP has certified that it has agreed to the deletion of this data in the terms requested by the person here claiming, as it follows from the resolution of 08/30/2022 , provided by the DGP to this Authority.

For all this, I resolve:

- 1.** Declare extemporaneous the resolution of the General Directorate of the Police dated 30/08/2022, which considers the request of Mr. (...) , of deletion of the personal data contained in the SIP PF file referring to police proceedings no. (...) , without going into other considerations regarding the fund since the DGP has decided to delete your personal data.
- 2.** Notify this resolution to the DGP and the person making the claim.
- 3.** Order the publication of the Resolution on the Authority's website (apdcat.gencat.cat), in accordance with article 17 of Law 32/2010, of October 1.

Against this resolution, which puts an end to the administrative process in accordance with articles 26.2 of Law 32/2010, of October 1, of the Catalan Data Protection Authority and 14.3 of Decree 48/2003, of 20 February, by which the Statute of the Catalan Data Protection Agency is approved, the interested parties can file, as an option, an appeal for reinstatement before the director of the Catalan Data Protection Authority, in the period of one month from the day after its notification, in accordance with the provisions of article 123 et seq. of the LPAC or to directly file an administrative contentious appeal before the administrative contentious courts of Barcelona, in the period of two months from the day after its notification, in accordance with articles 8, 14 and 46 of Law 29/1998, of July 13, regulating administrative contentious jurisdiction.

Likewise, the interested parties may file any other appeal they deem appropriate for the defense of their interests.

The director,