

PRACTICAL

COLLOQUIUM

FRIDAY 5TH MARCH 2010
9H00 - 16H30

Maison des Associations Internationales (MAI)
Washingtonstraat 40 | 1050 BRUSSELS

What's left of your PRIVACY in 2010...

Protecting privacy against
government and employer



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With support from **ELDH**
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Democracy and Human Rights) **and IADL**
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PROGRESS Lawyers Network

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Responsible editor: Raf Jespers, Broederminstraat 38, 2018 Antwerp

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Privacy, safeguarding individual private life, the security of one's home and the confidentiality of the mail are fundamental defensive rights against government interference. Also at work there are limits for the employer in meddling in the privacy of an employee. Every Belgian is mentioned in about 300 databases, from the Rijksregister to the e-health platform. Is there anything left of our privacy? New technology and the control climate after 9/11 have heavily strained these "sacred rights".

Today, George Orwell's Big Brother society in '1984' is no longer fiction. The Colloquium will bring an outline of privacy in 2010. Is art. 8 ECHR still being honoured? Where is the limit of privacy in an employment relationship? Which databases in Belgium and Europe are recording your actions and how do these databases exchange information? The Colloquium will also show with what legal means privacy can be protected. We will do this with the ECHR jurisprudence as well as domestic and international experience.

Speakers are professors, lawyers, jurists and union representatives from Belgium, Europe and the US.

Special guests are:

Peter Hustinx, European Data Protection Supervisor will throw light on the European situation.

US lawyer Mara Verheyden Hilliard will speak on the erosion of privacy in her country.

For Progress Lawyers Network will be speaking Raf Jaspers, author of "Big Brother in Europe" (Epo 2010).

PROGRAMME

8h30 Welcome and registration

9h00 - 10h00 SESSION 1 Privacy vs control and security

- The strain on privacy and other fundamental rights and freedoms
Benoît Van der MEERSCHEN, president "Ligue des Droits de l'Homme"
- Protection of personal data in the European Union
Peter HUSTINX, European Data Protection Supervisor
- Giving up privacy for security? Analysis of recent developments and the use of new technologies
Raf JESPERS, lawyer PLN Antwerp

10h - 12h30 SESSION 2 Privacy on the shop floor

- Legislation during recruitment and on the job
Jos DUMORTIER, professor KUL
- The jurisprudence of the ECHR on privacy on the shop floor
Steve GILSON, Lawyer in Namen
- Practical experiences on the shop floor
Manu GONZALEZ, trade union representative CSC (Confédération des Syndicats Chrétiens) Carrefour,
Stephan GALON, International Director ABVV Department
- Procedures and actions against Lidl, Siemens and other companies in Germany
Dieter HUMMEL, lawyer Berlin

12h30 Lunch

13h30 - 15h00 SESSION 3 Databases and the exchange of personal data

- Which databases do exist in Belgium, who and what is recorded? What about the Data Retention guideline?
Franck DUMORTIER, researcher CRID (Centre de recherche informatique et de droit), Facultés Universitaires Notre Dame de la Paix, Namen)
- Erosion of privacy in the USA : from Bush to Obama
Mara VERHEYDEN-HILLIARD, lawyer USA, National Lawyers Guild
- The exchange of personal data in criminal matters, between EU member states and between the USA and EU.
Els DE BUSSER, jurist Max Planck Institute Freiburg
- Data protection in the jurisprudence of the ECHR
Frédéric KRENC, lawyer Brussels, assistant Universitaire Faculteiten Saint-Louis

15h15 - 16h15 SESSION 4 Legal means and actions in the defence of privacy

- Usefulness and limitations of current legal means and procedures in Belgium
Mathieu BEYS, jurist, department criminal law PLN
- Procedures and actions in Germany, the UK, the Netherlands and France in connection with databases, hackers and data retention
Tony BUNYAN, director Statewatch, London

16h15 - 16h30 Conclusions

Vanessa DE GREEF, researcher National Funds for Scientific Research, ULB (Université Libre de Bruxelles)

16h30 - 17h30 Reception