

Privacy & Data Protection

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Headlines

- UK regulator issues record fine against TalkTalk, p.17
- US government requests rehearing in case on rights to access data overseas, p.18

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EU DPAs demand answers from Yahoo and Whatsapp

Marking the turning tide of the approach to data protection enforcement within the EU, the data protection regulators comprising the Article 29 Working Party have sent letters to WhatsApp and Yahoo requesting information about suspect privacy practices.

In its letter to Whatsapp, the Article 29 Working Party outlined concerns regarding the company's data sharing with Facebook. Evidentially, the company's Terms of Service and Privacy Policy do not address the data sharing that Whatsapp has intro-

duced. The DPAs have requested that WhatsApp 'communicate all relevant information to the Working Party as soon as possible', and urged the company to suspend the data sharing until data protection is assured.

Its letter to Yahoo concerns a data breach that occurred in 2014, resulting in a loss of at least 500 million users' personal details. The DPAs asked the company to communicate all aspects of the data breach to the Working Party, to notify the concerned users of the adverse effects and to cooperate with all

upcoming national data protection authorities' enquiries and/or investigations.

Copies of the letters are available at: www.pdpjournals.com/docs/88626 and www.pdpjournals.com/docs/88627

When the General Data Protection Regulation comes into force in May 2018, the Article 29 Working Party — whose members include EU's national supervisory authorities, the European Data Protection Supervi-

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UK government confirms that GDPR will be implemented

The UK government has confirmed that the General Data Protection Regulation will apply in the UK from 25th May 2018.

The Secretary of State Karen Bradley MP informed the Culture, Media and Sports Select Committee: "We will be members of the EU in 2018 and therefore it would be expected and quite normal for us to opt into the GDPR and then

look later at how best we might be able to help British business with data protection while maintaining high levels of protection for members of the public."

Elizabeth Denham, the Information Commissioner, said "I see this as good news for the UK. The ICO is committed to assisting businesses and public bodies to prepare to meet the requirements

of the GDPR ahead of May 2018 and beyond.

"Within the next month, we'll publish a revised timeline setting out what areas of guidance we'll be prioritising over the next six months. As ever, everything will be published on the ICO website, and we'll flag updates on twitter and through our e-newsletter."

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