

## ARTICLE 29 Data Protection Working Party



Brussels, 11 December 2013

Mr Théodoros Sotiropoulos  
Rue Jacques de Lalaing 19–21  
1040 Brussels  
Belgium

Dear Mr Sotiropoulos,

First of all, on behalf of the Article 29 Working Party on Data Protection, may I congratulate you on becoming the EU Council presidency.

Your presidency will be vital in securing progress in the discussions on the data protection reform package and the Working Party therefore very much welcomes that you have made data protection reform one of your top priorities.

For your further discussions in DAPIX, please find attached the position of the Working Party regarding the outcome of the vote in the LIBE committee of the European Parliament. This position paper highlights several issues the Working Party feels need to be addressed and may be useful to you in your discussions.

The Working Party believes a swift adoption of the data protection package is necessary to ensure a comprehensive data protection framework which provides a high level of protection of personal data in the European Union. The Working Party can therefore not stress enough the importance of achieving agreement on a final text before the end of the term of the current EU legislature.

I wish you all the luck and wisdom with the difficult task of reaching agreement within the Council on the data protection reform package. Naturally, I am most willing to meet with you or representatives of the Greek presidency to clarify the Working Party's position in more detail, should you would so wish.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of the Article 29 Working Party,

Jacob Kohnstamm  
Chairman

CC. Mr Lopez Aguilar, Chair LIBE Committee, European Parliament  
Ms Reding, Vice-President, European Commission  
Ms Mitrou, future DAPIX Chair, Greek Presidency  
Mr Papakonstantinou, future DAPIX Vice-Chair, Greek presidency

This Working Party was set up under Article 29 of Directive 95/46/EC. It is an independent European advisory body on data protection and privacy. Its tasks are described in Article 30 of Directive 95/46/EC and Article 15 of Directive 2002/58/EC.

The secretariat is provided by Directorate C (Fundamental Rights and Union Citizenship) of the European Commission, Directorate General Justice, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium, Office No MO59 02/34.

Website: [http://ec.europa.eu/justice/policies/privacy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice/policies/privacy/index_en.htm)