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# DataPro

UPGRADING THE EU DATA PROTECTION SECTOR WITH NEW SKILLS

## Newsletter #2

### May – December 2019



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## Meeting with the Cypriot Commissioner for personal data protection

22/05/2019

On May 22th, 2019, the DataPro Partnership met the Cypriot Commissioner for personal data protection, **Mrs. Irene Loizidou Nikolaidou** to introduce her to the project and discuss data protection under the new landscape as shaped by GDPR. Our partnership was represented by Mr. Grassos from the Metropolitan College, Mrs. Palaonda, from Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mrs. Daniel, Centre for Risk and Decision Sciences.

During the meeting with the Commissioner, the representative of

DataPro had the opportunity to discuss **the current situation in Cyprus** regarding the application of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), as well as the **current compliance status**. In particular, the Commissioner vividly highlighted the importance of some points, such as the **training needs of DPOs**, and whether there is an obligation of **DPOs Certification**, as well as the need to create a sustainable business oriented **Occupational Profile for DPOs**. In an increasingly data driven world, cybersecurity concerns us all.

Discover more on DataPro: [www.datapro-project.eu](http://www.datapro-project.eu)





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## 1st Steering Committee meeting in Nicosia: One step closer to success!

15/06/2019

On 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, the **1st Steering Committee Meeting** of the DataPRO project was held in the premises of the European University Cyprus in Nicosia. The main aim of the Steering Committee Meeting was to discuss and analyse the preliminary findings of the ongoing extended field research, as well as to find a common ground on how to effectively communicate and disseminate project activities. Each partner presented the already delivered results focusing on the current state of the art and the important milestones reached, the

elaboration of foreseen activities and group work on different topics per work package. More specifically, the discussion was focused on the first findings of the ongoing extended field research as well as on the definition of a common strategy for an effective communication and dissemination of project activities. Partners had the opportunity to share and exchange ideas regarding curricula design topics and the foreseen online training platform with a view to provide an advanced and innovative training for current data protection employees.



Finally, the partner **CERIDES** conducted the Partnership in a guided tour in the European University premises to

discover the newly established dynamic learning and interactive environment of the Medical School.

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## Planning and conducting research

01/08/2019

In the period between April and July 2019, the DataPro Partnership was focused on the **“Design or improvement of a Joint Qualification in VET”**. This pivotal activity for the DataPro project was based on a well-structured methodology, as it included:

- Methodology implementation plan with specific milestones
- Interview and survey questionnaire templates
- Interview and focus group methodology and guidelines

Furthermore, surveys, whether online, by phone and in person, were conducted in the format of:

- In-depth Interviews
- Four Focus Groups per participating Countries

During the implementation of the research activities, the Partnership engaged stakeholders and end-users. All interviews and focus groups in each country are aimed at the exploration of training and skills needs in the field of data protection. The Partnership engaged recognized practitioners or profession specific Data Protection experts. Within this context, the focus groups helped us to measure the reaction of participants to the DataPro project objectives, as well as **providing immediate inputs for further improvement.**







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## The DataPro Training Analysis has successfully been completed

25/08/2019

The DataPro project embarked on ambitious and extensive research with a view to identify, map and analyse the landscape regarding curricula provision at European and international level, the challenges, needs, skill gaps and training needs in the Data Protection field. A survey, focus groups and in-depth interviews were conducted in three European countries and insights from almost **400** participants were collected.

The research conducted culminated in the publication of the following deliverables:

**Comparative Analysis of Different Data Protection Curricula:** This key product of the project that was based in an extensive desk research identifies

and analyses Curricula in Greece, Germany, and Cyprus and at European and international level.

**State of the Art Comparative Analysis:** This report elaborates the findings from the extensive field work that used three techniques: survey, focus groups and in depth interviews.

**Recommendations for Occupational Profile:** This deliverable amalgamates all research work and knowledge that led to the mapping of skills gaps and training needs and comes to clearly delineate the Occupational profile of a Data Protection officer that will inform the design of the Curricula.

You can access the full reports at our website: [www.datapro-project.eu](http://www.datapro-project.eu)





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## 2nd Steering Committee Meeting for DataPro Project

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of DataPro project was organized by **Centrum für Innovation und Technologie (CIT) GmbH** on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2019 in Cottbus, Germany and signaled the completion of the first year of project implementation! Shortly after the submission of the Interim Report, the partners reviewed their progress and discussed about their imminent actions towards the design of the VET Joint Curriculum and the development of the educational platform and the embedded training materials.

In specific, partners had an overview of the main findings of the Qualitative and Quantitative Research as well as the DPO Occupational Profile. A first draft of the Joint Curriculum structure was presented and participants expressed their views and opinions. They familiarized with the Curricula Development methodology and they identified the principal learning objectives in alignment with the respective European Quality Standards and Frameworks through a brainstorming session.

The participants also focused on the design of a series of activities for dissemination and outreach towards different audiences to put the Dissemination and Exploitation Strategy in practice. Despite concluding that the main volume of actions will be organized at national level after the finalization of the training materials, all partners were committed to actively promoting the project to their networks or exploiting other events. In the Project Management field, the Union of Hellenic Chambers informed the partnership that has started the process of identifying an external evaluator for the project. Quality Assurance aspects as well as recommendations on improvements in the project's mechanisms were also brought in surface.



DataPro is co-funded by the Erasmus+, KA3 Action Joint Qualifications in Vocational Education and Training and it is implemented by a Consortium of 10 partners from 4 European countries (Belgium, Cyprus, Germany, Greece). Find out more at [www.datapro-project.eu](http://www.datapro-project.eu)



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## DataPro and GDPR Projects in the 5th International Conference on Information Security & Digital Forensics



The 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Information Security & Digital Forensics (ISDF), a prestigious event in the field of Information Technology, took place in the premises of Metropolitan College in Thessaloniki between 29<sup>th</sup> of November and 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2019. The Conference hosted a number of distinguished researchers, international speakers and analysts of state-of-the-art technologies as well as market representatives and professionals from IT sector.

Within this context, AMC associate, Mr. Vasileios Akkogiounoglou, a graduate of the Polytechnic School of Athens, presented two European projects that are related to Data Protection policies and which AMC is a partner of: **“DataPro: Upgrading the EU Data Protection Sector with New Skills”** and **“GDPR4H: Upgrading the Health Sector with highly-skilled Data Protection Officers**. Both projects sparked the audience’s interest and generated a vivid discussion on the significance of the matter for citizens and businesses and the challenges that

are emerging due to the gap between skills and market needs for ensuring compliance with the new legal requirements or the lack of knowledge around the width of applicability in multiple professional fields and human activities.

The final output of both projects will be a Joint Curriculum and relevant training materials which will help the interested parties, albeit learners, employers or other stakeholders, realize the importance of incorporating Data Protection practices into their daily working routines and train them how to do it. The courses will be later piloted to assess their responsiveness to real market needs and their usefulness as a training methodology that may be applied by VET systems in other EU countries.

DataPro, a project with a more generic scope, is an Erasmus+ project, co-funded by KA3 Action Joint Qualifications in Vocational Education and Training and it is implemented by a Consortium of 10 partners from 4 European countries (Belgium, Cyprus, Germany, Greece), bringing together Chambers, VET Providers and Certification Bodies. It aims at instilling the new digital mentality that is being shaped after the entry of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 into force, to companies, employees and young learners who work or are





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interested in working in the sector while responding to the fragmented certification system in the field across the EU.

GDPR4H is a field-specific project aiming at adjusting and deepening the knowledge around DataProtection in the HealthCare Sector. More specifically, it focuses on the need for a renewed skillset of healthcare professionals involved in processing,

monitoring or handling sensitive data in the light of the new General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 and its new requirements. It is a KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET project funded by Erasmus+ and implemented by a transnational partnership of 8 partners from 4 EU countries (Greece, Germany, Romania, France), consisted of universities, VET Providers and Healthcare umbrella organizations.





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