2018 ANNUAL REPORT - A NEW ERA IN DATA PROTECTION

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The 2018 annual report of the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) provides an overview of its activities in the last year, a very busy year for this Independent Authority that carries out the control activity on the processing of personal data.

Starting from the assumption that "*Data protection is fundamental right, protected by European law and enshrined in Article 8 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union*", data protection has been a topic of great interest for the year just spent, especially considering the acquired public awareness of the value of online privacy.

The effect of the new data protection rules is to protect the rights to data protection and privacy of every individual living in the European Union in an effectively and efficiently way. In particular, with the drafting and publication of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which came into force on 25 May 2018, it has been strongly highlighted.

In close cooperation with the new European Data Protection Board (EDPB) which carries out activity of control on the correct application of the new European Regulation by the national Authorities - the EDPB "*faces an enormous challenge to prove that 29 independent authorities can act as one*" -, the EDPS aims to ensure a consistent protection of people's rights, wherever they live in the European Union.

EDPS's activities are focused on encouraging the development of an "accountability culture" and on implementing data protection by default and by design.

Finally, the processing of personal data can put the rights and freedoms of individuals at risk and all available instruments should be used to achieve the balance between security and privacy.

Source: European Data Protection Supervisor

Link: https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/our-work/publications/annual-reports/2018-annual-report-new-era-data-protection_en