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## **Data, services, citizens: implementing the GDPR in European cities**

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15 June 2021

This event aims to open a dialogue to discuss cities' experiences with the GDPR and put its future development in the context of the European digital policy agenda.



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The evaluation by the European Commission and the adopted resolution by the European Parliament mark a starting point for improving the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation over the next years. This starting point coincides with a number of major European policy developments such as the Data Governance Act and the Data Act that will facilitate the availability and use of data in the European Digital Single Market.

These developments and the GDPR are inherently connected and will impact cities and the digital services they deliver. Eurocities and Living-in.eu organise this city dialogue to discuss cities' experiences with the GDPR and put its future development in context of the European digital policy agenda.

## Agenda

### **10:00 - 10:05    Welcome**

- *Lodewijk Noordzij, Policy officer - Eurocities*

### **10:05 - 10:15    Interview with Wim De Kinderen: KSF Lab, Citizen Card report & Living-in.eu**

- *Wim De Kinderen, Programme Director European Affairs - Brainport Eindhoven*
- *Lodewijk Noordzij, Policy officer - Eurocities*

### **10:15 - 11:00    Cities experiences including Q&A**

- *10:15 - 10:30    Daniel Sarasa Funes, Urban Innovation Planner and Smart City Programme Manager - Zaragoza City Council*
- *10:30 - 10:45    Anneke Born, Director Rotterdamas - Rotterdam*
- *10:45 - 11:00    Thierry Courcet, Chief Digital Officer - Pau*

### **11:00 - 11:15    European context: GDPR and the EU Digital strategy**

### **11:15 - 11:25    Q & A**

### **11:25 - 11:30    Closing**

## Context

In 2016, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was introduced as a progressive and fundamental piece of law making to protect citizen's interests in an increasingly digital age. Although the goals of the regulation are generally applauded and its effect on (corporate) privacy practices over the globe has been evident, the regulation itself is sometimes critically assessed and the implementation of the GDPR is known to cause challenges for organisations in various sectors.

The GDPR has also had a big impact on cities: complex organisations collecting, processing and storing personal data to deliver services to its citizens. Discussions with a handful of Eurocities' KSF Lab members cities in preparation for the Citizen Card report highlighted several challenges related to digital identities, data and privacy for data-based citizen services and compliance with the GDPR.

The first evaluation of the GDPR by the European Commission last summer conveys the same image, and the recently published resolution on the GDPR by the European Parliament provides ample attention points.

At the same time, the European Data Strategy is getting up steam. In November, a proposal for a Data Governance Act was published, currently a proposal for the Digital Services Act is under deliberation and preparations for a Data Act to facilitate, among others, business-to-government data sharing, are underway. Additionally, the European Commission shared a proposal for legal and ethical requirements for Artificial Intelligence in April this year. The effectuation of the European Data Strategy will increase the availability and use of (personal) data and is therefore closely linked to the General Data Protection, which safeguards the digital rights of citizens.

This city dialogue seeks to further illuminate cities' experiences with the GDPR in different national contexts and looks ahead to understand how its implementation can be improved in the coming years while taking into account the numerous digital policy initiatives undertaken by the European Commission.

[Register here](#)

For more info on the Citizen's Card: Designing with people, for people, as people | [Living in EU \(living-in.eu\)](#)

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