

The EAPC explores data protection in its latest issue of the European Public Mosaic, with special reference to COVID-19

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Coinciding with the second anniversary of the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Public Administration School of Catalonia (EAPC) has published Issue 11 of the European Public Mosaic (EPuM). Open Journal on Public Service with a monograph focusing on the protection of personal data in times of COVID-19. It features five articles contributed by representatives of the Catalan Data Protection Authority (APDCAT), the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid - IMDEA Networks Institute, Universitat Rovira i Virgili (URV) - Catalan Cybersecurity Research Centre (CYBERCAT), the Namur Digital Institute (NADI) in Belgium, and the University of Zurich (UZH) Digital Society Initiative.

The latest issue of the *EPuM*, entitled *Data protection in times of COVID-19*, includes an interview with Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) civil law professor Mònica Vilasau, who is also the director of the postgraduate programme on data protection at the same university. Vilasau provides an assessment of the GDPR in the two years since its application and points out its strengths and weaknesses, such as large-scale data processing and adaptation to the increased use of algorithms and artificial intelligence. As always, the journal also provides readers with a roundup of relevant good practices, trends and latest news in the same field.

Maria Àngels Barbarà, the director of APDCAT, the body collaborating in the publication of this issue, has contributed an article on *Data protection in AI: algorithmic fairness* in relation to the *Artificial Intelligence. Automated decisions in Catalonia* report published by the Authority in 2020. Madrid-based professors Juan Tapiador (Carlos III) and Narseo Vallina-Rodríguez (IMDEA Networks) have written an article on *Privacy and surveillance in the mobile ecosystem*, in which they take an interesting look at the risks and opportunities associated with smartphones, with a specific focus on applications linked to COVID-19.

Universitat Rovira i Virgili full professor of Computer Science and ICREA researcher, Josep Domingo-Ferrer, who is also the director of the UNESCO Chair in Data Privacy and CYBERCAT, has written a third article in conjunction with APDCAT technology and security coordinator, Jordi Sòria-Comas, entitled *Data anonymization*. The authors review the relevant trends and good practices in the field for complying with the requirements of the GDPR without compromising data usefulness. In parallel, emeritus professor of the University of Namur and co-president of the Namur Digital Institute, Yves Poulet, brings us *From open data to reverse PSI – A new European policy facing GDPR*, which explores administrative access to data belonging to multinationals and the private sector for the benefit of the public interest.

Lastly, managing director of the Digital Society Initiative at the University of Zurich, Markus Christen, talks about *The hidden dilemmas of cybersecurity practitioners*, which addresses the ethical and legal dilemmas faced by managers and technical professionals in the field of cybersecurity and cyberdefence, and poses the question: what should be prioritized in the event of a serious crisis involving multiple incidents, a hospital, a bank or a nuclear power plant?

The issue is rounded off with the usual sections on good practices, trends and news updates. The selection in *EPuM 11* contains information on current regulations in the field of data protection at an international level; technologies that protect the privacy of users against the proliferation of malicious applications and software; data governance in institutions; the privacy implications for individuals associated with the deployment of artificial intelligence, 5G, and the Internet of Things; and the pros and cons of the increase in teleworking as a result of the coronavirus crisis.

EPuM is a digital journal published entirely in English whose goal is to contribute to the global debate on public management. Informative in nature, it is aimed especially at public administration professionals and public services managers. [Subscription](#) to the journal is free. Previous issues are available to view on the subjects of [citizen participation](#) , [digital transformation](#) , [talent management](#) , [public policy assessment](#) , [public budget management](#) , [training and learning](#) , [open data](#) , [artificial intelligence](#) , [institutional integrity](#) and [public policy research and improvement](#) .

In collaboration with the Catalan Data Protection Authority (APDCAT), Issue 11 examines topics such as mobile applications for controlling pandemics, data anonymization and the widespread increase in teleworking

Enllaços relacionats

❖ [**European Public Mosaic. Data protection in times of COVID-19**](#)