International Data Protection Day

On 26 April 2006, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe decided to launch a Data Protection Day, to be celebrated each year on 28 January.

This date corresponds to the anniversary of the opening for signature of the Council of Europe's Convention 108 for the Protection of individuals with regard to automatic processing of personal data which has been for over 30 years a cornerstone of data protection, in Europe and beyond.

Data Protection Day is now celebrated globally and is called the "Privacy Day" outside Europe.

Data protection issues, including their cross-border dimension, are for ever present in citizens’ lives – at work, in their relations with public authorities, in the health field, when they buy goods or services, when they travel or surf the internet.

The aim of the Data Protection Day is to give European citizens the chance to understand what personal data is collected and processed about them and why, and what their rights are with respect to this processing. They should also be made aware of the risks inherent and associated with the illegal mishandling and unfair processing of their personal data.

We decided to honour International Data Protection Day through organising a whole day Conference for the Data Protection Officers. The thematic event will be dedicated to Labour Privacy or in other words Data Protection at the Workplace. The celebration of the day will be closed by an international reception given to the representatives of foreign embassies and of public institutions working in close cooperation with the Hungarian Data Protection Authority.

Dr. Attila Péterfalvi
President of the NAIH