

International cooperation to facilitate cross-border data flows.

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Global Privacy Assembly

globalprivacyassembly.org

The Global Privacy Assembly

- Premier global forum for data protection and privacy authorities.
- First met in 1979 as the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners.
- Seeks to provide leadership at international level in data protection and privacy.



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The GPA's vision

“...an environment in which privacy and data protection authorities around the world are able effectively to act to fulfil their mandates, both individually and in concert, through diffusion of knowledge and supportive connections.”



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The GPA's vision

- To be an outstanding global forum for privacy and data protection authorities.
- To disseminate knowledge , and provide practical assistance, to help authorities more effectively to perform their mandates.
- To provide leadership at international level in data protection and privacy.
- To connect and support efforts at domestic and regional level, and in other international forums, to enable authorities better to protect and promote privacy and data protection



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Strategic priorities for 2019 - 2021

1. Advancing Global Privacy in a Digital Age

- Work towards a global regulatory environment with clear and consistently high standards of data protection



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Strategic priorities for 2019 - 2021

2. Maximising the Assembly's voice and influence

- Enhance Assembly's role and voice in wider digital policy.
- Strengthen relationships with other international bodies and networks advancing data protection and privacy issues, including through observer arrangements.



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Strategic priorities for 2019 - 2021

3. Capacity Building for the Assembly and its Members

- Support Members' shared learning from experiences, strategies and best practice from around the world, including cooperation tools.



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Global frameworks and standards

- **Madrid Resolution**
- **OECD Privacy Guidelines**
- **APEC Privacy Framework**
- **Convention 108**
- **Convention 108 +**
- **Standards for Personal Data Protection for Ibero-American States**
- **African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection**
- **ECOWAS Act on Personal Data Protection**
- **GDPR**
- **UN Guidelines for the Regulation of Computerized Personal Data Files**



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Global frameworks and standards

- Overall, strong commonalities between the frameworks.
- However, whilst principles relating to cross-border transfers were broadly similar, there are a variety of mechanisms in use.
- GPA intends to carry out further analysis on cross-border transfers in the 2020 – 2021 conference year.



Digital Economy

“...develop a clearer and broader narrative for a longer-term and more coherent approach to issues around the data protection aspects of regulation of the digital economy, including through closer engagement with relevant multilateral and international bodies.”



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Digital Economy

- **Background paper “*Towards a trustworthy digital economy*”**
 - **What is the digital economy?**
 - **What are important developments and trends the digital economy?**
 - **Why are privacy and data protection important in this context?**
 - **How does data protection and privacy regulation benefit individuals, businesses, governments and society as a whole?**



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Digital Economy

- **Systemic benefits of data protection and privacy regulation:**
 - a sustainable level playing field,
 - enhancing consumer choice and preventing harms,
 - an opportunity for a competitive advantage, and
 - a driver for innovation.



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Digital Economy

- **Trust is key to a vibrant digital economy.**
- **Data protection is a vital part of fostering this trust.**
- **Data protection law should not therefore be seen as a barrier to economic activity but an enabler of a fair and sustainable digital economy.**



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International Enforcement Cooperation

- The GPA has established a permanent International Enforcement Working Group (IEWG).
- Provides a forum in which members can discuss live issues, leading to joint working on matters of mutual concern.
- Has already lead to two concrete enforcement cooperation initiatives.



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Data protection and International Trade

- Trust is key to enabling international data flows.
- Interoperability between different regimes helps to generate this trust.
- At present there are many approaches to international transfers.
- Cooperation between different countries (governments and privacy regulators) can help to remove barriers to the data flows which underpin international trade.



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Further information

- [Global Privacy Assembly Website](#)
- [Report on Global frameworks and standards](#)
- [Report on Digital Economy](#)
- [Report on International Enforcement Cooperation](#)
- [Executive summaries and forward looking plans](#)



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