



Privacy Focus Group

A.I. & Data Protection

Webinar – 9 November 2021
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

KU LEUVEN



Guest Speakers:

Ellen Wauters
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AI & the GDPR

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Cyber Security Privacy Focus Group - AI and Data Protection
9 November 2021

Recent inventions and business methods call attention to the next step which must be taken for the protection of the person, and for securing to the individual what Judge Cooley calls the right “to be let alone.”⁴ Instantaneous photographs and newspaper enterprise have invaded the sacred precincts of private and domestic life; and numerous mechanical devices threaten to make good the prediction that “what is whispered in the closet shall be proclaimed from the house-tops.” For years there has been a feeling that the law must afford some remedy for the unauthorized circulation of portraits of private persons;⁵ and the evil of the

“The right to privacy”, Warren and Brandeis,
Harvard Law Review 1890

Overview

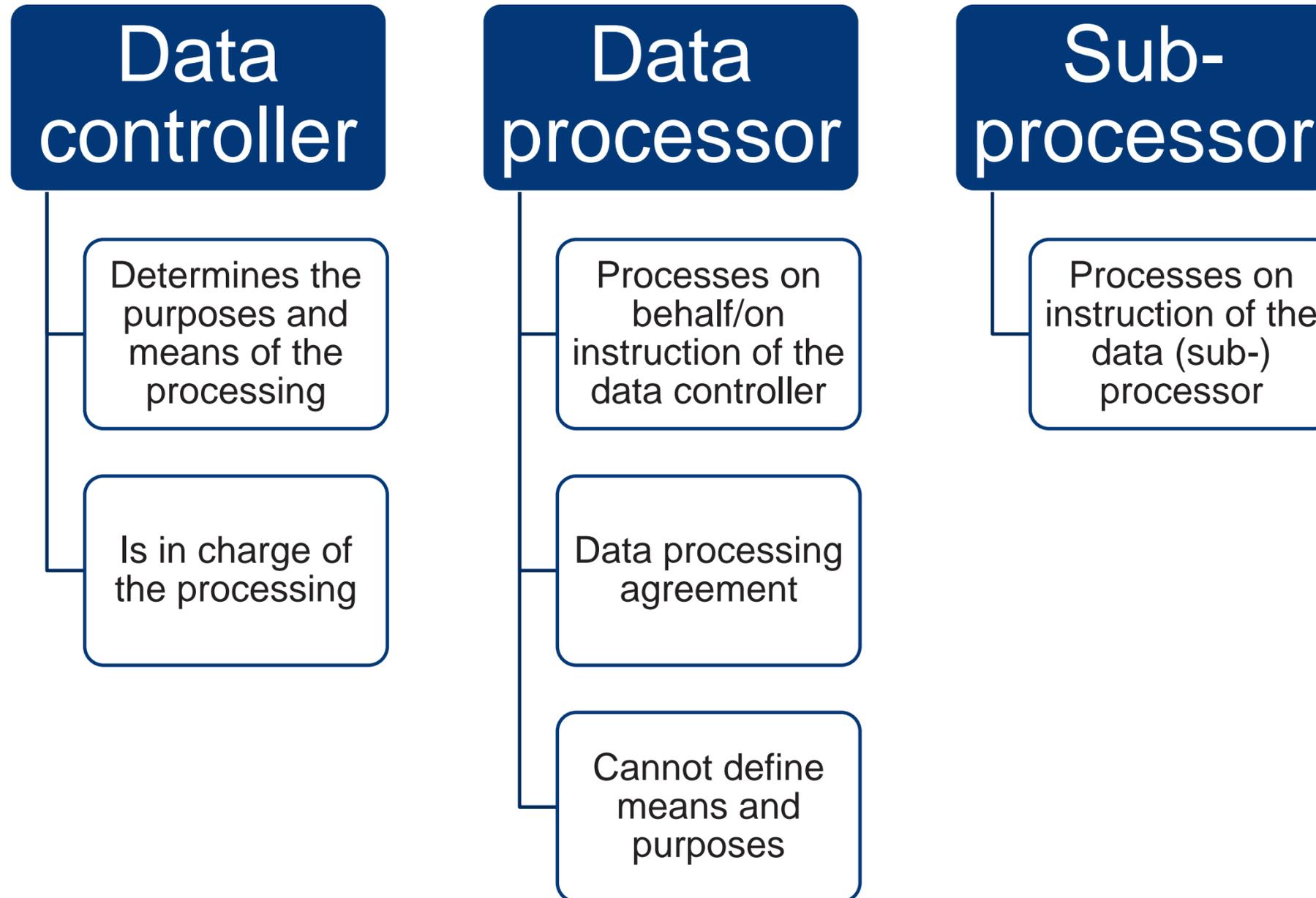
- **Introduction**
 - Recap: a few GDPR principles to keep in mind GDPR
 - Main challenges GDPR & AI
 - Risks when not complying with the GDPR
 - It's all about data
- **Practical application of a number of specific GDPR requirements on AI systems**
 - Data Protection by Design
 - Data Minimisation
 - Data Security
 - Automated Decision Making
 - DPIA
 - Research & statistical purposes
 - Transparency
 - Data Retention
 - Data subject Rights
- **Conclusion**
- **Q&A**

RECAP: A FEW GDPR PRINCIPLES TO KEEP IN MIND

GDPR Principles (art. 5 GDPR)

- Lawfulness, fairness and transparency
 - Purpose limitation
 - Data minimisation
 - Accuracy
 - Storage limitation
 - Integrity and confidentiality
 - Accountability
-
- Risk based approach

Data controller or data processor



Main challenges



Data use

Modern modelling techniques are data hungry:
a simulation study for predicting dichotomous
endpoints
[Tjeerd van der Ploeg](#) , [Peter C Austin](#) & [Ewout W Steyerberg](#)
[BMC Medical Research Methodology](#) **14**, Article number: 137 (2014) | [this article](#)

**AI is more data-hungry than
ever, and DefinedCrowd
raises \$50M B round to feed
it**
Devin Coldewey [@techcrunch](#) / 12:42 am CEST • May 27, 2020
 Comment

Limits of data hungry Deep
Learning!
[Antara Basu](#)  January 22, 2019  [DATAcated](#)

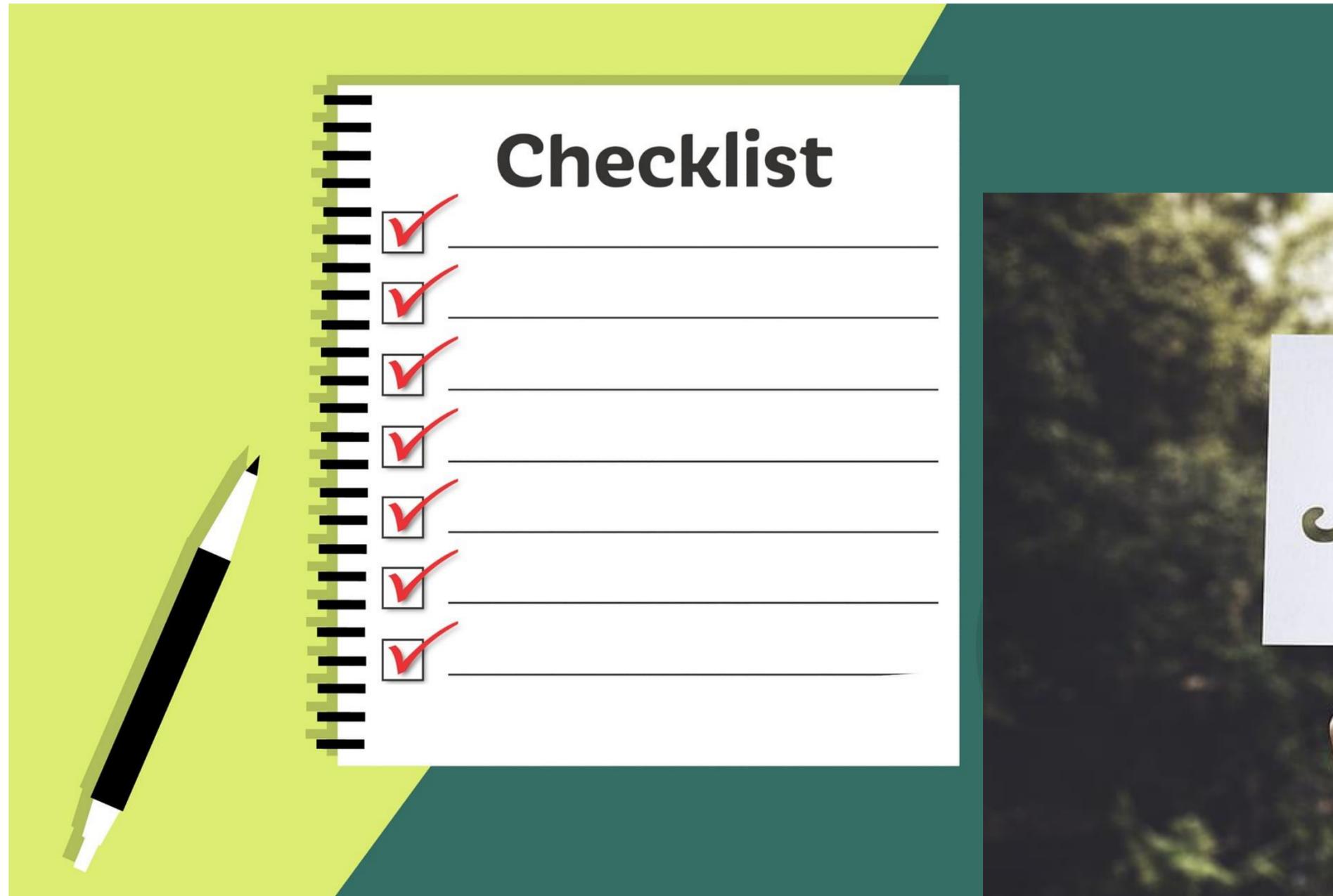
Transparency, fairness and accountability



Automated Decision Making



Beware of a 'check-the-box' approach



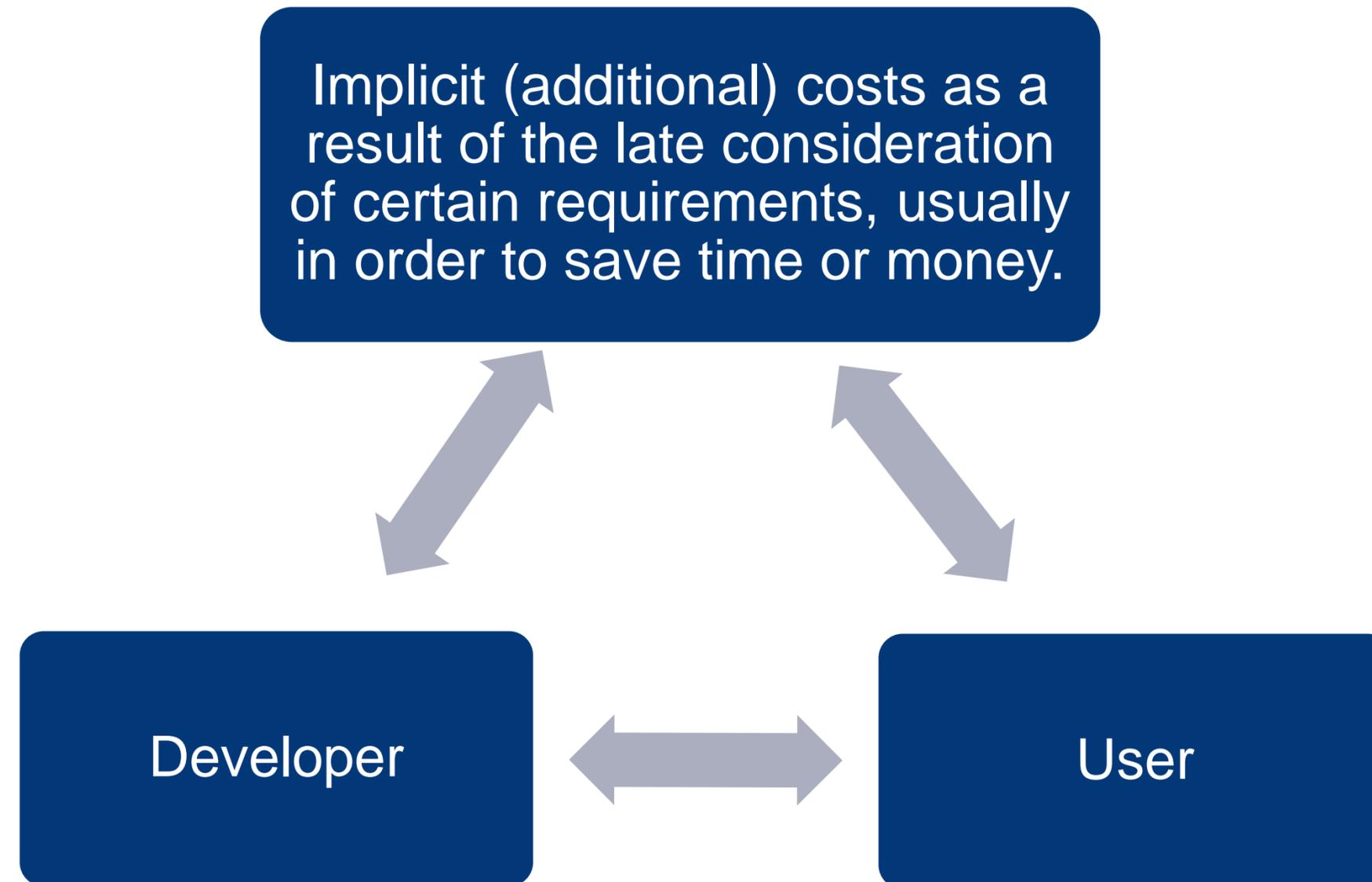
Most important GDPR risks related to AI



Non-compliance with the GDPR

- Commercial
- Sanctions
 - » Such as fines up to up to 20 Mio EUR or up to 4 % of the total worldwide annual turnover of the preceding financial year, whichever is higher (Art. 83 GDPR)
- Reputation
- Loss of useful data / business intelligence
- Data breaches
- Loss of sensitive information, trade secrets and know-how

Technical (privacy) debt



Quality / functioning of the AI-system

- Data quality is essential for the functioning of the AI system
 - » 'Garbage in, garbage out'
- 'Hidden failures'

IT'S ALL ABOUT DATA



Know Your Data

- Origin and sources
- Age
- Types of data, characteristics and attributes
- Legal processing bases
- Limitations
- Sensitive data
- Etc.



IN PRACTICE



Data Protection by Design and Data Protection by Default

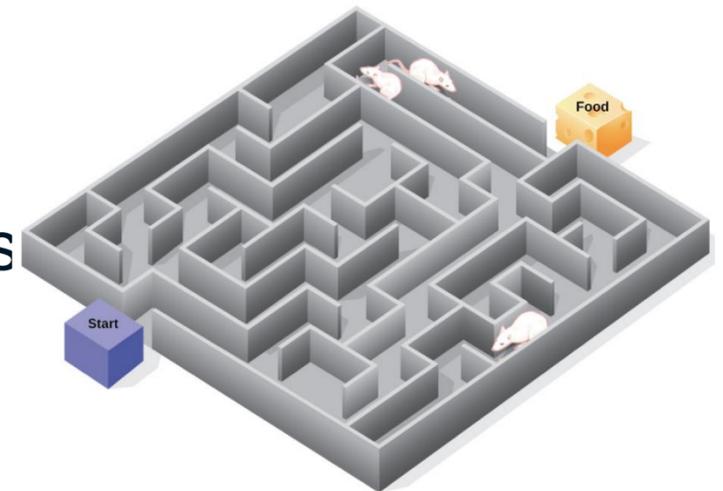
1. ...Controller shall, both at the time of determination of the **means of processing** and at the time of **the processing itself**, implement appropriate technical and organization measures ... designed to implement DP principles, such as data minimisation, in an effective manner and to integrate the necessary safeguards into the processing for data subject rights...
2. Controller shall ... ensure that, **by default, only** personal data which are **necessary for each specific purpose** of the processing are processed. (data, processing, storage and accessibility)

Data Protection by Design and by Default

- Incorporate data protection in applications and processes
 - state-of-the-art, risks, costs,...
- Avoids technical debt!
- Nudges
- Relates to all obligations under the GDPR
- Risk based approach
 - Risk modelling (/threat modelling) – f.e. LINDDUN (linddun.org)
- Data Protection by default = Data Protection is the default
- Certification

Data Protection by Design and by Default

- Specific in an AI context
 - Explainability
 - Data subject rights
 - Use as little (personal) data as possible
 - Use encrypted and/or pseudonymized data
 - Avoid re-identification and derivation of sensitive data
 - Know your data
 - Data cleansing
 - » Redundant data? / Representative?/ Bias?
 - » Note: Article 10 AI Act Proposal imposes data quality requirements
- Document



Data Minimisation

- Article 5.1 (c) GDPR: Personal data shall be adequate, relevant and **limited to what is necessary for the purposes** for which they are processed.
- No personal data?
- As little data as possible
 - Lowest possible volume
 - Lowest amount of data subjects
 - Fewest types of data
- For the **purposes** : clear purposes give leeway

Data Minimisation

- Domain experts!
- Deployment and training of the AI system
- Limit internal access to data
- Benefits: clean data, less hassle

Data Minimisation

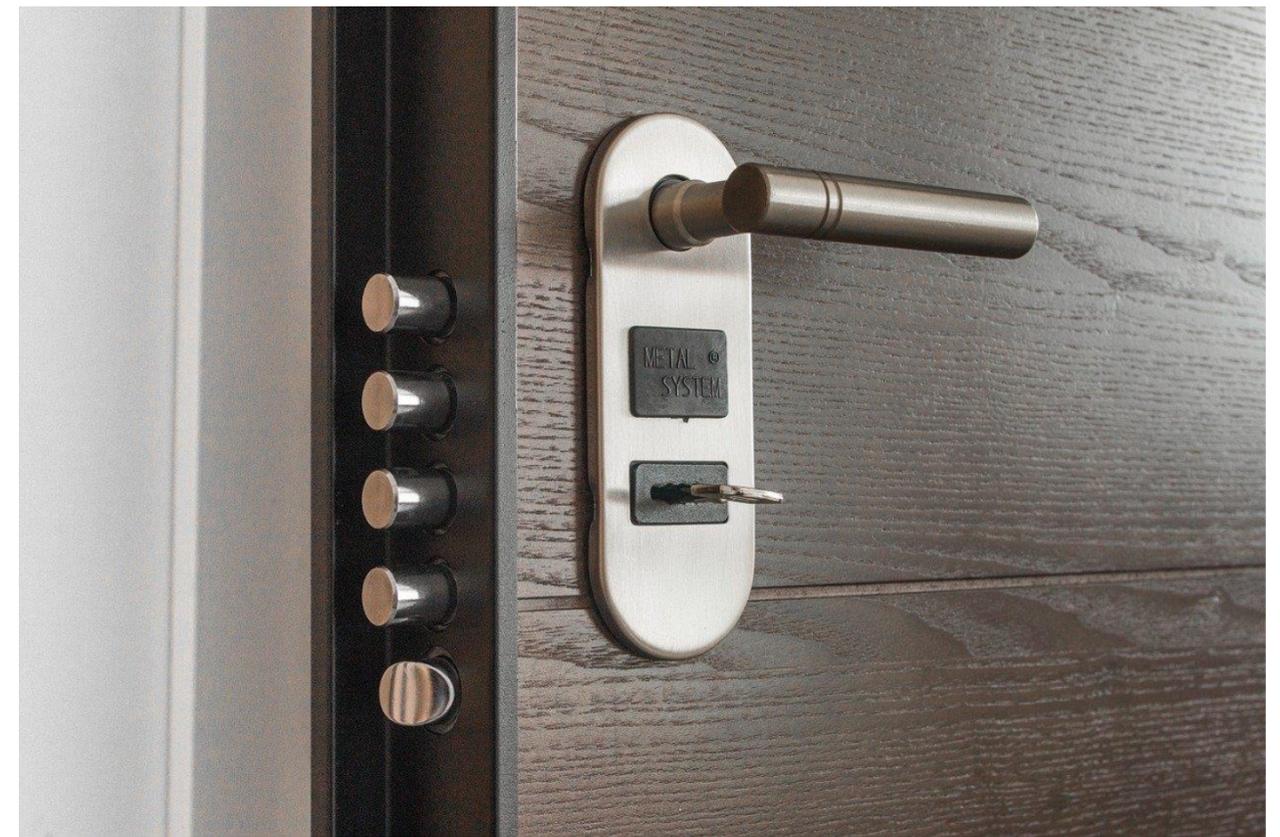
- Anonymisation / destruction
 - Attribute suppression
 - Record suppression
 - Character masking
 - Generalising
 - Swapping and shuffling
- Reduce readability/usability of personal data
 - Differential privacy and perturbation
 - Pseudonymisation
 - Make unreadable
 - Encryption and homomorphic encryption

Data Minimisation

- Data minimisation as product requirement
- Development and training phase
 - Federated learning
 - Generative adversarial networks (GANs)
 - Transfer learning

Data Security

- Article 32 GDPR: “... *The controller and the processor shall implement **appropriate** technical and organizational measures to ensure a level of security **appropriate to the risk**...*”



Data Security

- Technical and organisational security
- Risk-based approach
- Data security policy
- Data management and data mapping
- Awareness-raising and training
- Agreements with suppliers and processors
- Document



Automated decision-making & profiling

- **Profiling** = automated processing of personal data to evaluate certain personal aspects relating to a natural person, in particular to analyse or predict aspects concerning a natural person (work, economic situation, health, personal preferences, reliability, behavior, location or movements)
- **ADM** = decisions based solely on automated processing, including profiling, producing legal effects or similarly significantly affecting a person

Automated decision-making & profiling

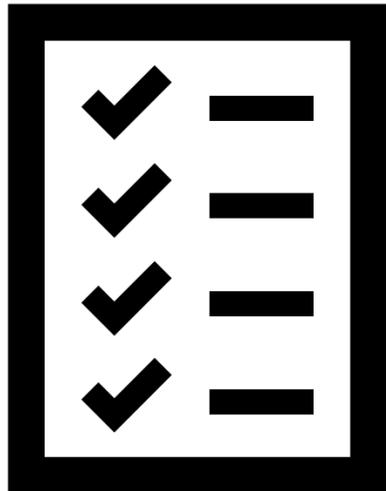
- **Profiling** = **allowed** if GDPR-principles are respected, incl. an appropriate legal basis
- **ADM** = **prohibited** unless 3 situations
 - necessary for performance of a contract between user and controller;
 - authorised by Union or national law which applies to the controller (incl. measures to safeguard the user's rights and freedoms)
 - the user's explicit consent (which can be withdrawn)
- However – scope!
 - solely automated decisions
 - that have a legal effect or otherwise significantly affect the person

Automated decision-making & profiling

- Applying ADM?
 - Transparency-obligations (cfr. supra) and additional DSR:
 - » right to obtain human intervention, to express their point of view and to contest the decision.
- **In practice:**
 - ADM: Be aware of legal restrictions
 - » Consult your DPO/privacy manager when designing/developing a potential ADM-system
 - » Technical feasibility of human intervention,...
 - Importance of training operators of ADM-systems, quality monitoring, third party auditing,...

Data Protection Impact Assessment

- **What & why?**
 - Maps data protection risks in advance → corrective measures
- **What kind of processing activity?**
 - In theory: ‘high risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons’, ‘new technologies’
 - » Further specified in GDPR and in guidance by BE DPA
 - In practice: AI-systems = new technology + often complex and not entirely transparent outcomes
 - » Consider to complete DPIAs even if not strictly mandatory



- **When?**

- At the earliest possible moment
- DPIA ≠ one-off exercise → continuous exercise
 - » If risk of processing activity changes (e.g. due to societal context): complete DPIA

- **By who?**

- You, your team and your DPO/Privacy manager

- **Where?**

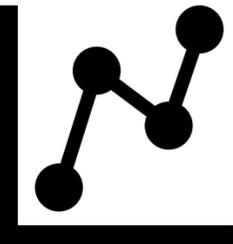
- Contact your DPO/Privacy manager for template DPIA



Research and statistical purposes

- Various exceptions/additional rules apply: data subject rights, data retention,...

Scientific research	Statistical purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broad concept• Incl. technological development and demonstration, fundamental research, applied research,...• Publicly or privately financed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>“any operation of collection and processing of personal data necessary for statistical surveys or for the production of statistical results.”</i>• !! statistical purpose → result of processing for statistical purposes ≠ personal data, but aggregate data, not used in relation to any particular natural person.
Example: training AI-system during training-phase (↔ operational phase?)	Example: aggregated user statistics/accuracy analyses during training & operational phase



Research and statistical purposes

- Respect rights of data subjects
 - Data minimisation guaranteed through technological and organisational measures
- Further processing is deemed compatible
 - but: information obligation
- Longer retention period possible

Research and statistical purposes: BE

PRINCIPLE

The controller for processing for scientific research or statistical purposes uses anonymous data.

EXCEPTION

If it is not possible to achieve the research or statistical objective with anonymous data, the controller will use pseudonymised data.

EXCEPTION

If it is not possible to achieve the research or statistical objective with pseudonymised data, the controller will use non-pseudonymised data.



Research and statistical purposes: BE

- Exceptions/additional rules in connection to:
 - Obligations to anonymise/pseudonymize
 - 4 situations which stipulate who needs to anonymize/pseudonymize
 - Public dissemination of personal data
 - ban on dissemination of personal data, but 4 exceptions
 - Communication of data
 - obligation to communicate non-pseudonymised data in a non reproduceable manner in 3 instances
 - Transparency
 - Retention
 - Data subject rights

Transparency

- Internal vs. external transparency
- Internal transparency:
 - Understanding of AI-systems by other parties
 - Internal policies and guidelines
 - Accountability measures
 - Registry of processing activities

External Transparency

- Privacy statements: art. 12-14 GDPR
- Scientific research: additional obligations
 - Direct vs indirect data collection



A privacy reminder from Google

To be consistent with data protection laws, we're asking you to take a moment to review key points of Google's Privacy Policy. This is not about a change we've made - it's just a chance to review the key points below. **Click "I agree" when you're ready to continue, or explore other options on this page.**

External Transparency

- Art. 12: Form: information has to be
 - Concise
 - Transparent
 - Intelligible and easily accessible form
 - Using clear and plain language

External Transparency

- Art. 13: which information:
 - ✓ Who
 - ✓ Contact details
 - ✓ Purpose; why
 - ✓ Where
 - ✓ Recipients (if any)
 - ✓ (Transfer to third countries)
 - ✓ How long
 - ✓ Existence of rights
 - ✓ If based on consent => right of withdrawal
 - ✓ Right to lodge a complaint
 - ✓ Existence of automated decision-making

External Transparency

- Art. 14: when not directly obtained from the data subject:
 - which categories of personal data are collected (the person will probably not know which data about him/her was collected)
 - the source of the personal data and when applicable, if they came from public available sources
- When to provide this information
 - when collecting the data (art. 13)
 - within a reasonable timeframe, max. 1 month (art.14)

External transparency

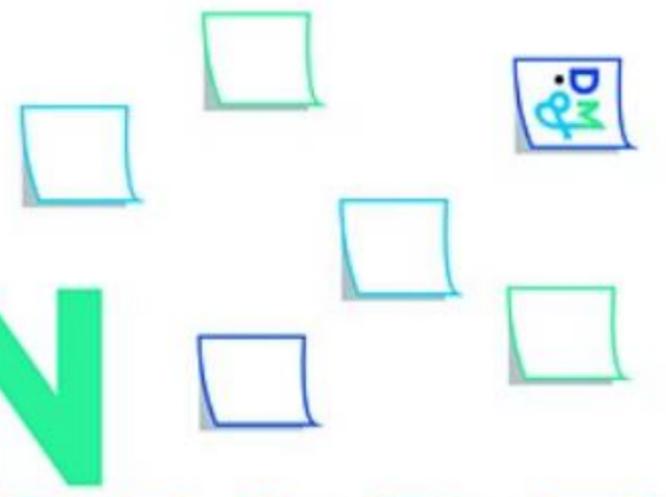
- **FOCUS:** Automated decision-making – information about
 - the existence and use of automated decision-making, including profiling
 - » *Users need to be aware of ADM*
 - meaningful information about the logic involved
 - » *Not a complex but a specific, useful and clear explanation*
 - the significance and the envisaged consequences of such processing for the data subject.
 - » *The manner in which the ADM-process may influence/ have consequences for the user (e.g. by giving examples)*
- Technical counterpart: explainability (by design)

External Transparency

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LEGAL DESIGN WORKSHOP



23/11/2021 @ AI Experience Center

 **Kenniscentrum Data & Maatschappij**

NOV.
23

Workshop: Legal Design

door Kenniscentrum Data &
Maatschappij

50 volgers [Volgen](#)

Gratis



Uitverkocht

Details



Principle: PD cannot be stored longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed

Exception: Scientific research or statistical purposes (+ appropriate technical and organisational measures)

- In practice?
 - Data retention policy/storage guidelines/...
- Advantages of deleting data?
 - Decrease the extent of possible data breaches, decrease risk of using inaccurate, excessive or irrelevant data,...
- Organisation-specific!

Data subject rights

- Various rights: access, rectification, erasure, data portability, object, ...
 - If conditions are met → obliged to respond (1 month)
 - Exception – Scientific research/statistical purposes: *“likely to render impossible or seriously impair the achievement of the purposes”*
- Practical consequences:
 - **Organisation:** Data subject rights policy/request procedure/...
 - **Product:** AI-systems need to allow for the exercise of such rights
 - » E.g. rectification/erasure of data: re-training? Unlearning?

Data subject rights

- What if you receive a DSR-request?
 - Follow DSRP or
 - Escalate to DPO/Privacy manager

- Don't leave a request unanswered → Risk of DPA involvement



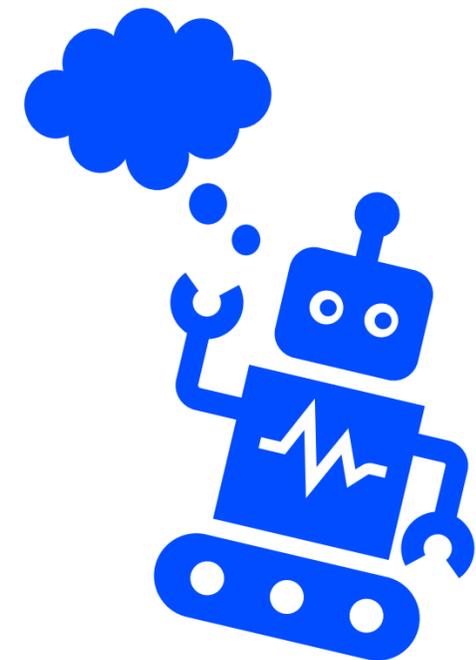
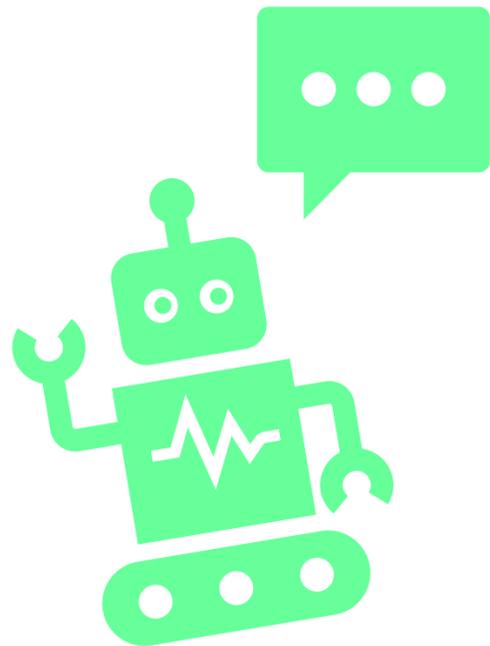
Conclusion

- Know your data
- Understand which internal policies apply on your activities
- Understand how your product/system may impact the private life of the persons concerned
- Consider the applicable legal requirements and take them into account when developing AI-systems or in your research
- Have an interdisciplinary mindset when applying data protection and product development
- Create legally correct but technically and practically applicable guidelines and advice



Q&A

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