

## Weekly Policy News Summary

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Year 2018 – week 16

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### **Implementation of GDPR: Guidelines on consent and transparency adopted**

After a public consultation a [guidelines on consent](#) and [transparency](#) have been adopted by WP 29 as well as the revised BCR application forms, the updated working document on [BCR approval procedure](#) and the revised guidelines on urgency procedure.

To provide interpretation on further aspects of the GDPR the WP29 will continue its work regarding the guidelines on certification, the territorial scope of the GDPR (Article 3 GDPR) and codes of conduct (Article 40 and 41 GDPR). Moreover, the plenary granted a mandate to develop guidance in relation to Article 6(1) b GDPR regulating the “lawfulness of processing”, in particular in the context of the provision of “free” online services. In preparation of the organization and structure of the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) the WP29 discussed amongst others its rules of procedure, its budgetary and technical set-up and the timetable of its meetings for 2019.

### **Council and Parliament agree on simplification of EU funds**

Rules on the so-called Omnibus regulation on EU financial rules, including Cohesion policy, will be simplified, whether they are managed by the Commission, by various organisations and bodies, or jointly with national authorities. The Parliament is now expected to approve the regulation in the first reading. The regulation is expected to enter into force in July 2018 and apply in most parts immediately. Some additional time is provided to the EU institutions, which will apply the new rules from 1 January 2019. The new rules will extend the possibility of basing EU payments on the achievement of results or on pre-defined method rather than tracing every euro of expenditure. Where no statistical or historical data is available, expert judgements could be used for assessing costs. This will reduce paperwork for both beneficiaries and authorities, who will be able to focus on policy achievements rather than on collecting and checking financial documents. For example, it will become easier to combine financing from EU structural funds with financial instruments and the European Fund for Strategic Investments through so-called ‘blending’. It will also be possible to blend grants and financial instruments under the Connecting Europe Facility to finance projects in the fields of transport, energy, and information and communication technology.

### **EC: Public consultations on drones**

This public consultation asks for opinions and suggestions to help identify what are the gains that could be brought by the use of drones and what are the concerns that would need to be addressed by EU public intervention. The results of this consultation will feed into the forthcoming delegated and implementing rules on drones and drones operations and possible future follow-up rules related to drones operations. The questionnaire concerns the civil use of drones for public use as well as recreational and commercial activity. The use for military purposes is not covered by this survey. The term “drones” is used throughout the questionnaire referring to Unmanned Aircraft.

Consultation period is from **13 April 2018 - 9 July 2018**. All citizens and organisations are welcome to contribute to this consultation:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/2018drones?surveylanguage=EN>

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