

Weekly Policy News Summary

Year 2018 – week 18

Commission published Staff Working document Evaluation of Database Directive

This evaluation covers the overall functioning of the two parts of the Database Directive, copyright and sui generis right protection of databases for the period after 2005 and includes all EU member states. In line with the Better Regulation guidelines, the evaluation assesses the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and EU added value of the Database Directive, analysing whether it remains fit for purpose in the new legal, economic and technological environment.

Please click [here](#) to access the Commission staff working document and executive summary on the evaluation of the Directive 96/9/EC on the legal protection of databases. Also, please click [here](#) to access the Executive Summary of the Evaluation of Directive 96/9/EC on the legal protection of databases.

Commission's answer to written question on drones in Copernicus

The written question raised by MEP from Poland in a nutshell was about future trends in drones usage, more precisely on what contexts have drones been used to complement the Copernicus system and could the use of drones to complement certain Copernicus functions become a permanent element of future versions of the system.

Answer was given by Ms Bieńkowska on behalf of the Commission: “The Copernicus market development potential is indeed very promising, as confirmed by various reports and studies, with many possible applications and synergies. Some of these are promoted, provided they are respectful of the authentic nature of the Programme, aimed at supplying satellite data and information, supplemented by sensors/in-situ data and information for the protection of the environment and the citizens. In this context, the Commission acknowledges the trend of a possible contribution of drones' observation to the Copernicus geo-intelligence system and finds it useful, especially for activities and observations where the human presence would be at risk, i.e. in emergency situations. In fact, concrete examples of use of drones have been promoted in the framework of feasibility studies for the emergency service observations, namely for rapid mapping and risk and recovery. Considering the added value of an additional source of observation in disaster and risky situations, and based on the results of the abovementioned feasibility studies, the use of drones could find a larger application in the future, both in the emergency management service and the security service.”

Commission: Public consultation on Environment, Climate action Departments

In line with the [decision](#) adopting the 7th EAP, Environment Action Programme is being evaluated to see what worked well, and how it could have been better. The evaluation focuses on the structure and strategic role played by the 7th EAP and asks how it helped deliver a better environment in practice. This open public consultation is part of the evaluation. All citizens and organisations are welcome to contribute to this consultation. The evaluation of the 7th EAP will also build on contributions from the [European Environment Agency](#) (EEA) on the state of the environment, the [EU Environment Implementation Review](#) (EIR), consultations with MS, and targeted consultations with specific interest groups. Consultation period is from **3 May 2018 to 26 July 2018**. The questionnaire is available at [EU Survey](#)
