

## PRESS RELEASE

the Conference of Independent Data Protection Authorities

of the federal and state governments of May 25, 2023

5 years General Data Protection Regulation:

Proven standard, implementable, internationally recognized

It all started on May 25, 2018: The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) regulated by

now to the processing of personal data and thus the obligations of the

responsible and the rights of data subjects. In the five years of their

data processing in Europe has changed: Digitization is penetrating

almost all areas of life, for many smartphones and cloud computing are self-

become comprehensible, and the applications of artificial intelligence

take on tasks at work and in private life.

Awareness of the rights to information, correction or deletion of

personal data has increased across Europe. The data protection supervisory authority

den handle thousands of complaints every year. Know those responsible

their duties. The concept of a uniform data protection law is considered a success

dell. With the European Data Protection Board, an important body was

create, through common guidelines for data processing, to help

provide legal interpretation. The data protection officers in companies and

Authorities play an important role in data protection on site.

Also in the field of self-regulatory instruments such as codes of conduct (Codes of

Conduct) or certifications, progress has been made. Where interpretation

are disputed, courts decide - sometimes in several instances up to the final

valid clarification by the European Court of Justice.

dr H. c. Marit Hansen, State Commissioner for Data Protection Schleswig-Holstein and

this year's Chair of the Conference of Independent Data Protection Authorities

that of the federal and state governments (data protection conference), estimates the situation as follows

a: "The General Data Protection Regulation works. It is a tried and tested means of

to enable the processing of personal data and at the same time the

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to protect fundamental rights. In this way, the GDPR has become a proven benchmark

ckelt, which is also in demand internationally."

Hansen is not entirely satisfied with the implementation of the newly introduced principle

"Data protection through technology design and through data protection-friendly default

lungs" in Article 25 of the GDPR. She complains: "It would be for those responsible

much easier and fairer if manufacturers and service providers protect data from the start

to incorporate into the development of their products and services. Instead,

We practice again and again in our tests that those responsible from manufacturers

and service providers are left in the dark about how personal data is

be worked. There is also often a lack of a sufficient level of security -

this is presented to us almost daily by a large number of data breach reports

eyes guided."

The GDPR requires the person responsible to comply with the data protection principles

to be able to prove Hansen states: "Companies and authorities can

fail to be accountable when manufacturers and service providers in their

other offers ignore the GDPR. That needs to turn around: manufacturers and

Service providers should support those responsible in meeting the requirements of the

to comply with GDPR. This is only possible with data protection-compliant products and services."

The German data protection supervisory authorities work in the data protection conference

together with the aim of upholding and protecting fundamental data protection rights,

uniform application of European and national data protection law

reach and work together for its further development. Hansen makes German

lich: "The European legislator did not design the GDPR as a flash in the pan,  
but as a set of rules for decades. Not an easy task given that  
technical progress! Where the GDPR remains abstract, concrete  
be ted. With the data protection conference, we will continuously  
contribute to the essential issues of the processing of personal data  
to clarify. This is how the potential of the GDPR can and will continue to unfold."

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Contact:

Chair of the Data Protection Conference 2023

Independent State Center for Data Protection Schleswig-Holstein

Holstenstrasse 98

24103 Kiel

Telephone: 0431 988 1289

Email: [dsk2023@datenschutzzentrum.de](mailto:dsk2023@datenschutzzentrum.de)

<https://www.datenschutzkonferenz-online.de>

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