

THE STATE COMMISSIONER FOR DATA PROTECTION AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

PRESS RELEASE

Press Office of the State Commissioner for the

Data protection and freedom of information

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Data protection and digitization in the new

Traffic light coalition agreement

privacy

LfDI Dr. Stefan Brink: "The traffic light coalition has

performed,

digitalization

to link together. That's a good thing, because both

heard

together. Citizens should from the

Digitization can benefit without sacrificing their civil rights

having to disclose. Now it comes down to that

these plans can also be implemented quickly."

and

Data protection and digitization belong and only work

together - this is a formative guiding principle of the LfDI Baden-

Württemberg for the day-to-day work of his authority. the

traffic light coalition

in Berlin, according to the

coalition agreement now also made digitization

to be understood as a central task for the future. At the same time supports

and strengthens civil rights in many places

informational self-determination, data protection, as well as

the right to know what authorities know, i.e. they

Freedom of Information. Both have not only immediate

Effects at the federal level, but strengthens at the same time

the work of state officials

for privacy and

Freedom of Information.

The new federal government describes the data protection

Basic Regulation (DS-GVO) as a successful European

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to

decide,

Standard: Respect for every single citizen and his

Autonomy, beyond his very personal

information

a

self-determined

European value with

the

In particular, the federal government wants the possibilities

open up which the DS-GVO for research and which

business use of personal data

offers. Both

the

data protection officers of the countries are entrusted.

in the meantime

radiance.

are tasks which

more global

also

is

also

will

state representative

Farther

the

unrestricted for the supervision of private and public

Be responsible for positions in the German states and

In this way, citizens, associations,

Initiatives, companies and public bodies advise and

work towards compliance with the GDPR. various

raised demands for a centralization of the

data protection supervision

one

Federal authorities are off the table.

company

above

at

The federal government supports the data protection officers

by using the joint

states and the federal government,

data protection conference,

the

more informal

merger met, wants to institutionalize more (p. 17

in the coalition agreement).

“Thus, the exchange of the

Data protection officers simpler, more direct, more reliable and more relevant

– that’s good news,” emphasizes LfDI Brink.

so far

as

The coalition agreement also pays tribute to numerous

Represent the high value of civil rights and strengthens the

informational self-determination: standards such as the

consistent end-to-end encryption (p. 31).

more important in the future.

until

the end at the latest

The coalition agreement draws a clear stance

Safety laws out: The safety laws will

evaluated,

one

Monitoring accounts created (p. 108), which the

actual burden on citizens by all

surveillance measures into account. If the

Federal laws are reviewed, of course, this also has

Impact on country safety laws.

2023 will

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IT security is being substantially strengthened in the

Future strategy of the federal government, the use of state and

commercial surveillance software becomes more effective

regulated and the parliaments and the supervisory authorities

enables effective control (p. 109 f.). The coalition turns

also opposes biometric registration

Surveillance purposes ("face recognition") – that too

important concern of data protection officers. In addition, should

the right to anonymity both online and in

public space are guaranteed (p. 109).

Other positive aspects from the point of view of data protection are

the plans of the traffic light

legally secure and

data protection-compliant data transfer with the USA (p. 35), for

a modern employee data protection law and the

balanced use of artificial intelligence (pp. 18, 72).

for one

(p.

announces

From the point of view of freedom of information, it is very welcome

that the federal government is more open by introducing

of the “executive footprint” (p. 10) and a right to

open data

the

Further development of the Freedom of Information Act into one

Federal Transparency Act (p. 11) applies to the demands of

Freedom of Information Officer

official

Information should no longer only be provided upon request, but via

state internet portals are made accessible. A

Federal Transparency Act will also include freedom of information

have a positive impact at country level.

especially

17);

on:

Overall, according to the state commissioner Brink, the

Federal government with a view to data protection and digitization

extensive tasks undertaken and important goals

specified, which affect the German states

will. “Now it is important that these plans also

be implemented quickly,” says LfDI Stefan Brink.