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P r e s s e release

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Maja Smoltczyk: Europe is the way - go vote!

The coming weekend is all about Europe. The celebrates on Saturday

European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) her first birthday and only one

The next day, the elections to the European Parliament will take place. Against this background remembered

the Berlin Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Maja Smoltczyk, that it

the European Parliament was under enormous effort and against multiple

Efforts of lobby groups the DS-GVO negotiated, decided and the citizens

has given the citizens of Europe the opportunity to exercise their rights in a globalized world

defend. It thus has an impressive commitment to preserving the elementary

laid down the fundamental right to data protection.

The developments in the first year of the GDPR show that people are very interested in the

exercise the rights guaranteed therein. Throughout the EU, the complaints are about

Data breaches skyrocketed; in Berlin the number of complaints has increased

more than tripled. But companies are also aware of data protection

gone up. Since then, the number of data breaches reported in Berlin has increased fourteenfold. the

The start-up consultation of the Berlin data protection officer showed that Berliner

companies have discovered data protection as a competitive advantage. Because in many

Regions of the world are now adapting national data protection laws to the standards of

DS-GVO adjusted.

The GDPR was a necessary first step to protect our personality and freedom rights

in a time of advancing global digitization. Digitization has arrived

almost all areas of life maintained. Many developments can improve our lives,

at the same time, however, they harbor considerable dangers for our free and democratic society

Company. Quasi-monopoly positions of large data corporations mean that people but also companies and state institutions are becoming more and more dependent on them advised and fair competition is impeded. Increasingly often prepare algorithms Decisions about people or even make them yourself. Although they are extensive can have an impact on all of our lives, they are mostly completely non-transparent. The increasing danger of manipulated opinion-forming processes must also be taken very seriously or political elections. There is a need for further regulation here.

Maja Smoltczyk: "The GDPR is an example of how global challenges time can be successfully met in a democratic way and across national borders can. In view of these immense challenges that our increasingly digitized society is imminent, we need a strong Europe and, in particular, a strengthened and effective European Parliament, which is the path taken for the citizens and citizens of Europe with courage and energy. Europe is the way - we should all be on it go on Sunday!"

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