

media information

Saxon data protection officer

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Andreas Schurig's term of office is coming to an end

Importance of data protection grows – tech giants must

Offer GDPR-compliant solutions - Better equipment of

data protection officers required

After three terms of office, the activity will end on December 31, 2021

by Andreas Schurig as Saxon data protection officer. Since 2004

he worked on several with his employees

ten thousand cases. Some received nationwide attention, for example the

so-called »Saxon swamp« investigations 2006/2007 or the Dresden

»Handygate« in 2011. In addition to these incidents, there were many others

Events and consultations that did not find their way into the media.

Andreas Schurig sums it up: "I am proud of what we have achieved in the 18th

years of my tenure have accomplished and achieved. One of the biggest

The changeover to the European system was certainly a challenge

General Data Protection Regulation, which came into effect in May 2018. Above

I received a thousand requests for advice on this; by citizens

and citizens, companies, associations and from the administration. Added

came a number of new tasks and duties as independent ones

supervisory authority. This realignment was good for everyone involved

A feat that we mastered together.«

Challenges for data protection in the information economy

With increasing digitization, the importance of

data protection. Trends and innovations such as Industry 4.0, artificial

intelligence, the »metaverse« as a network of networks or the blockchain

Technology with cryptocurrencies and digital uniques play one

increasingly important role in the 21st century. Especially in the pandemic

people's lives are increasingly shifting to the digital world.

Video conferences, intuitive office software, apps and messenger services

are part of everyday life for many citizens.

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noted conditions.

However, the algorithms behind these applications only work with personal data. They are the key for many business models digitized economy is the essential raw material – nothing works without it. He is the prerequisite for technical solutions based on artificial intelligence put. Who bought what when and where was clicked – the intelligence created from user data.

Andrew Schurig

sees an essential task for the future here:

»Data protection officers must critically monitor this development, intervene, if data is processed in a disproportionate or inappropriate manner and contribute constructively to the use of new technologies. It is important to keep emphasizing that data protection advocates do not essentially but to protect people's individual rights to freedom.«

Find privacy-compliant solutions with tech giants

Many of the global tech companies have an overwhelming market power. Office software, browsers, e-mail programs, operating systems even software like for PC and smartphone, cloud storage, graphic editing and especially social media platforms in

concentrated in the hands of a few companies. “That complicates us

in this country to act in compliance with data protection - especially if the

Companies are based in countries that we do not care about

as safe third countries within the meaning of the General Data Protection Regulation

can recognize. It will continue to be the job of regulators

be in Germany and the European Union, at the big tech

companies, especially in the USA, to provide data protection-compliant solutions

obtain.«, explains Andreas Schurig.

Better equipment needed

In view of the many challenges, the equipment

the

the

resources

by data protection officers and

Saxon

Data protection officers are often too tight. Andrew Schurig

explains: »On the one hand we have the General Data Protection Regulation

The European Union. It represents a milestone in data protection

- especially for those who do not see data protection as a restriction,

but understand it as protection of freedom. At the same time, we record

Effective date of the ordinance, a steadily increasing revenue from the

Reporting data breaches and complaints about privacy breaches.

This clearly shows how much those responsible

in economics and

administration and the data protection officers still have work to do. same

applies to my authority.«

The successor in office will take over in the new year

On December 21, the Saxon state parliament elected Dr. Juliane Hundert zur

Saxon data protection officer. Her term of office begins on January 1st

2022. Andreas Schurig gladly and confidently hands over his office: »Mine

I wish her successor all the best. She takes on a very dedicated great and competent team, which in the last months and years has done amazing things. I wish you an always level-headed and at the same time lucky hand, much success and God's blessing. At the same time thank you I would like to thank everyone who has met me on my

Test bench.

the

also the des

privacy advocate

on

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accompanied and supported along the way. In the future, too, people will be needed

who are committed to data protection. He is essential for one

free society. Data protection is and remains protection of freedom!«

About the Saxon data protection officer

The Saxon data protection officer is the independent one for Saxony

Data protection supervisory authority according to Article 51 paragraph 1 of the data protection

General Regulation (GDPR). This arises with regard to non-public

Bodies (e.g. companies and associations) from § 14 paragraph 2 of the Saxon

Data Protection Implementation Act; with regard to public bodies (e.g.

B. authorities) from § 14 paragraph 1 of the same law.

Andreas Schurig has held the office since 2004 and will be in his office

supported by more than 30 employees in Dresden.

The Saxon Data Protection Officer monitors compliance with the

data protection regulations and handles complaints from citizens

citizens. Other tasks include advising

Saxon responsible for data protection issues.

More information: www.saechsdsb.de