

DATA PROTECTION DAY

28 JANUARY 2007

On an initiative of the Council of Europe, Europe will be celebrating a Data Protection Day on 28 January.

On this day, and over the following week, throughout the European Union initiatives are being undertaken to stimulate everyone to familiarise themselves with an important aspect of life: the processing of personal data and to become more aware of their rights and responsibilities.

The Europol Joint Supervisory Body supports this initiative wholeheartedly.

It is impossible to imagine life today without processing of personal data. Sometimes you may be aware of this, but this is certainly not always the case. Being aware of and being informed about this processing is a very important fundamental aspect for every individual. Living a life without unnecessary interference or unjustified treatment based on unlawful processing of personal data is essential for every individual.

Being aware of this and knowing your rights as an individual to the protection of your personal data is equally essential.

Even in the area of the fight against serious, international and organised crime, an area in which Europol is active, individuals have the same basic rights. The fundamental data protection rights do not distinguish between individuals who are known to the law enforcement authorities, whether as convicted criminals, suspects, witnesses or victims and those who are not known..

This website has been created to increase awareness about Europol, data protection and the work of the Europol Joint Supervisory Body. It provides everybody whose data are processed by Europol or who is just interested with an overview of their rights.

Using the European Data Protection Day as a starting point, the Europol Joint Supervisory Body will launch before the summer in cooperation with the national Data Protection Authorities an information campaign about the rights of data subjects and Europol. Key amongst these is the right of subject access.