



Issue 3 - March 2024

NEWSLETTER

RAISING DATA PROTECTION AWARENESS AMONG CHILDREN

CREATING AN OPEN SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE FOR PRIVACY PROFESSIONALS

The byDefault project is funded by the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV) of the European Union and is coordinated by the Hellenic Data Protection Authority.

Views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the project partners only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

The Partners

The byDefault consortium is comprised of three partners that represent three areas: regulatory, academic and software industry. The coordinator of the project is the Hellenic Data Protection Authority and the other two partners are the University of Piraeus Research Center and ICT Abovo PC.



The project's Goals

PROMOTE the creation of an open source of knowledge for **DPOs and privacy professionals**.

Visit the website of the project at
<https://bydefault-project.eu/>

RAISE data protection and privacy awareness among the critical social group of **children**.

DPOs and privacy professionals

In a few words

Following the identification of the needs of privacy professionals and the results of the survey carried out for this purpose (see [Newsletter 2](#)), the collaboration platform has been developed.

The aim of the platform is to share specialised knowledge by topic, in order to facilitate the practical application of data protection principles by data protection professionals (DPOs, specialists with a relevant background, IT professionals involved in/implementing relevant projects, etc.).

The **Platform** became operational in September 2023 with:

- **Space for discussion** and exchange of views (for registered users – data protection professionals)
- **Digital library** with supporting material (open to all).

It operates under the guidance and supervision of the HDPa's staff and with the technical support of ICT Abovo, but is not intended to provide specific advice or answers in individual cases or to replace DPOs.




Πλατφόρμα συζήτησης Ψηφιακή βιβλιοθήκη Αποσύνδεση

Η Πλατφόρμα αποσκοπεί στην ανταλλαγή εξειδικευμένης γνώσης ταξινόμημένης ανά θεματικό τομέα, ώστε να διευκολύνεται η πρακτική εφαρμογή των αρχών της προστασίας δεδομένων από τους επαγγελματίες του χώρου της προστασίας δεδομένων (Υπεύθυνοι Προστασίας Δεδομένων, επαγγελματίες με σχετικό αντικείμενο, επαγγελματίες πληροφορικής που συμμετέχουν/υλοποιούν σχετικά έργα κ.ά.). Η Πλατφόρμα λειτουργεί με:

- **Χώρο συζήτησης και ανταλλαγής απόψεων** (για εγγεγραμμένους χρήστες – επαγγελματίες της προστασίας προσωπικών δεδομένων)
- **Ψηφιακή Βιβλιοθήκη** με υποστηρικτικό υλικό (ανοιχτό σε όλους)

Η Πλατφόρμα λειτουργεί με την καθοδήγηση και την εποπτεία της Αρχής, χωρίς να αποσκοπεί στην παροχή συγκεκριμένων συμβουλών ή απαντήσεων σε εξομοιωμένες περιπτώσεις ή στην υποκατάσταση των Υπευθύνων Προστασίας Δεδομένων.

Η με οποιονδήποτε τρόπο χρήση της Πλατφόρμας υπόκειται στους όρους που περιγράφονται στον **Κανονισμό Λειτουργίας** της. Ενημερωθείτε αναλυτικά για την επεξεργασία των προσωπικών σας δεδομένων μέσω της πλατφόρμας και εγγραφείτε για να συμμετάσχετε ή **συνδεθείτε** αν έχετε ήδη εγγραφεί.

DPOs and privacy professionals

Use of the platform

By mid-February 2024, around 300 users had registered on the platform and the following 10 thematic areas were created in the discussion platform based on the results of the questionnaires:

- Data security, New technologies, Accountability tools, Lawfulness of processing, Employment relations, Controllers and Processors, Rights of Subjects, Special categories of data, Video surveillance systems, and Basic principles of data processing.

The Digital Library contains guidance texts. These are divided into the 10 thematic areas listed above.

It should be noted that visitors to the Library's website may consult the texts/documents published on the platform or download them locally to their computers without being registered as users.

Discussion topics and digital library

In total, 212 discussion topics were developed and 258 publications were produced in 23 forums.

- All users can create new topics on the discussion platform. 20 new topics have been created and 75 contributions have been made. These were on the following topics:

Data security > differentiated identity or anonymization; image/sound pseudonymisation tools; Electronic Register of DPOs.

New Technologies > principle of transparency in the GDPR and the Artificial Intelligence

DPOs and privacy professionals

Act; new working document on smart cities.

Accountability Tools > opinion of the data subjects or their representatives in the context of the DPIA (No. 35(9) of Law 4990/2022).

Lawfulness of Processing > outcome of disciplinary proceedings to a complainant; provision of files on the transfer of registration records.

Employment relations > staff recognition card.

Controllers and Processors > independence of controllers.

Video Surveillance Systems > transition from law to action.

General issues (not covered by the other categories) concerned the operation and regulation of the platform, proposals for improving the forum, the EU adequacy decision on the EU-US Privacy Framework.

Finally, a dedicated coordinators' area was created as part of the project. 10 coordinators were finally selected through nominations according to their preferences.

- In the **digital library area of the platform**, as mentioned above, 10 thematic areas have been created by the HDPA. Prior to the launch of the platform these thematic areas were enriched with content by the project team.

The content of the platform corresponds to the guidelines published in the form of a digital library archive. In particular, the basic information and a short summary of each text are presented in the discussion area, in order to make it easier for users to search and use.

DPOs and privacy professionals

Feedback from users

Suggestions from users of the forum were mainly related to its functionality. Suggestions included an effective preview of user posts when replying to a discussion thread, and restoring the appearance of notifications to the user after they have been alerted with a notification bell widget.

Next steps to be taken

For the next steps, it should be taken into account that in the following months, based on the project contract, the process of evaluation of the platform by its users has to be implemented. At the same time, it is proposed to carry out further information, publicity and awareness-raising activities to encourage user participation, such as:

- Promote the platform as a key tool for DPOs to communicate with the Authority;
- Re-engage coordinators for a dedicated meeting/discussion;
- Carry out an on-line workshop in parallel with the evaluation in order to discuss the needs and wishes of the users.



Children

In a few words

As outlined in the previous [Newsletter 2](#) one of the main objectives of the project is to create a comprehensive educational programme aimed at fostering a culture of personal data protection from an early age.

The programme targets at primary and secondary school pupils, while at the same time it provides teachers with the training and support they need to use it in their work.

4/10/2023

On 4 October 2023, an **awareness-raising event** was held at the University of Piraeus with the aim of informing teachers about the following:

- Basic principles of personal data protection;
- Training programme to be included in the qualification workshops of the Institute of Educational Policy (IEP);
- Training seminars for teachers to be organized by the Centre for Training and Lifelong Learning (KEDIVIM) of the University of Piraeus.

At the end of the presentations, specific risk scenarios for students' personal data were presented to the teachers to exchange views on how they can raise awareness and educate students to address and manage these risks.

Children



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Children

15/2/2024

Pending the start of the official training seminar that was planned to be offered to teachers by the Centre for Education and Lifelong Learning (KEDIVIM) of the University of Piraeus, a **fast-track training seminar** was organised online on **15 February 2024** to prepare teachers to support the student awareness programme on personal data protection that would be piloted in their school.

The seminar was conducted using the Zoom platform and lasted 3.5 hours during which the basic principles of personal data protection were presented and specific scenarios concerning pupils' personal data were discussed. After this preparatory seminar, the participants evaluated its effectiveness and usefulness, providing an overall very positive feedback.

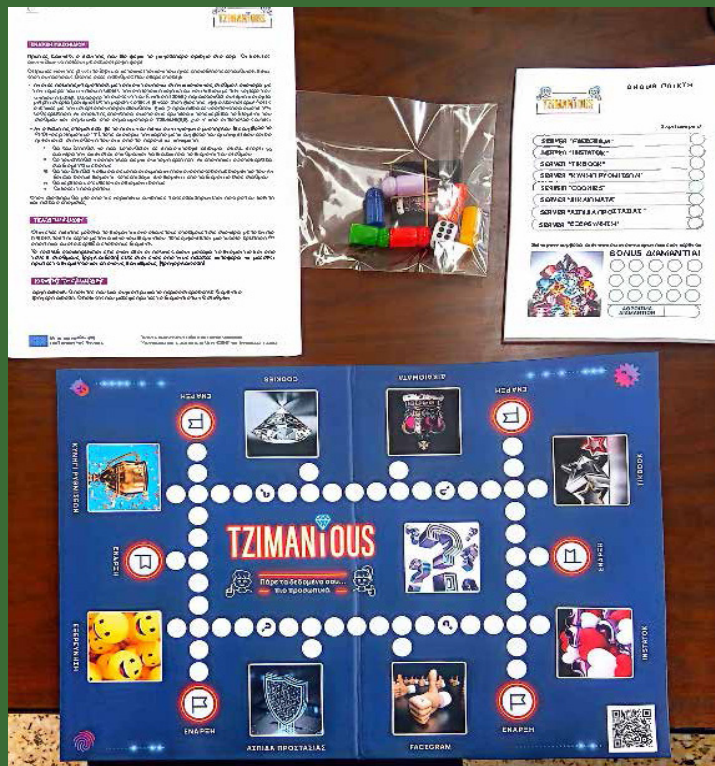
Furthermore, the **educational game** called "**TZIMANIOUS**" that was developed by the HDPa and the University of Piraeus, as part of the byDefault project, was presented to the participants. The game combines both physical and digital features ("phygital"): it consists of physical components, such as a board, pawns and cards, as well as digital elements (an app must be installed on the mobile or tablet to be used during the game process) and aims to make students aware of how to protect their personal data. It is played by 2 to 6 players or groups.

The goal of each player/group is to move their pawn through the eight stations of the game, answering questions about personal data and collecting as many diamonds as possible.

The board game kit was sent to the teachers who took part in the seminar so that they could play the game with their pupils in class during the pilot phase.

By the end of March, teachers are expected to provide feedback on the game.

Children



TZIMANIOUS
Educational board game

1/4/2024

Following the fast-track seminar, the **official training seminar** is scheduled to start in the beginning of **April 2024**. The total duration will be **50 hours** over **8 weeks**.

Each week will include 3 hours of tele-teaching based on the schedule shown below. In addition, trainees will have access to an asynchronous learning platform to study any additional material provided and to complete self-assessment questions at a time of their choosing.



Children

The training material includes a variety of elements to provide teachers with a comprehensive learning experience aimed at cultivating a culture and philosophy of data protection awareness.

At the end of the training seminar and if the teachers have successfully completed the activities (participation in tele-lectures, exercises/quizzes, etc.), they will receive a certificate of successful completion of the seminar from the University of Piraeus.

The seminar will take place online on the following dates:

- 4/4** - Module 1: Protection of personal data. Introduction, basic concepts, institutions
- 11/4** - Module 2: Principles of processing of personal data. Lawfulness of processing
- 17/4** - Module 3: Transparency in the processing of personal data and the rights of data subjects
- 24/4** - Module 4: Internet risks and data security
- 15/5** - Module 5: Profiling through targeted advertising and tracing techniques
- 22/5** - Module 6: Privacy settings and proper management of personal data
- 29/5** - Module 7: Dark patterns on social networks
- 6/6** - Module 8: Educational game “TZIMANIOUS”



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