SAPIENT
Surveillance, Privacy & Ethics

ABOUT SAPIENT

SAPIENT is a 36-month Collaborative Project that aims to specify how and when smart surveillance should be used (or not) and its characteristics to be effective and scalable to rapidly adapt to changing situations. It will provide stakeholders with a set of criteria for data protection and integrity that can be used to verify that surveillance systems and the sharing of information respect the privacy of citizens.

The project will develop and provide a privacy impact assessment methodology, which is tailor-made for surveillance projects and technology developments and, in so doing, the use of the methodology will provide a means for limiting the collection and storage of unnecessary data. It will focus on the necessity and proportionality of data collection needs to avoid undue threats to data protection and privacy. SAPIENT will pave the way towards an approach of surveillance where the respect of the privacy of the citizen will be central.

WORK PLAN

The SAPIENT project will define and characterize smart surveillance within technological, social, political, legal, and ethical contexts, bridging from current studies of state-of-the-art of surveillance to emerging technologies and related applications expected over the next decade.

The second step will begin the process of active stakeholder engagement within SAPIENT, through convening focus groups with participants representing various views and interests on different applications of smart surveillance.

Then the SAPIENT team will examine existing privacy impact assessment (PIA) methodologies and propose a methodology that is suitable for the assessment of state-of-the-art and emerging surveillance technologies and related applications.

The validation of the suggested PIA is done by three distinct field studies. These cases may focus upon technologies such as RFID, biometrics, or smart CCTV.

A "lessons learned" evaluation will be completed at the conclusion of the case study test, and these will be used to revise the PIA methodology, resulting in the Surveillance Privacy Impact Assessment Manual.

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

The main tools for dissemination are:
- This presentation flyer providing an overview of the project research lines as well as the consortium.
- A brochure offering further information of the research project
- Moreover a series of policy meetings will be held over the course of the project to present findings of research and policy recommendations
- Publications delivered in different formats (State of the Art reports, Working Papers, Policy briefs, etc) that will be available in the SAPIENT website

EXPECTED RESULTS

The work of the project will lead to:
- A practical handbook that will help policy-makers & other stakeholders to better understand how and when smart surveillance should be used, and apply criteria to assure that such systems respect the privacy of the citizen
- Academic publications in various journals and formats making the results accessible to the academia
- Policy briefs informing policy-makers at the EU, national and local levels about SAPIENT's findings

THE CONSORTIUM

The SAPIENT consortium is a multidisciplinary research team, made up of organisations with strong expertise in advanced surveillance technologies

and practices in the field of security and privacy. The consortium consists of engineers, scientists in social sciences and humanities (sociologists andpolitical scientists, philosophy and ethics), and law scientists in the field of human rights, civic law and data protection.

PARTNERS

Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research (Germany)

Trilateral Research & Consulting LLP (UK)

CSSC — Centre for Science, Society and Citizenship
Centre for Science, Society and Citizenship (Italy)

Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Research group on Law Science, Technology and Society (LSTS) (Belgium)

University of Lugano (Switzerland)

King's College London (UK)

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) (Belgium)

PROJECT INFORMATION

COORDINATOR

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For more information please visit:
www.sapientproject.eu

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Supporting fundamentAl rights, PrIvacy and Ethics in surveillaNce Technologies

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