

# **Call for applications for the selection of experts for the Data Retention Experts Group**

*By Decision of 18.4.2013<sup>1</sup> ('the Decision'), the Commission has set up an experts group on best practice in the implementation of electronic communications data retention for the investigation, detection and prosecution of serious crime ('the experts group').*

## **Tasks of the experts group**

The tasks of the experts group are:

- (a) to exchange information about changes in technologies relating to the provision of publicly available electronic communications (services and networks) and in the legitimate requirements of competent authorities of Member States which are relevant to the application of Directive 2006/24/EC ('the Data Retention Directive') and to help ensure that the Directive continues to fulfil its intended aims;
- (b) to identify and define difficulties which have emerged at national and cross-border level in relation to the technical and practical implementation of the Data Retention Directive, in particular from the perspective of competent authorities and the electronic communications industry;
- (c) to identify best practice in matters relating to data retention and, if requested by the Commission, to devise and to disseminate guidance on best practice and to review the effectiveness of that guidance.

## **Members of the experts group**

In accordance with Article 4 of the Decision, the group shall consist of 20 experts. The purpose of this call is not to select experts from the European Data Protection Supervisor, Europol or Member States' national authorities. (The Decision provides that one expert shall be a representative of the European Data Protection Supervisor, and one expert shall be a representative of the European Police Office (Europol). In addition, Member States' law enforcement authorities at national, regional or local level may each appoint a representative (up to seven experts) and data protection authorities may each a representative (up to four experts)).

The remaining experts shall be appointed in a personal capacity or to represent a common interest shared by stakeholders, or to represent a trade association of the electronic communications industry (up to five experts). The Commission is calling for applications with a view to selecting these remaining members of the experts group.

## **Criteria for selection of members**

The Commission will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

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<sup>1</sup> C(2013) 2144 Final

- proven competence and experience, including at European and/or international level, in the areas of law enforcement and/or the electronic communications industry and/or data protection;
- a genuine commitment to efficient and effective implementation of the Data Retention Directive;
- the need to strike a balance within the experts group in terms of representativeness of applicants, gender and geographical origin<sup>2</sup>;
- members of the experts group must be nationals of a Member State of the European Union or, if appropriate, of an acceding country or a European Economic Area country.

## How to apply

Applications must be signed and sent by 3 June 2013. The date of sending will be established as follows:

- where applications are sent by email to the following address: [home-data-retention@ec.europa.eu](mailto:home-data-retention@ec.europa.eu) with the subject '**Applications for the Data Retention Expert Group**', the date of the email will be considered the date of sending;
- where applications are sent by post to the following address: Applications for the Data Retention Expert Group, European Commission, Directorate-General Home Affairs, LX 48 03/010, 1049 Brussels, the postmark date will be considered the date of sending;
- where applications are hand-delivered to the following address: European Commission, Directorate-General Home Affairs, LX46 03/010, Rue du Luxembourg 46, 1000 Brussels, the date on the receipt given upon delivery will be considered the date of sending.

Each application must clearly indicate whether the application concerns an individual in a personal capacity, an individual representing a common interest shared by stakeholders or an individual representing a trade association of the electronic communications industry.

Each application must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English or French would facilitate the evaluation procedure. All applicants must submit curriculum vitae (CV) indicating their educational background, professional experience and language knowledge (maximum two pages) in support of their application. If the application is in a language other than English or French, it would be desirable to include a summary of the CV in English or French.

The following information should also be included:

- the organisation, company or authority for which the applicant is currently working and the length of time he/she has worked there;
- other organisations, companies or authorities, for which he/she has worked in the past;
- his/her specific competences in the relevant area(s);

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<sup>2</sup> Commission Decision 2000/407/EC of 19 June 2000 relating to gender balance within the committees and expert groups established by it (OJ L 154 of 27.6.2000, p. 34).

- the specific projects and or tasks he/she has been involved in the relevant areas;
- any work that he/she has published that concern the application of Data Retention Directive;
- any experience he/she has acquired at EU and/or international level;
- the major professional challenges which the applicant envisages for the near future;
- if required, the name of an alternate who, in accordance with Article 4(6) of the Decision, may automatically replace the relevant member if he/she is absent or indisposed.
- if the application concerns an individual in a personal capacity, any interests that he/she has which may prejudice his or her independence.

Applications from organisations or associations should also include information on:

- the relevance of data retention to their organisation; and
- the mission and mandate of the organisation.

## **Terms of appointment**

The Commission shall select members of the group for a three-year term, which may be renewed.

All members appointed in a personal capacity shall give the Commission their opinions free from outside influence, and shall commit to act in the public interest.

All members shall respect the conditions of confidentiality as set out in Article 5 of the Decision.

Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the group shall be reimbursed by the Commission in accordance with the provisions in force in the Commission within the limits of the available budgetary appropriations. Members will receive no remuneration for their duties.

The list of members of the group of experts shall be published in the Register of Commission Expert Groups (<http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/>).

Personal data will be collected, processed and published in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

## **Further information**

For any further information please email [home-data-retention@ec.europa.eu](mailto:home-data-retention@ec.europa.eu) or telephone +32 (0) 2 296 20 33.

Information on the results of the call for applications will be published on the website of the DG Home Affairs ([http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/index_en.htm)).