



BRUSSELS  
PRIVACY  
HUB

## **Workshop on the current trends and practices in biobanking in the light of European and national data protection requirements?**

**6 February 2016**

**Lisbon Conference Room, Lower Ground Floor  
Institute for European Studies, VUB  
5 Pleinlaan, 1050, Brussel**

**By registration only ([info@brusselsprivacyhub.org](mailto:info@brusselsprivacyhub.org))**

Data protection legislation is of fundamental importance to biobanking activities in all EU Member States. At present, whilst Directive 95/46/EC is in force it is necessary to take into account the significant variations that exist in Member State law concerning biobanking. Such difference mean that certain practices may be permissible in certain Member states but not others, fuelling the creation of important centers of concentration of biobanking practices. The enactment of the GDPR was intended in large part to bring about a harmonisation of data protection regulation across Europe. Article 9(4) of the GDPR however means that the level of harmonisation of health data is uncertain given that member states may "maintain or introduce further conditions, including limitations, with regard to the processing of genetic data, biometric data or data concerning health."

The workshop, in co-operation with the law firm Covington & Burling will discuss the state of biobanking in the EU. A focus will be on the limitations posed by European and national data protection law and the effects that the GDPR may (or may not) have.

<b>12.15-12.45</b>	Arrival and lunch
<b>12.45-13.45</b>	Reflections on the Biobanking and data protection in Europe, Kristof Van Quathem, Special counsel - Advocaat, Covington & Burling LLP
<b>13.45-14.30</b>	Q & A and general discussion, chaired by Paul Quinn, LSTS/VUB-BPH