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Meet the Author Series: Transatlantic Jurisdictional Conflicts in Data Protection Law (Dr. Mistale Taylor)

7 November 2018

Zwaartzaal, U-residence, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Pleinlaan 2, 1050, Brussel
(Access also via Generaal Jacqueslaan 271, 1050 Brussels)

Debate with the author of a doctorate thesis entitled “Transatlantic Jurisdictional Conflicts in Data Protection Law: How the Fundamental Right to Data Protection Conditions the European Union’s Exercise of Extraterritorial Jurisdiction”, written by Dr Mistale Taylor of Utrecht University.

The thesis examines the opportunities and limitations for the EU to exercise jurisdiction extraterritorially to safeguard data subjects’ fundamental right to data protection. In so doing unilaterally, the EU has been championing a value and fundamental right for its data subjects.

This has inspired jurisdictional conflicts with – most notably - the US. Clashes arise around differing approaches to, *inter alia*, security, the freedom of expression and transatlantic trade. The EU’s actions show how the exercise of extraterritorial jurisdiction by one actor (the EU) based on local approaches to human rights standards and specific values (privacy and the protection of personal data) could lead to the convergence of values and laws on the global stage.

However, convergence could also be resisted. The author claims that if the EU’s reach were strong enough to avoid or counter resistance, this would ultimately lead to fewer conflicts in jurisdiction as global standards would converge and, even in the EU-US data privacy law interface, commonalities and shared approaches to rights protection would emerge.

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| 12.00-12.30 | Arrival and lunch |
| 12.30-13.30 | “Transatlantic Jurisdictional Conflicts in Data Protection Law” <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction by Dr Hielke Hijmans, Brussels Privacy Hub.• Critical remarks by Anna Buchta, EDPS• Critical remarks by Frederik Zuiderveen Borgesius, LSTS, VUB and University of Amsterdam• Reactions of the author |
| 13.30-14.30 | Discussion with discussants, authors and audience, chaired by Dr Hielke Hijmans |