

30th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers of justice
“data protection and privacy in the third millennium”
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SPEECH

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Excellencies and Distinguished delegates,

We are glad to be able to share a few thoughts with you on the crucial issue dealt with by Resolution No. 3, **Data Protection and Privacy in the Third millennium.**

Since we have already taken the floor twice, we understand it as our obligation to be particularly brief.

We are all aware that modern information and communication technologies enable recording and storage of most day-to-day human activities, thereby creating a threatening feeling of being permanently watched. Moreover, the widespread use of Information and Communication Technologies in enhancing the justice sector performance implies the increase in collecting, processing and recording of personal data and, on the other hand, arises the need of protection of privacy and personal data.

According to our assessment, three areas deserve special attention:

- tackling unresolved issues of jurisdiction and applicable law in respect of virtual and trans-border relationship, deriving from ever-growing social networks and from cloud-computing tools;
- designing “privacy enhancing technologies” in order to complement the existing safeguards for data and privacy;
- establishing an efficient system for trans-border data flows and Internet access, in full compliance with data protection principles and rules.

We wish here to reiterate that the Italian Government stands fully behind the Council of Europe’s work in the critical domain of Data Protection and is keen to keep providing its political support and technical contribution.

We also believe that the forthcoming **Data Protection Day**, on 28 January 2011, will offer a unique opportunity to raise awareness among citizens, public officials, the business community and civil society about the relevance of data protection. And we will be certainly doing our share of work in this respect.

I thank you for your kind attention.