

Session 4 | Digital identity



Official investigation to "Mi Argentina" app

"Mi Argentina" is an App of the National Government of Argentina which provides access to every digital service of the National Public Administration.

In May of 2020, the National Access to Public Information Agency received a complaint made by a citizen. He alleged that the app had certain technical failures that could expose personal data stored in the ID section of Mi Argentina:

- It was possible to consult personal data of other citizens without their consent.
- There was no validation method that would allow third parties to verify the authenticity of the ID when it was displayed.





What did the Agency do?

Three days after, the Agency began an ex officio investigation to the Government's App in order to verify the citizen's claims.

The Agency asked the responsibles of "Mi Argentina" to:

- Detail the security measures implemented to prevent the disclosure of personal data from the app;
- Report whether the app uses an API (application programming interface) for data exchange and, if so, specify the restriction mechanisms it uses.

Furthermore, the AAIP suggested to suspend data processing until the appropriate security measures were taken.

Mi Argentina requested an extension. The extension was granted by a new term of ten business days





What was the response of Mi Argentina?

The National Registry of Persons (RENAPER) is the organism in charge of the data collected by the platform. It has high security measures that guarantees a double protection against any attempt to obtain data improperly.

In December of 2019, they began an audit process. Since then, procedures are underway for a reengineering process with the aim of improving security measures and update the activity log of the app.





What was the response of Mi Argentina?

Regarding the particular complaint:

- No data extraction or improper access was found.
- That particular service had already an expiration date. Was one of the services that they put into the app when it still did not have digital documentation.
- Improvements of this functionalities were already planned for the redesign of the app.

Nevertheless, when they got noticed about the failure they turned down the service.





What was the Agency's decision?

The Government App:

- Provided the required information regarding the API's operation and the implementation of security measures.
- Adopted the suggestion made by the Agency regarding the suspension of personal data processing till security measures were taken.
- Is currently carrying out a reengineering process with the aim of improving measures and optimize the activity log of the application.





What was the Agency's decision?

There were no behaviors that may violated the article 9 of the Personal Data Protection Law 25.326.

However, the Agency reiterated the recommendation of implementing a method of verifying the authenticity of the digital ID when being exhibited through the app.



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