

Really Enforceable Solution to Protect End-users Consent & Tracking Decisions (RESPECTeD)

1. Project Goal

Who we are?

We are an international group of researchers, engineers & activists with a multidisciplinary background in computer science, law, social sciences and cognitive sciences who aim to contribute towards tackling one of the most significant issues of our time: Invasion of Personal Digital Privacy. The project was conducted as a collaboration of the Sustainable Computing Lab (Vienna University of Economics and Business) and NOYB – European Center for Digital Rights. Soheil Human and Max Schrems were the project leads.

For whom is the project?

Almost everyone on Internet: 1) end-users will finally have a mechanism to express their consent and tracking decisions in a manner, which not only is human-centric, user-friendly and easy-to-use, but also lawfully and technically enforceable; 2) service providers will be provided by a clearly defined technical mechanism and supporting codes to gain and respect user consent and decisions.

What is it?

We tackle a wide range of privacy-related issues on internet, among others: providing consents on the Internet is a time and expertise-demanding task which cannot correctly be performed by most of the users, withdrawing consents is normally a sophisticated task, the existing anti-tracking mechanisms (e.g., W3C's Tracking Preference Expression — DNT) are not legally enforceable and are in many cases ignored by the service providers. We developed a mechanism for the communication of privacy and consenting data, information, requests, preferences, and decisions to address these issues. The mechanism is called the Advanced Data Protection Control (ADPC).

How does it work?

We developed the ADPC, a detailed standard mechanism for communicating users consent and tracking decisions via HTTP headers (and an equivalent JavaScript mechanism). A set of client-side (e.g., web-browser plugins) and server-side software support the implementation of the ADPC specification.

2. Project Results

1	<i>Projektzwischenbericht</i>	NA	NA
2	Project final report	CC-BY Sharelike- 3.0 AT	https://www.netidee.at/respected
3	Entwickler_innen-DOKUMENTATION (Documentation for the developers)	CC-BY Sharelike- 3.0 AT	http://dataprotectioncontrol.org also https://github.com/Data-Protection-Control
4	Anwender_innen-DOKUMENTATION (documentation for the users)	CC-BY Sharelike- 3.0 AT	http://dataprotectioncontrol.org/
5	Project Summary	CC-BY Sharelike- 3.0 AT	https://www.netidee.at/respected
6	Documentation regarding the sustainability of the project results (see Section eight and nine of the final report)	CC-BY Sharelike- 3.0 AT	https://www.netidee.at/respected
7	A specification for communication of the end-users online privacy decisions	MPL-2.0 license	https://github.com/Data-Protection-Control
8	A browser plugin which works based on the developed standard (PoC for the data subjects)	MPL-2.0 license	https://github.com/Data-Protection-Control
9	A server side software (plugin) that works based on the developed standard (PoC for the data controllers)	MPL-2.0 license	https://github.com/Data-Protection-Control
10	An academic manuscript about ADPC	preprint will be released as open access document, CC-BY-SA	epub.wu.ac.at

3. Planned Activities After the Netidee Project

We are working on the ADPC-IoT and aim to apply the ADPC in different real-world application areas. Moreover, we are in contract with different stakeholders to further push the adoption of the ADPC.

4. Proposals for Further Development by/through Third Parties

Different Consent Management Platforms (CMPs), data controllers, publishers, and organizations are interested in (and working on) adopting the ADPC. The W3C consent community group is working on different ADPC-based use cases.