Number	LANCS-D4.3-RN-Privacy	A-PI--

Title	Research Note (RN) for D4.3
Subtitle	Issues in Focus : **Privacy**

PROBLEM		SOLUTION	

Research Note	X	Selected Annotation	

Categories: | | |

Summary:

This note summarises the data and privacy protection issues raised by advanced ICTs and takes as example that one of the key challenges in the future will be dynamic on-the-fly sensory and data processing capabilities aimed at instant assessment of persons and behavioural factors for the purposes of interception.

CONTEXT

Mundane and specialised objects on a network or infrastructure, interconnected to exchange information, sensory data and data-managing capabilities, raise well known data and privacy protection issues (key readings include: Solove, 2004; Subramanian, 2008; Daskala and Maghiros, 2007; De Hert, 2008; Brey, 2005). Questions include:

1. who can collect personal data?
2. what are the purposes for the collection of the data?
3. are the directives for aggregating, processing and disseminating data adequate?
4. what are the restrictions on who can store data, own them, who has access to them, for how long, and so on?

Advanced ICTS pose unique problems as well for the protection of privacy, complicated by questions of what counts as breach of privacy, necessary intrusion of privacy and what are accepted social codes for sharing identifiable, personal, even sensitive data (e.g., European Commission, 2008).

FACTS

It is unclear how privacy can be protected when computations and communications protocol become ubiquitous in private, public and occupational spaces (e.g., European Parliament and the Council, 2002; Van De Garde-Perik et al, 2008). For many of the envisioned applications to work, they rely on adequate technical problem-solving in areas such as:

1. correctly capturing of the identity and state of bodies and persons.
2. correctly capturing the behaviours of persons going about ordinary affairs.
3. correctly processing information in order to 'know' what to do next, when and how to intercept persons, how to service them, and so on.

COMMENT

In relation to the convergence of physical, mental and virtual phenomena, a key challenge to privacy will be the use of 'on-the-fly' identification and data-processing measures which do not rely on databases and will occur without the immediate awareness of persons who interface with assistive robots, bionic systems or 'smart' implants. This challenge is twofold.

1. These developments signal the potential for unprecedented intrusion into privacy with the inclusion of sensory capabilities, behaviour metrics and interoperable 'on-the-fly' processing capabilities:
    - recording data on behaviours and preferences
    - sensing and tracking behaviours
    - aggregating, processing and disseminating data
    - making decisions on behalf of persons based on automated observation and analysis of their affairs

2. These developments open the door to a host of concerns associated with the fragmentation of data and data management, in maintenance, in decisions on necessary interception, decisions on what to automate, what to record and store, and where, what to process, how and by whom, and under which conditions data is used to intercept persons and intrude in their daily affairs.

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