

PROJECT

ETHICAL¹

Ethical Use of Private Data

Modern means of communication and data exchange promote economic growth and enhance the quality of people's lives. Yet at the same time they also render protection of private data much more difficult.

Conceived within the EU's 7th Framework Programme (FP7), the ETHICAL project is a consortium of partners from eight countries working together to develop policy recom-

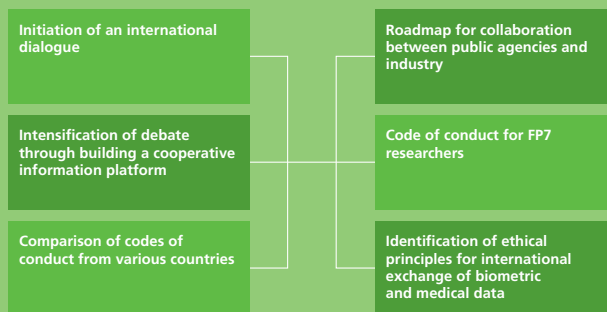
mendations for the handling of sensitive private data. This involves an investigation of the effects of the storage, dissemination and use of biometric and medical data on an international level. Given that the increasing diversity of technology opens up the way not just to benefits but also abuse, the prevalent processes concerned with the handling of such data in these areas generally involve collaboration between public agencies and enterprise. Such collaboration requires a regulatory roadmap that not only pays heed to the legal framework within which such processes operate but also – and most criti-

cally – endows them with a code of ethical conduct. The consortium strives to coordinate and promote an open international debate with various communities and international stakeholder groups.

The findings of the debates will be reviewed and evaluated with a view to:

- Creating a new environment for efficient safe services that do not violate human rights
- Opening up new technological concepts to the mainstream
- Promoting constructive awareness of the social issues involved in data security

Collection, Storage, Use and Dissemination of Data in Biometric and Medical Applications



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