



INTERNATIONAL WEBINARS AND LIVE EVENTS

CONTACT TRACING AND CHALLENGES TO PRIVACY

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Moderated by Ms Tereza Horejsova - Project Development Director at DiploFoundation

Mr Paul-Olivier Dehaye - Founder of PersonalData.IO:

The apps **trace contacts** but also **trace where people are and go**. It is based on proximity between people. It is based on **Bluetooth** to assess the contacts. If you are infected, you are given a **digital code** that signals to other apps that you are infected and that you expose others in contact with you to the virus. Compared to manual contact tracing it is **much more efficient** and quicker, but also **much more dangerous**.

Where do the data go and **who gets to control it**? It is much broader than just **privacy**. It is also about **freedom of movement**, discrimination, expression. There are 2 types of data storage:
1. **Centralized**: Keep the data in a central database. 2. **Decentralized**: Keep the data on the phone.

Ms Allie Funk - Research Analyst for Technology and Democracy at Freedom House:

Often, apps are coupled with the **collection of other data** about us. It goes beyond to contact tracing. A high number of **NGOs** are working on tracing apps and the protection of human rights. There many programmes analysing tracing apps from the human **rights aspect**.

Governments and private sector should first ensure that these apps are **scientifically useful** to fight the virus. The data collection must be the **least intrusive possible**. It should also be **decentralized**, which means data should be kept on the smartphone. Tracing systems can be **misused and abused**.

Ms Nanjira Sambuli - Researcher, policy analyst, and advocacy strategist:

African context: As of now, only few countries have been using tracing apps.

How longer are supposed to have these apps on our phones ? It is not clear yet. There is very **limited information** about the functioning of the apps. There are **no clear definition and transparency**. No communication has been made to the public.

Question is: the **previous tracing measures** taken during previous outbreaks were efficient or not? It is important to assess the **lessons learned** of previous use of tracing apps.

Mr Joe Cannataci - UN Special Rapporteur on Privacy:

COVID19 data is **medical data**. It has long been recognized has some of the **most sensible data**. It is a priority since the beginning of my mandate in 2016. We have been producing detailed guidelines on the protection of medical data. Basic data protection is a **priority for human rights**. In addition to general data protection laws, we need detailed laws on surveillance.

Necessary means “must have” not “nice to have”. The **necessary aspect of the COVID19 tracing apps** have not been confirmed yet. We do not know enough about the virus and how to cure it, as much as we do not know about the **privacy implication** when using apps.

Ms Jade Nester - Director, Consumer Policy, at the GSMA:

Important **role of mobile operators** in data collection during the COVID19 crisis. Mobile data can be useful to trace persons that do not have smartphone. You can get a **broader picture** of mobility.

Cases studies involve developing maps to **show movements with data**. We have an example with Norway teaming with Telenor in January on data movements to try to anticipate the spread of the disease. New means of tracing are constantly being developed. **It is a moving field**.