

National Courts
Administration
Finland

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TIV/367/2025

13.3.2025

Reference: EDPB Public consultation on the Guidelines 01/2025 on Pseudonymisation

Subject: Opinion of the National Courts Administration (Finland)

Introduction

The National Courts Administration would like to thank the European Data Protection Board for the opportunity to comment the Guidelines 01/2025 on Pseudonymisation. The National Courts Administration is responsible for the central administrative functions of all courts in Finland. The role of the National Courts Administration is to help the courts to act in a high quality and effective manner.

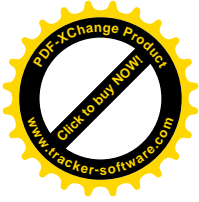
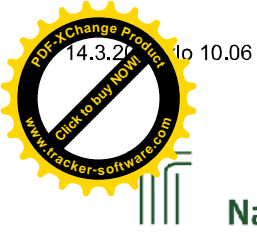
Opinion of the National Courts Administration (Finland)

National Courts Administration would like to draw attention to the fact that the opinion should elaborate more situations where "the pseudonymisation domain" is not under control of the controller. This is the situation when courts or other governmental officials are publishing their decisions on the websites. It is typical that published decisions are pseudonymous.

For the courts¹ there are specific laws which are supporting and requiring the openness and transparency of justice. Decisions are published if they have later relevance for the application of law in identical or similar cases or are otherwise of public interest. We do not see anonymisation as a possible option because published decisions need to be enough detailed and understandable for the public.

When mandatory legislation is behind the publication, the responsibilities associated with data protection should be assessed in more detail, especially if a third party is processing this kind of material in their own purposes without legal ground. In such a situation, the controller who

¹ See some examples of Supreme Court precedents (In English): <https://korkeinoikeus.fi/en/index/ennakkopaatokset/shortsummariesofselectedprecedentsinenglish.html> . See some examples of Supreme Administrative Court precedents (In English): https://www.kho.fi/en/index/decisions/summariesofselectedprecedentsinenglish_0.html



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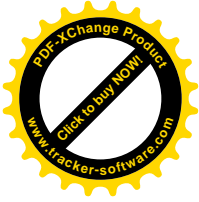
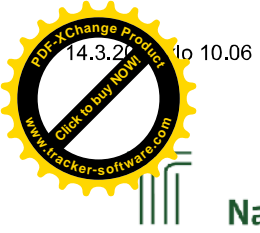
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publishes the material may no longer have effective opportunities to influence processing.

Also, it would be good to evaluate in the opinion more closely publishing pseudonymous of data in the form of open data, and how this would be evaluated from the point of view of data protection rules?

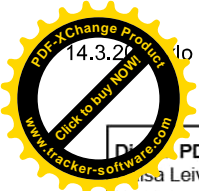
Pasi Kumpula
Director General

Raisa Leivonen
Senior Specialist (Data Protection)



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Raisa Leivonen
Erityisasiantuntija
Tuomioistuinvirasto
raisa.leivonen@oikeus.fi

Digitaalinen PDF Signaattori / Digitaalinen PDF-allekirjoitus
Pasi Kumpula
Ylijohtaja
Tuomioistuinvirasto
pasi.kumpula@oikeus.fi