

POLITISCOPE

Successful management of the Coronavirus pandemic implies the establishment of new practices of collecting sensitive data of citizens to preserve public health.

Unfortunately, key public authorities managing the pandemic have shown continued negligence towards the fundamental rights of citizens by implementing and promoting illegal and harmful data collection and processing practices.

A particular threat to the fundamental rights is the introduction of digital forms of surveillance that have been used in an authoritarian manner even in democracies.

Project "Privacy in the Age of Corona" will strengthen the watchdog role of the Croatian civil sector in the protection of digital human rights. As a watchdog organization, Politiscope is focused on privacy and protection of the digital rights of Croatian and EU citizens.

Through the establishment of an informal network of CSO's and the implementation of public advocacy activities based on targeted analyses, we want to eliminate illegal epidemiological practices of data collection and prevent non-transparent and disproportionate digital surveillance.

The announced and expected autumn increase in the number of newly-infected represents an optimal opportunity for the deepening and normalization of harmful practices imposed by the competent public bodies and is thus also a unique opportunity for advocacy activities aimed at stopping such practices.

By monitoring of public bodies and conducting targeted analyses, we want to: create public and institutional pressure aiming to improve the work of the Croatian Data Protection Agency; make the general public aware of the illegality of measures and instructions of epidemiological bodies that violate their fundamental rights; legally and technically analyze the Government's contact-tracing in relation to privacy protection and GDPR compliance; encourage the ombudsman's offices to report in more detail on the state of digital rights, which is necessary and urgent due to the numerous newly-introduced forms of data processing for epidemiological purposes; contribute to the protection of the privacy of students attending classes online.