# Sharing of (personal) data in the light of the European data strategy – risks and safeguards



Marit Hansen

**Data Protection Commissioner** 

+ Information Commissioner Schleswig-Holstein, Germany

Brussels, 7 October 2022







- 1. Data sharing new mindset from the EU
- 2. Learning from Freedom of Information practices
- 3. Risks ....
- 4. ... and safeguards:
  How to implement "fair data sharing by design"?
- 5. Conclusion



### European Data Strategy



#### The EU will create a single market for data where:

- Data can flow within the EU and across sectors, for the benefit of all;
- European rules, in particular privacy and data protection, as well as competition law, are fully respected;
- The rules for access and use of data are fair, practical and clear.



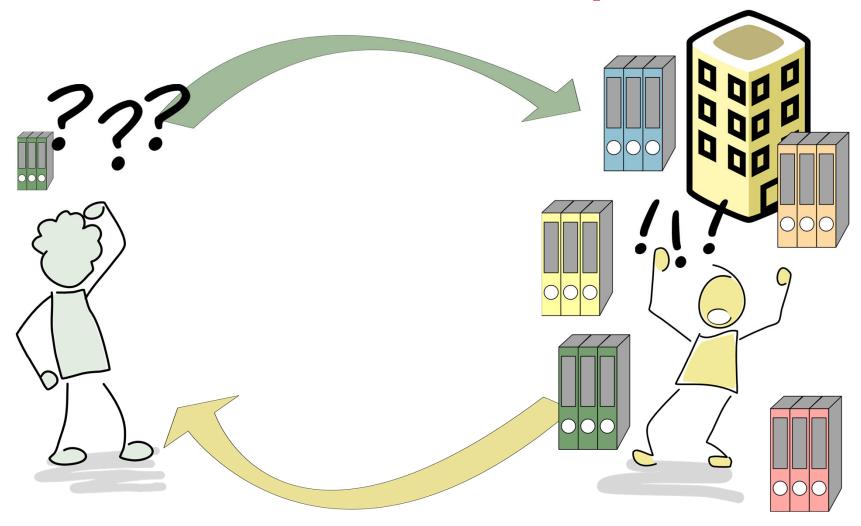
Creating a single market for data will make the EU more competitive globally and will enable innovative processes, products and services.



- 1. Data sharing new mindset from the EU
- 2. Learning from Freedom of Information practices
- 3. Risks ...
- 4. ... and safeguards:
  How to implement "fair data sharing by design"?
- 5. Conclusion

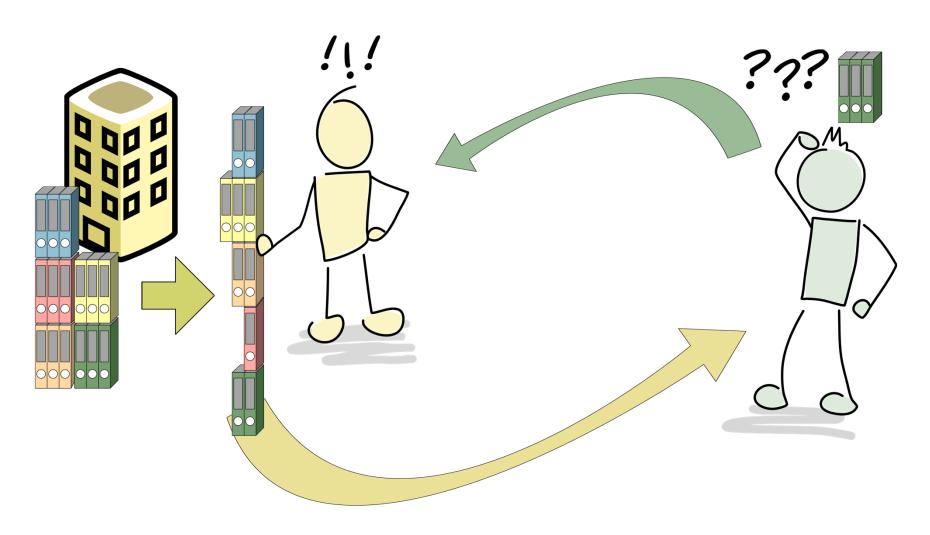


### Freedom of information request to Gov I



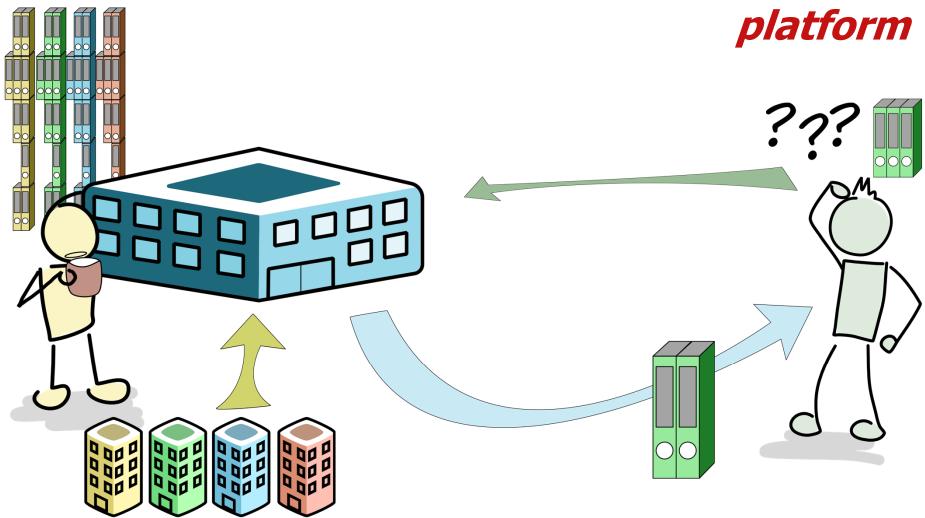


### Freedom of information request to Gov II





# Freedom of information request to Gov platform





- 1. Data sharing new mindset from the EU
- 2. Learning from Freedom of Information practices
- 3. Risks ...
- 4. ... and safeguards:
  How to implement "fair data sharing by design"?
- 5. Conclusion



# What not to disclose in an FOI request?

If private interests were harmed,

Personal data

e.g. disclosure of

Business secrets

If public interests were harmed, e.g.

- State security
- Internal + ongoing processes for decision-making



Risks of accumulated disclosure may not be detectable for any single controller!





- 1. Data sharing new mindset from the EU
- 2. Learning from Freedom of Information practices
- 3. Risks ....
- 4. ... and safeguards:
  How to implement "fair data sharing by design"?
- 5. Conclusion

#### www.datenschutzzentrum.de

# Assigning responsibilities

(e.g. in the Schleswig-Holstein coalition agreement from 22.06.2022)

7366	Die Bereitstellung öffentlicher Daten wird damit künftig zum entscheidenden Standortvorteil.
7367	Oft sind der Abruf und die Verwendung öffentlicher Daten mit Kosten verbunden, was
7368	insbesondere kleine Unternehmen und Start-ups vor erhebliche finanzielle Hürden stellt und
7369	das Schaffen von Wertschöpfung verhindert.
7370	Wir starten deshalb eine Landesdatenbereitstellungs- und -nutzungsoffensive, die neben dem
7371	Aufbau eines Kompetenzzentrums für Datenmanagement, in dem wir unser Daten-know-how
7372	bündeln wollen, einen weiteren Kern unserer künftigen Landesdatenstrategie bilden wird.
7373	In der Verwaltung erschaffen wir eine Datenkompetenz (Data Literacy) mit einer Kultur des
7374	Datenteilens und Datennutzens. Dazu werden wir in den Ressorts die Funktion einer oder
7375	eines Datenbereitstellungsnutzungsbeauftragten einführen und das Thema Datennutzung als
7376	verpflichtende Standardfortbildung etablieren. Wir erkennen den verstärkten Bedarf an
7377	Mitarbeitenden mit Kenntnissen in Data Science und werden diese Kompetenzen in den
7378	Landesministerien in den kommenden Jahren weiter aufbauen.



# Data provision usage officers Daten | bereitstellungs | nutzungs | beauftragte



Relevant: infrastructures, formats, standardised risk assessment etc.



# Towards a systemisation of FOI by design



1) Preparation: organisation of data according to risk concerning disclosure



2) Legitimacy check of access request



3) Risk assessment, selection or aggregation

Case handling



#### 4) Management

- Standardisation
- Open APIs
- Risk mitigation measures (ex ante, ex post)



5) Check, audits

Generalisation



# Bigger picture: Towards fair data sharing by design

- Throughout the entire data lifecycle
- Organisation of data collection to provide separability
  - Metadata on "sharing possible with/without restrictions"
- Provision of restrictions for sharing or access if necessary
  - Selection, pseudonymisation, aggregation, anonymisation, ...
  - Synthetic data
  - Differential privacy
  - Homomorphic encryption
  - Secure multiparty encryption
  - Federated learning
  - Data custodians as neutral parties
- Risk assessment: ex ante, ex post

How to ensure the rights of the persons concerned?



- 1. Data sharing new mindset from the EU
- 2. Learning from Freedom of Information practices
- 3. Risks ....
- 4. ... and safeguards:
  How to implement "fair data sharing by design"?
- 5. Conclusion



# Because of irreversible effects: choose positive progress instead of harmful haste



Source: Michael Ofurum via Pixabay

#### **Conclusion**

#### "by design"

- ... for support of data providers and data users
- ... to avoid errors
- ... better than learning via "by disaster"

- Not only personal data, also business secret data
- Linkage-enabling data deserve closer attention
- Holistic impact assessment including ways to detect, understand and mitigate risks