



High-Level Group on Access to Data for Effective Law Enforcement Invitation to the public consultation meeting

To whom it may concern,

The co-chairs of the High-Level Group (HLG) on access to data for effective law enforcement have the pleasure of inviting you to the public consultation meeting of the group. **The meeting will be held both online (via WebEx) and in Brussels, on Tuesday 20 February 2024 from 9:30 to 17:00.**

As you might know, the HLG was established in June 2023 to explore the challenges that law enforcement practitioners face in their daily work concerning access to electronic data for the purpose of criminal investigations, and to explore potential solutions to overcome them, with the aim of ensuring the availability of effective law enforcement tools to fight crime and maintain a high level of security in the digital age in full compliance with fundamental rights.

In this public consultation meeting, we will jointly reflect on the challenges and potential solutions related to lawful access to digital information that have been identified during the plenary and working group discussions of the HLG.

The three sessions will be dedicated to the three work strands of the HLG:

1. Access to data in a user's device
2. Access to data in a provider's system
3. Access to data in transit

You are invited to share your comments on the preliminary findings of the groups and to provide input to the development of potential solutions that could be implemented to better ensure lawful access to data for law enforcement whilst upholding fundamental rights, including those related to privacy and data protection.

To facilitate the registration process, we kindly ask participants (both physical and virtual) to register no later than 16 February 2024 via the registration link:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/PublicConsultationMeetingHLG>

In addition, you are invited to provide written input to the work of the HLG via the following email address EC-HLG-GOING-DARK@ec.europa.eu. This option is available even if you cannot attend the meeting.

Further information about the HLG, its ways of working, and related documentation, can be found at our [dedicated website](#).

We are looking forward to meeting you in Brussels or online for fruitful and constructive discussions.

Yours faithfully,

Carlo Van Heuckelom

Justice and Home Affairs Counsellor
Permanent Representation of Belgium to the
European Union

Olivier Onidi

Deputy Director General
Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs
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