

The IRISS project has concluded

The three-year [IRISS](#) (Increasing Resilience in Surveillance Societies) research project, which received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Program, and in which Hungary was represented by the Eotvos Karoly Institute, concluded on 31 January 2015.

The general objective of the project was to investigate societal effects of different surveillance practices from a multi-disciplinary social science and legal perspective. Within this framework, the project

- investigated the emergence, development and deployment of surveillance technologies, their impact on basic rights and their social and economic costs,
- designed a theoretical framework of understanding which captures core dimensions of the relationship between surveillance and democracy and which can be utilized to explore these relations empirically.
- understood and reconstructed citizens' views and understanding of surveillance and their options to exercise their democratic rights in surveillance societies.
- identified and analyzed the options for enhancing social, economic and institutional resilience in European societies.

The research consortium was composed of the following organizations:

1. Institute for the Sociology of Law and Criminology (IRKS), Austria
2. Trilateral Research & Consulting (TRI), UK
3. University of Stirling (STIR), UK
4. University of Edinburgh (UEdin), UK
5. Eotvos Karoly Policy Institute (EKINT), Hungary
6. Institute of Technology Assessment (OeAW-ITA), Austria
7. University of Sheffield (USFD), UK
8. University of Hamburg (UH), Germany
9. Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Belgium
10. Open University (OU), UK
11. Universitat de Barcelona (UB), Spain
12. Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V (Fraunhofer), Germany
13. Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Norway
14. Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC), Italy
15. Comenius University, Bratislava (COMENIUS), Slovakia
16. Universität der Bundeswehr München (UNIBW), Germany

EKINT's participation

The Eotvos Karoly Institute was represented in the project by Dr. Ivan Szekely and Dr. Beatrix Vissy; at the beginning of the project Dr. Szonja Navratil participated in the work. The representatives of the Institution contributed primarily to the following work phases:

- exploring surveillance contexts, including the analysis of the social costs of surveillance,
- developing the theoretical foundations, including the exploration of social, political and legal implications, with special emphasis on the analysis of the relationships of different democratic regimes and surveillance, the presentation of the characteristics of Hungary before and after the political transformations, the overview of representations of

surveillance in various genres, and the analysis of data retention as a specific form of surveillance,

- preparing country case studies, primarily analyzing credit scoring in Hungary,
- analyzing the possibilities of exercising rights in the context of surveillance in Hungary,
- conducting empirical studies in the public and private sectors on the exercisability of subject access rights, including the indentifiability of data controllers and the accessibility of one's own personal data,
- composing a handbook on increasing resilience in surveillance societies.

These work phases resulted in detailed research reports, some of which serve as a basis for future publications.

Activities since 2013

[Since 2013](#) the researchers of the Institute participated in the following project-related events:

- 10-11 April 2014, Vienna: IRISS Fifth Consortium Meeting (I. Szekely and B. Vissy participating)
- 24-26 June 2014, Sheffield: IRISS Sixth Consortium Meeting (I. Szekely and B. Vissy participating)
- 29-30 October, Brussels: the joint final event of the IRISS, RESPECT and SURVEILLE research projects (I. Szekely and B. Vissy participating)
- 21-23 January 2015, Brussels: IRISS roundtable discussion at the annual Computers, Privacy and Data Protection (CPDP) conference (I. Szekely participating)

Publications prepared in connection with the IRISS project:

Szekely, Ivan, "The relevance of social and economic costs of surveillance", in David Wright and Reinhard Kreissl (eds.), *Surveillance in Europe*, Routledge 2014, pp. 240–245.

Wright, David, Rowena Rodrigues, Charles Raab, Richard Jones, Ivan Szekely, Kirstie Ball, Rocco Bellanova and Stine Bergersen, "Questioning Surveillance", *Computer Law & Security Review*, Vol. 21, No. 2, 2015 pp. 280-292.

Szekely, Ivan, "Representations of surveillance", in C. William R. Webster, Antonella Galetta, Paul De Hert, Charles Raab, Charles Leleux (eds.), *Surveillance and Democracy in Europe: Analysing Surveillance from Social, Political and Legal Perspectives*, IOS Press, Amsterdam [forthcoming 2015]

Szekely, Ivan, "Experiencing surveillance in different democratic contexts, including new democracies and former repressive regimes", in Webster *et al.*, *ibid.*

Vissy, Beatrix, "Surveillance policy: data retention", in Webster *et al.*, *ibid.*

Vissy, Beatrix and Eric Lastic, "Transparency", in Webster *et al.*, *ibid.*

Szekely, Ivan, "Fundamental rights and civil liberties under the Communist regime in Hungary", in Webster *et al.*, *ibid.*

Szekely, Ivan, "National experiences: The Hungarian case", in Webster *et al.*, *ibid.*

Further publications relating to the themes of the project:

Szekely, Ivan, "The Right to Forget, the Right to be Forgotten. Personal Reflections on the Fate of Personal Data in the Information Society", in Serge Gutwirth, Ronald Leenes, Paul de Hert and Yves Poullet (eds.), *European Data Protection: In Good Health?* Dordrecht, Heidelberg, London, New York: Springer 2012, pp. 347–363.

Szekely, Ivan, "Building our future glass homes: An essay about influencing the future through regulation", *Computer Law & Security Review* 29 (2013), pp. 540–553.

Székely Iván, „Jog ahhoz, hogy elfelejtsenek és töröljenek [The right to be forgotten and to erasure]”, *Információs Társadalom* 2013, Vol. XIII, No. 3-4, pp. 7–27.

Székely Iván, „Surveillance – a megfigyeléstől a megfigyelő társadalmakig és a megfigyeléstudományig [Surveillance – From Surveillance to Surveillance Societies and Surveillance Studies]”, *Replika*, Issue 89, 2014, No. 5, pp. 7–13.

Szekely, Ivan, "The right to be forgotten and the new archival paradigm", in Andrew Hoskins (ed.), *The Ethics of Memory in a Digital Age: Interrogating the Right to Be Forgotten*, Palgrave 2014, pp. 28–49.

Korenhof, Paulan, Jef Ausloos, Ivan Szekely, Meg Ambrose, Giovanni Sartor, Ronald Leenes, "Timing the Right to Be Forgotten: A study into "time" as a factor in deciding about retention or erasure of data", in Serge Gutwirth, Ronald Leenes and Paul de Hert (eds.), *Reforming European Data Protection Law*, Springer Science+Business Media, Dordrecht, 2015, pp. 171–201.

Raab, Charles D., Richard Jones and Ivan Szekely, "Surveillance and Resilience in Theory and Practice", *Media and Communication* [forthcoming]

Presentations at conferences:

Ivan Szekely, "Do memory-preserving institutions have a future in the digital age?", presented at the Joint Research Centre of the EU, Ispra, 16 January 2014.

Ivan Szekely, "RTBF: An inventory of specific points in data processing", presented at the Computers, Privacy and Data Protection (CPDP) conference, Brussels, 23 January 2014.

Ivan Szekely was Moderator of the panel "Data Protection Authorities: Their role and experience in enforcement", chaired by Charles Raab, at the CPDP conference in January 2014.

Ivan Szekely, "Jog ahhoz, hogy elfelejtsenek – mikor, hol és hogyan? [The right to be forgotten – When, where and how?]", presented at the XVth Infocommunication Day, organized by the Budapest Bar Association, 17 April 2014.

Raab, Charles D., Richard Jones and Ivan Szekely, "Taking 'resilience' seriously: Exploring its implications in the context of surveillance", presented at the Sixth Biannual Surveillance and Society Conference (SSN2014), Barcelona, 25 April 2014.

Ivan Szekely participated in the roundtable discussion "Felejtse el! Privát fényképek és a felejtéshez való jog az analóg és digitális emlékezet korában [Forget it! Private photos and the right to be forgotten in the age of analogue and digital memory]", organized by the Studio of Young Photographers Hungary, in Artbazis, Budapest, 7 May 2014.

Ivan Szekely, "Subject access in a [new] democracy. (The case of Hungary)", presented at the *Surveillance and Democracy – IRISS Project Workshop*, Sheffield, 24 June 2014.

Ivan Szekely chaired the panel "The Intersection of Surveillance with Citizen's Rights" at the joint final conference of the IRISS, RESPECT and SURVEILLE research projects, titled *DEMOSEC: Democracy and Security*, and also participated as speaker in the panel "Reconciling

human rights protection and security: the roles of European norms and discretion of competent national authorities in using surveillance technologies”, Brussels, 29-30 October 2014.

At the Brussels CPDP conference in January 2015 Ivan Szekely was Moderator of the panel “Data Protection authorities and Data Protection Officers: Their relationships”, chaired by Charles Raab, and also moderated the IRISS roundtable discussion on subject access rights.

Budapest programs

Two programs in Budapest organized by the researchers of the Eotvos Karoly Institute deserve special mentioning:

On 27 November 2014 at the headquarters of [OSA Archivum](#) the researchers organized a workshop titled “*Nem lehet az enyém, ami rólam szól? Az érintett joga és esélye személyes adatai megismerésére*” [Can’t I have what is about me? The subject’s rights and chances to learn his/her personal data]” on the national and international research results of the IRISS empirical study on subject access rights. Competent officers of data controller organizations involved in the study, as well as data protection experts and representatives of the civil sector were invited to the workshop. Participants received a set of keynote questions in writing in advance of the workshop; and background materials about the most important findings of the research translated into Hungarian were distributed on-site. The representative of the Hungarian National Authority for Data Protection and Freedom of Information (NAIH) also participated in the workshop. After the event the researchers of the Institute informed the President of NAIH about the findings of the research in writing.

On 28 November 2014 the researchers organized a guest lecture with the participation of Charles D. Raab and Richard Jones (University of Edinburgh) at the Faculty of Law of ELTE University. The title of the lecture was “Societal ‘Resilience’ to Mass Surveillance in the Post-Snowden Era”. The lecture was attended not only by ELTE students and faculty but also other experts, including the editors of the social science journal *Replika*, who decided to publish a thematic issue on resilience, including the Hungarian version of the study serving as the basis of the lecture.

Final events

The final event of IRISS was presented at the 2015 January [CPDP](#) conference where – besides organizing two separate panels – IRISS researchers held a closed roundtable discussion in the course of which the researchers discussed the findings of the empirical study on subject access rights with representatives of six national data protection authorities. The discussion was moderated by Ivan Szekely.

On the last official day of the project, 31 January 2015, the research consortium [issued](#) a Policy Brief and sent it to competent leaders of the ongoing European data protection reform in the European Parliament and the Council, and to national data protection authorities. The [Policy Brief](#) contains recommendations on the strengthening of subject access rights, in the context of the ongoing European data protection reform.