

Happy New Year, from the BYTE project team!

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Project Updates

WP2 Workshop – Elements of societal impact

BYTE successfully held its first workshop on 11 September 2014 at the Complex Systems Institute in Lyon. The BYTE workshop on economic, legal, political, social and ethical issues in big data enabled partners to share their early results based on research exercises related to elements of these societal impacts of big data. The workshop consisted of a forum for BYTE partners to share these early results, and gain feedback from European and international experts on BYTE findings. Please visit the following page to access most of the presentations from the event. <http://byte-project.eu/byte-workshops/>

Work Package 1: Setting the scene on big data –deliverables now online!

Deliverables from WP1 *Setting the scene on big data* were submitted to the European Commission in September 2014.

In Deliverable 1.2, [*Big data policies*](#), we review policies concerning access to, linking of and (re-) use of big data. We also explore how private and public law frameworks impact upon the space for big data collection and processing and how policies of public and private actors further shape the data economy.

Deliverable 1.3, [*Big data initiatives*](#), examines ten big data initiatives that are useful examples of projects that involve big data, and highlight where they make societal, economic and technological developments, especially as a result of the collaboration between a number of different stakeholders. Understanding these initiatives assists big data actors in gaining an insight into the current and evolving big data landscape, which is integral to addressing the issues raised by the BYTE project.

Deliverable 1.4 looks at [Big data technologies and infrastructures](#) for dealing with, and supporting, the variety, velocity, and volume of data. Our examination considers tools and platform choices that might remedy the challenges presented by the big data business.

A draft version of Deliverable 1.1 [Understanding and mapping big data](#) was produced in October and will be updated in March 2015. Comments on all of these deliverables are welcome!

Work Package 2: Elements of societal impact –deliverables now online!

WP2 of BYTE culminated in the delivery of the following three reports, which were submitted to the European Commission in September 2014, and are now accessible via the following links:

Deliverable 2.1, a [Report on legal, economic, social, ethical and political issues](#) examines the potential impacts big data may in relation to each of these specific areas. It offers an overview that will be used to inform the sectorial case studies undertaken in WP3.

Deliverable 2.2, a [Report on public perceptions and social impacts relevant to big data](#) reviews recent public opinion polls to understand how members of the public feel about the potential gains and negative impacts associated with big data.

Finally, Deliverable 2.3, a [Report on the relationship between open access to data and big data](#) examines the linkages between policy pushes to open more data, and the impacts this increase in available data may have in relation to big data innovations and big data challenges.

WP 2 assists stakeholders in understanding the economic, legal, social, ethical and political issues relevant to big data currently and in the future. This WP also takes a look at public sentiment around big data based on current information practices, and to understand the relationship between big data and open access to data.

Events

International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners – 13 to 16 October 2014

Kush Wadhwa (BYTE coordinator – Trilateral Research & Consulting) represented the BYTE project at the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners, which was held in October in Mauritius. More information about the Conference can be found here (<http://www.privacyconference2014.org/en/>). That conference culminated in a number of Resolutions including a Resolution on Big Data, a copy of which can be viewed here (<http://www.privacyconference2014.org/media/16602/Resolution-Big-Data.pdf>).

Computers, Privacy and Data Protection Conference – 21-23 January 2015

BYTE will be sponsoring the annual CPDP conference (www.cpdpconferences.org) in January in Brussels this year, and will organize a special big data breakfast to examine how industry is responding to privacy and data protection issues in relation to big data.