

# Call for Papers

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**IS mine**  
award | 2026  
edition

**GDPR AND EPRIVACY REFORM:**  
OPERATIONALIZING EUROPE'S  
DIGITAL OMNIBUS



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# My Data is Mine Award 2026

Seventh edition

## Call for Papers

### GDPR AND EPRIVACY REFORM: OPERATIONALIZING EUROPE'S DIGITAL OMNIBUS

My data is mine Award is aimed at supporting young scholars with an innovative approach to data protection issues and who can offer a visionary contribution to data processing in Europe and worldwide. As Europe enters a new era of digital regulation, this year's edition focuses on the European Commission's Digital Omnibus proposal.

Representing the most significant evolution of the GDPR since its inception, the Omnibus proposal aims to reduce administrative burdens by € 5 billion while positioning Europe as a digital leader. By modernizing the definition of personal data and integrating ePrivacy rules into the GDPR framework, it sets the stage for the next decade of data governance.

As part of the seventh edition of the "My Data is Mine" Award, to be held during the 2026 Brussels Privacy Symposium, jointly presented by the Brussels Privacy Hub of Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the Future of Privacy Forum (FPF), we invite young scholars (up to 35 years of age) to submit contributions that critically to explore the following topics:

- Consent automation & ePrivacy reform: assessing browser signals as a replacement for traditional cookie banners.
- The "relative" nature of personal data: critical analysis of the "reasonable means" test in a hyper-connected era.
- AI training & legitimate interest: balancing innovation with privacy under the new AI Act and GDPR synergy.
- Operational streamlining: evaluating the GDPR reform's impact on data governance and administrative efficiency.
- Regulatory harmonization: mapping the interplay between the GDPR, the AI Act, and the Data Act.

#### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We welcome original and unpublished papers from young scholars (up to 35 years of age). Requirements:

- **Word count:** 5,000–8,000 words, inclusive of footnotes and references.
- **Language:** English, using formal legal and academic style.
- **Formatting:** manuscripts should conform to a standard academic style (e.g., APA, [OSCOLA](#)).

- **Abstract:** 150–250 words summarizing the principal arguments and findings.
- **File Format:** PDF/DOC document.

**Evaluation criteria will include:**

- Relevance and originality of the work
- Significance and impact of the research
- Quality and clarity of the presentation

**The deadline for submissions is September 12, 2026. The award ceremony will be held on October 13, 2026, at the Brussels Privacy Symposium.**

By submitting your paper, you grant to Consumer Empowerment Project (CEP) and its partners a worldwide, unrestricted, sub-licensable, assignable, irrevocable, non-exclusive, royalty-free right and license to use your paper in connection with My Data is Mine Award and any other initiative carried out by CEP and its partners, alone or with third parties. This license includes without limitation the right to (i) reproduce, create derivative works of, and otherwise use your paper, in whole or in part, in any manner or in combination with any other material (the “Works”); and (ii) publicly display, publicly perform, distribute (directly or indirectly), transmit, or broadcast, communicate to the public the Works, by wire or wireless means, including the making available to the public in such a way that members of the public may access them from a place and at a time individually chosen by them. By submitting your paper, you represent and warrant that (i) it doesn’t infringe any third-party rights; (ii) it is not defamatory; (iii) you have full power and authority to grant the rights and licenses relating to your paper.

**The winner will be awarded with a prize of 1.000 euros and will have the chance to present their paper during the ceremony which will be held in Brussels (travel and accommodation costs will be offered by CEP).**

*Please note that submitted contributions may be published by their respective authors, following the announcement of the winner, in other journals or may serve as subjects for future publications. In any case, received papers may be invited to be part of the book to be published in 2027 by the Consumer Empowerment Project with a renowned publisher.*

- **Deadline for the papers:** September 12, 2026
- **Date of the Award Ceremony:** 13 October 2026
- **Venue:** Brussels Privacy Symposium, Les Ateliers des Tanneurs
- **Submission:** Papers can be sent from the MDIM page:

<https://cep-project.org/my-data-is-mine-2026/>



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