

CAP-A: A community-driven approach to privacy awareness

Alexandru Stan¹, Konstantina Geramani¹, George Ioannidis¹, *Ioannis Chrysakis*^{2,4}, *Giorgos Flouris*², *Maria Makridaki*³, *Theodore Patkos*², *Yannis Roussakis*², *Georgios Samaritakis*², *Nikoleta Tsampanaki*², *Elias Tzortzakakis*² and *Elisjana Ymeralli*².

¹ IN2 Digital Innovations GmbH, Germany

² FORTH-ICS, Greece

³ FORTH, PRAXI Network, Greece

⁴ Ghent University, IDLab, imec, Belgium

In an increasingly instrumented and inter-connected digital world, citizens generate vast amounts of data, much of it being valuable and a significant part of it being personal. However, controlling who can collect it, limiting what they can do with it, and determining how best to protect it, remain deeply undecided issues [1].

CAP-A [2] deploys a socio-technical solution based on collective awareness and informed consent, whereby data collection and use by digital products are driven by the expectations and needs of the consumers themselves, through a collaborative participatory process and the configuration of collective privacy norms. The proposed solution creates a new innovation model that complements existing top-down approaches to data protection, which mainly rely on technical or legal provisions.

The ongoing project aims to deliver a global repository of consumer- and developer-generated content about the privacy behaviour of mobile apps, along with tools that will help consumers understand the Terms of Service and their implications via crowdsourced approaches and visual cues.

The objective is to foster collective intelligence and co-creation of solutions, and to facilitate the participation of all involved stakeholders through an open architecture, thereby allowing novel uses of the privacy-related content. Ultimately, the CAP-A ecosystem will strengthen the trust bond between service developers and users, encouraging innovation and empowering the individuals to promote their privacy expectations as a quantifiable, community-generated request.

In this talk we will provide an overview of the methodology behind CAP-A and give an insight into the practical tools that the project makes available¹ (live or recorded demo): the portal, the dashboard, the Terms of Service annotator and the mobile app.

Acknowledgements

This work has been supported by the CAP-A project which has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the NGI_TRUST grant agreement no 825618.

References:

[1] Giorgos Flouris, Theodore Patkos, Ioannis Chrysakis, Ioulia Konstantinou, Nikolay Nikolov, Panagiotis Papadacos, Jeremy Pitt, Dumitru Roman, Alexantru Stan, Chrysostomos Zeginis, "Towards a Collective Awareness Platform for Privacy Concerns and Expectations", Confederated International Conferences: CoopIS, C&TC, and ODBASE 2018, Valletta, Malta, October 22-26, 2018

[2] <https://cap-a.eu/>

¹ The project ends in August 2020, and the time of the NEM Summit is very close a major project Milestone: the public release of the CAP-A mobile app and portal (including the terms of service annotator).