

WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

## WSIS Forum 2019

# Blockchain & Data Protection

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GDPR Quick Check  
<https://erbguth.ch/QuickCheck>



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A black and white photograph of a woman's face in profile, looking towards the right. Her hair is dark and voluminous. The background is a dark field filled with a grid of glowing blue binary digits (0s and 1s).

What is the biggest threat to our privacy?





? Can blockchain  
foster privacy? ✓

? Right to be  
forgotten! ✓

Data is stored in different locations  
Blockchain ensures data is not manipulated

Zero-knowledge proofs, ring signatures ...





# Better Privacy Through the Use of Blockchain

## Privacy Coins



## Self Sovereign ID

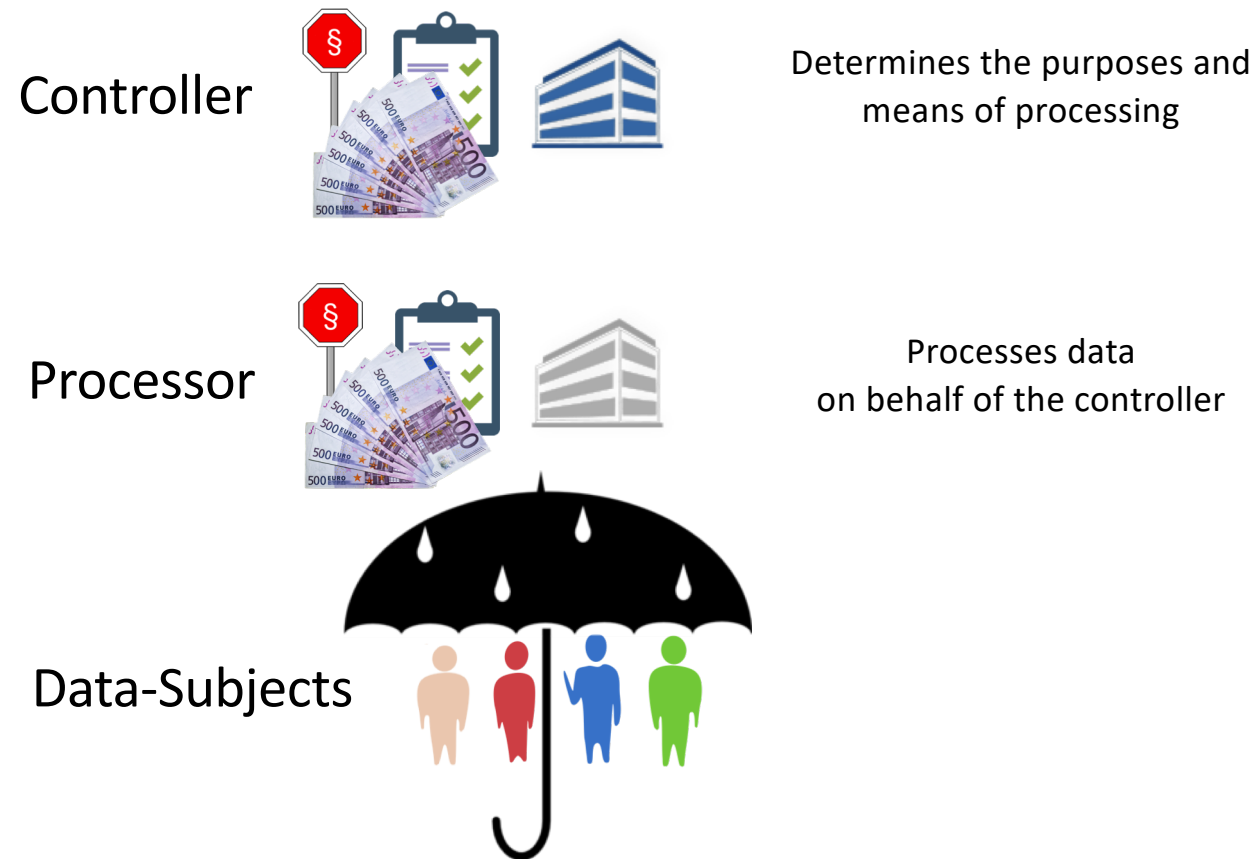


## Privacy Frameworks





# How Data Protection Regulation Works





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# Blockchain is a threat to privacy?

## Blockchain fosters privacy!



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# Blockchain & Data Protection

## Summary of today's Workshop at the University of Geneva

Katrin Kirchert, LL.M.

Lawyer for Privacy and Data Protection Law



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# News from courts and data protection authorities that might affect blockchains

Katrin Kirchert, LL.M.

- much information about financial regulation of Blockchain
- little information regarding data protection issues



# New technological developments in the blockchain space zkSNARKs for scaling and privacy

Alexandre Poltorak

- technologies based on Zero Knowledge Proofs for higher scaling and to protect privacy
- zkSNARK = Zero-Knowledge Succinct Non-Interactive Argument of Knowledge

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# Deletion in the context of cryptography

Christian Wirth & Michael Kolain

legal challenges and technical approaches for the right to be forgotten



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# Can encrypted data be considered to be anonymous?

Carmen de la Cruz

- encrypted personal data can always be reverse engineered according to the Regulators
- more sophisticated encryption techniques used to anonymize personal data (stealth addresses, Zero Knowledge Proofs) are necessary and/or a change of the Regulation

# GDPR-compliant use of hashing

Jörn Erbguth

Hashing can provide true privacy, but you have to apply it the right way



# Who is controller of the processing of a smart contract?


Gabriel Jaccard

- system of blockchain was not built to be GDPR-compliant
- new principles of governance are necessary to make lawful use of smart contracts

# Conclusions

1. Do not put any personal data (at all) on a blockchain.
2. Use Privacy Enhancing Technology and ensure that no personal data can be derived from the blockchain.
3. Obtain a justification that is permanent. Don't rely only on consent!
4. Let users put the data on a public blockchain themselves.
5. Build specialized blockchains that forget.





# Standards for Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology

*Martin Adolph*

*ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

*April 2019*

# Blockchain and DLT – ITU portfolio

## ITU-T Focus Groups

### Pre-standardization

- **Application of DLT (FG DLT)** - identifies use cases, works on terminology, a high-level architecture, an assessment framework, and regulatory aspects
- **Digital Fiat Currency (FG DFC)** - explores blockchain as enabler for CBDC
- **Data Processing and Management to support IoT and Smart Cities & Communities (FG DPM)** - studies use of blockchain in this context

Open to non-members

## ITU-T Study Groups

### Formal standardization

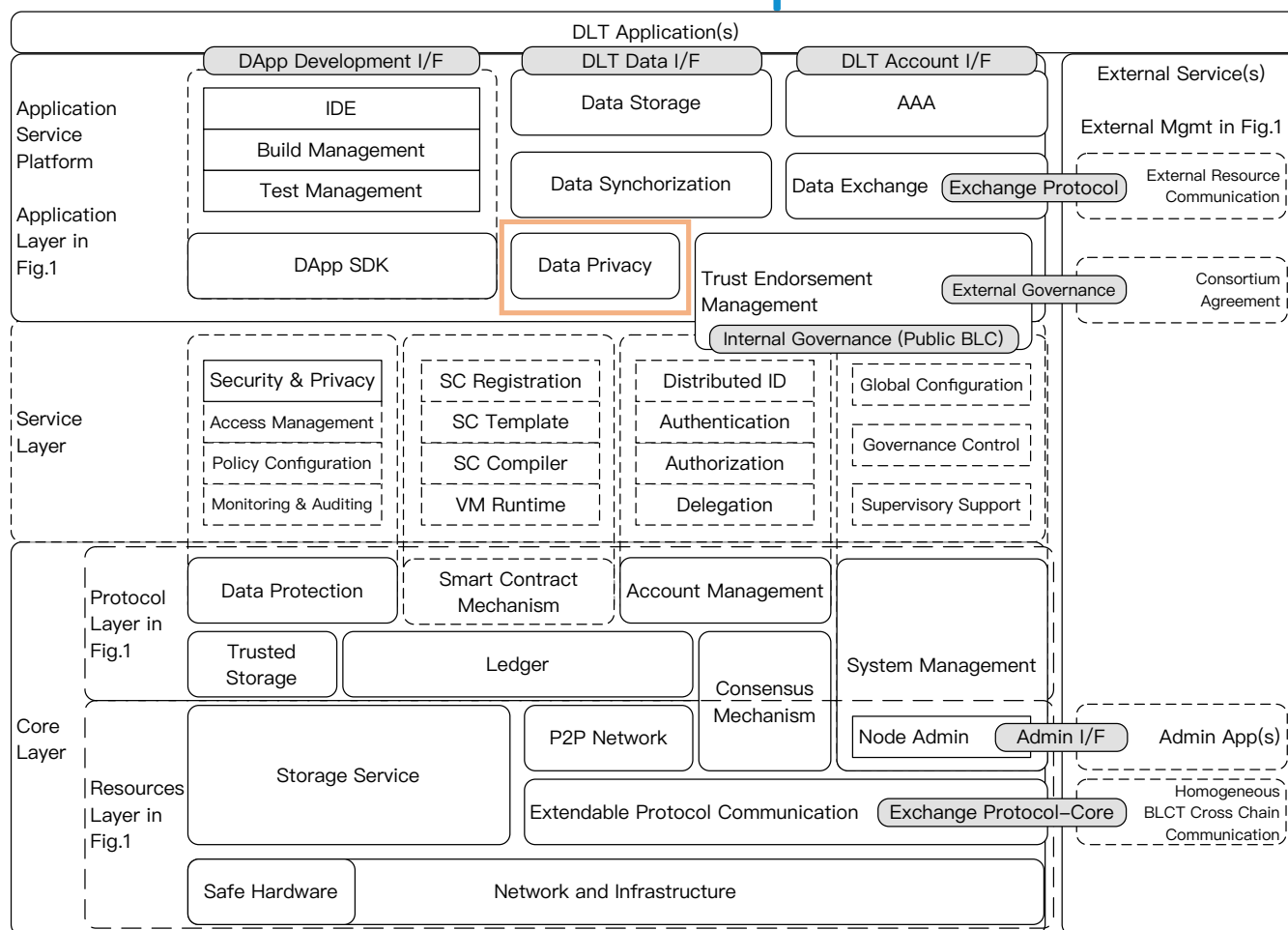
- **SG13** - Cloud computing requirements for blockchain as a service (BaaS); blockchain in NGNe (2 work items)
- **SG16** - DLT and e-services (Question 22/16) (4 work items)
- **SG17** - Security aspects for DLT (Question 14/17: 10 work items)
- **SG20** - “Blockchain of things” (4 work items)

ITU members only





# Focus Group on Application of DLT (FG DLT) – DLT architecture and platform assessment criteria



- 7 Criteria for DLT application functions
  - 7.4 Data privacy
    - 7.4.1 Secure transmission
    - 7.4.2 Restricted data access
    - 7.4.3 Privacy protection



# Focus Group on Application of DLT (FG DLT) – Regulatory framework

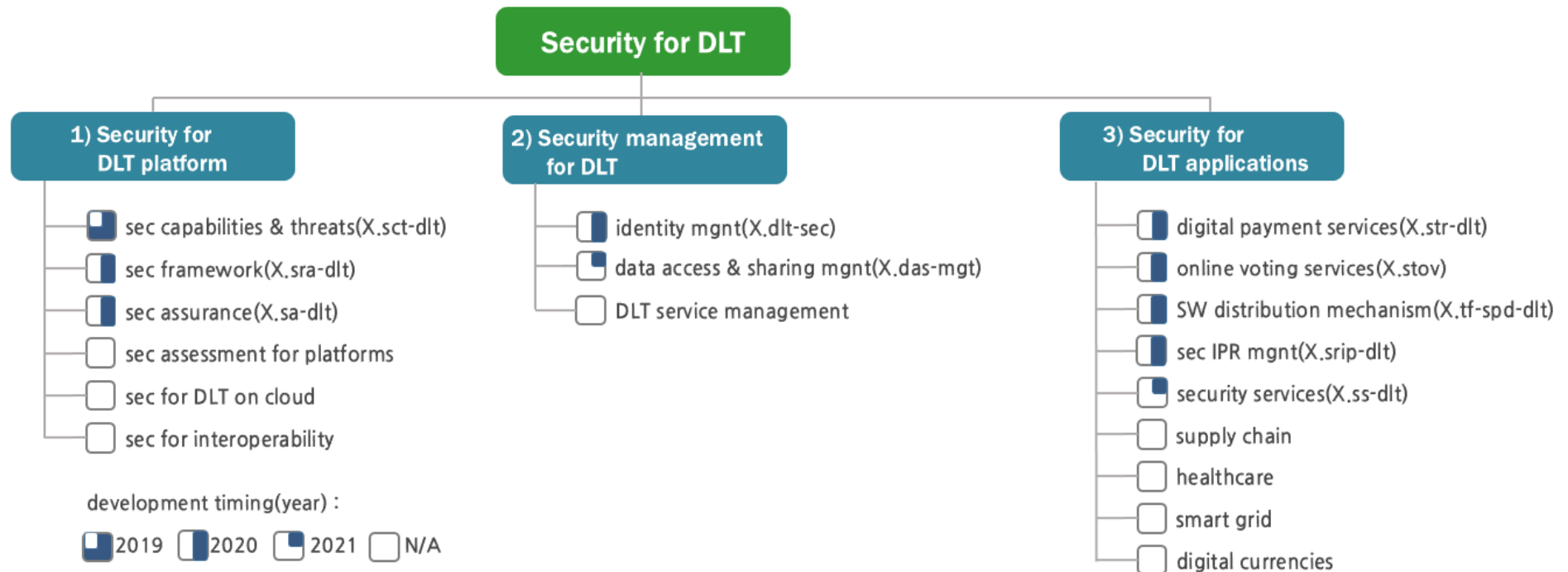
DLT key features	Regulatory aspects include
<b>Distributed</b>	Human right vs. limitation of rights; Within and beyond system boundaries; Interoperability rules
<b>Tamper-evident and -resistant</b>	Measurement, correction, or removal of DLT data
<b>Shared</b>	Scalability: Data Integrity (accuracy), Privacy (data usage), Anti-trust, Confidentiality (access). Rules: Continuous audit for adherence & enforcement
<b>Incentive- and asset-based</b>	Digital Virtual & Digital Fiat Currencies. Tokens.
<b>Open and transparent</b>	Regulation: sector (e.g., financial) or country (law)
<b>Anonymous</b>	AML & KYC statutes vs. Data protection laws
<b>Autonomous</b>	Governance-less vs. self-governance

Goal: Provide guidance to policy makers, regulators.





# Study Group 17 – Security aspects for DLT



# ISO work on blockchain and DLT – ISO/TC 307

WG	Title	Work Items	
1	Foundations	...	
2	<b>Security, privacy and identity</b>	ISO/NP TR 23576	Security management of digital asset custodians
		Study item	Security Evaluation of Consensus Models
2&3		Study item	Security Issues of Smart Contracts
3	Smart contracts and their applications	...	
4	<b>JWG (Joint working group between TC307 and ISO/IEC JTC1 SC27 “IT Security techniques”)</b>	ISO/NP TR 23244	<b>Privacy and personally identifiable information protection considerations</b>
		ISO/NP TR 23245	Security risks, threats and vulnerabilities
		ISO/NP TR 23246	Overview of identity management using blockchain and DLT
5	Governance	...	







Find out more at <https://itu.int/en/ITU-T/focusgroups/dlt/>



# DIN SPEC 4997

## Privacy by Blockchain Design

A standardised model for processing personal data using blockchain technology

- What's a DIN SPEC?
- To be published in December 2019
- Broad range of stakeholders



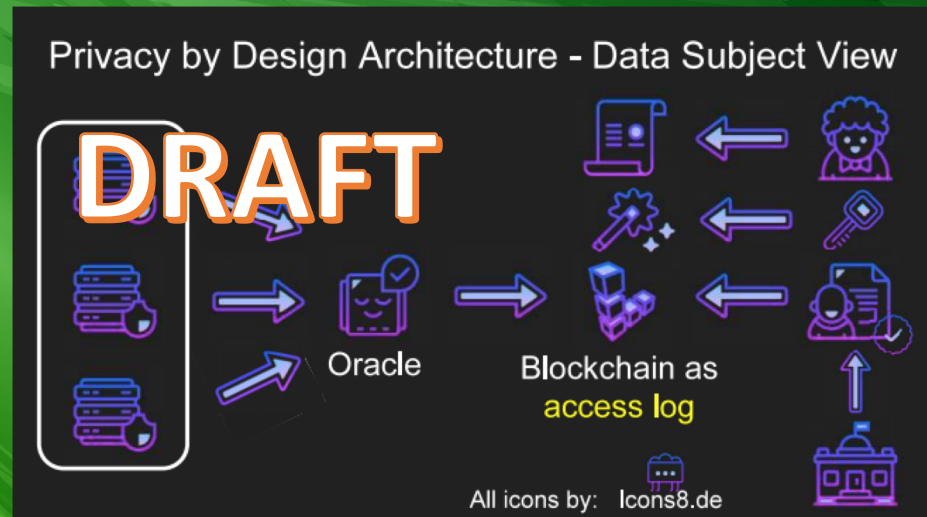
# DIN SPEC 4997

## Privacy by Blockchain Design

- Common language between Law and IT
- Reduced legal uncertainty for blockchain
- Guidelines & best practices
- Foundation for further standards & regulation
- Blockchain for data sovereignty

# DIN SPEC 4997

“Privacy by design” (art. 25 GDPR)  
→ design patterns derived from law





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## Discussion

# How can blockchain foster privacy?



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