



Project acronym: PaE:CG

Project title: Privacy-as-Expected: Consent Gateway

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D2 Final Technical Deliverable

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Abstract: This document represents the final (combined) deliverable for the outcomes of the Privacy as Expected: Consent Gateway (PaE:CG) project. It outlines the project's main deliverables, which consist of: (1) a strategy and vision to offer internet users Consent Receipts and (2) software demonstrating the developed concepts.





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1 Rationale and Motivation

The rationale to provide people with meaningful transparency is inspired by long term objective to evolve privacy and surveillance notices for human controlled consent grants and controls for system permissioning.

Moving past tick box terms and policies that do not provide proof of knowledge, which is required for informed human consent. Online the expectation that people will read linked policies before using a digital service, providing instant access is unreasonable, especially since ½ of Internet service users are Children. Not legally allowed to permission surveillance capitalism without parental consent.

This project objective is to demonstrate an international alternative which dramatically increases the usability and access of privacy rights in Online environments, as well as value of personal data ands meta data for people. A project that makes transparent and accountable surveillance capitalist services so the Next Generation Internet can move forward to operate with dynamic data control and permissioning. One in which meaningful consent is withdrawn per context, (many services) not permission required to be set on a per service basis.

An alternative Open Privacy Notice Alternative, to cookie pop-ups, built for the Individual to see what privacy they have (with a glance), reversing the burden of notice to the Data Controller, providing the tools people need to see a protect their own data on and offline in context.

An objective that resumes the original call for collaboration in the development and implementation of Open Notice standards that scale jurisdictions as well as the Internet.

Introducing: The PaE:CG (Privacy as Expected Consent Gateway) project, developed to engineer a much more performative alternative to cookies and pop-ups. By providing people with the tools to generate their own records using standards that codify best practices for Meaningful Consent. Which is essentially consent people themselves generate, control and can find trustworthy.

What is Privacy as Expected (PaE)





Privacy as Expected, refers to reasonable expectation of privacy that is entrenched in privacy law and rights, the basis of the 4th amendment in the US, Article 8 Human Rights Act in the EU, and echoed in legal decisions through privacy regimes all over the world. This expectation of privacy is critical for trustworthy use of personal data and data governance. At its core it is a legal protocol for generating proof of noticxe records and consent receipts, used to enhance privacy notices and automate access to privacy rights information.

PaE like the legal tests for determining what is fair and reasonable, extends privacy regulation with an open standard digital privacy notice record, which people themselves (or their user agent) create in order to generate consent/rights receipts.

Privacy as Expected is a much more intuitive signalling protocol for people (than terms and conditions) as the reasonable expectation of privacy is determined by the purpose, not terms and conditions. A purpose that is intuitive to the service, that people can understand.

The Consent Gateway component of this project provides additional Privacy Assurances for the Privacy as Expected protocol through an API that witnesses the claims in a consent receipt to sign the proof of notice once verified.. Meanwhile, the consent receipt captures the legal entities as well as the relationship context/preferences so that a service can automatically see the state of consent and permissions, without needing cookie pop-up banners, or requiring people to read contracts and privacy policies, but instead, provides people with direct access to privacy requesting privacy rights information.

Useful, for example, to streamline online service experiences, and to replace the need for services to place records like cookies on a persons device. With the Consent Gateway the interactions, semantics of a PaE notice are assessed for conformance to standards, as well as access to privacy rights information, access and remedies.

The Consent Gateway is accessible with an API that is used to cryptographically witness the notice assertions of the Data Subject's capture of privacy notices and policies with a consent receipt. and to sign a consent receipt to provide proof of notice. Providing all privacy stakeholders with evidence of a valid state of consent and an auditable record for privacy compliance and rights administration.





Article 12 1-8 in the GDPR,¹ in particular ensure Article 13.1(a), and 14.1(a) Controller Identity and contact information are operational for use to validate a consent so that it is usable as evidence of access to privacy rights information.

Once identified, and notice is verified, GDPR Recital 47 can be applied with PaE protocol to assert privacy rights that supersede the legitimate interests of the Data Controller when privacy is not expected. Article 11, and Recital 51, stipulate public access to 'provided' privacy rights information, without having to provide digital identifiers. And critical for a universal PaECG signal, the use of icons and signals to indicate the active state of privacy control and accountability (GDPR Article 12, Recital 60 and 166). For example, if there is a data breach, a disclosure should/must be automatically provided using the PaE protocol, prior to the next use of a service.

PaE signalling is accomplished through semantically specified implementation of the two main project components. The first is the PaECG protocol implemented by identifying the legal, technical, and jurisdictional infrastructure required for PaE signalling to be active.

The second component, the Consent Gateway(CG), verifies the Data Controller by witnessing the privacy controller identifiers and privacy notice twin for the web service.

The Consent Gateway API is used to cryptographically sign a consent receipt to establish proof of privacy notice knowledge (or evidence) of meaningful consent - the legal standard applied in this project for the international transfer of personal data.

For Privacy as Expected to operate as a protocol, the conformance infrastructure for privacy records require 3 critical market conditions to scale to enable a Single Digital Market:

- 1. Enforceable privacy law GDPR for a single digital market (Data Sovereignty)
- 2. International (ISO/IEC) standard for creating a generic record of notice and consent for people
- 3. Internet scale (W3C) privacy vocabulary to specify a purpose with both human and machine-readable semantics.

The 2 Global Privacy Challenges:

We consider that the two global privacy challenges:

¹ EDPB, 2016, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32016R0679





- 1. Usable Access to Privacy Rights, with a Universal Privacy Signalling Protocol
- 2. Scaling Privacy Rights online the implementation of a Digital Single Market on the internet requires privacy rights to scale Data Sovereignty (Privacy Agreement) infrastructure online.

These are addressed with standards, which provide an internationally neutral record format that captures a privacy notice (or surveillance sign) in a ISO standard consent record format. Which valid consent can be assessed according to a reasonable expectation of pri²vacy. The adequacy of notice and consent as a rights measure for governance between jurisdictions can then be self-determined. In this way PasE is used to cut out the intermediaries so that data subjects can control data and consent to share personal data internationally independently of a Data Controller.

Challenges to Meaningful Consent Privacy & Rights Accessibility

'The Biggest Lie on the Internet'3.4

- Lack of proof of notice for compliant consent.
- Privacy Rights information are "not automatically findable or systematically usable."
- Lack of confirmation that an Online privacy notice has been read and understood is a serious consent compliance challenge the consent receipt is designed to address.⁵
- Lack of evidence of a valid state of consent before contract terms and permissions are set with op-ins and out's.
- Lack of usability outside of the context of the service on-boarding
- Depending on the legal justification and the parties involved, different privacy rights and obligations apply (for all parties).
 - a. When arriving on a website, consent is implied, and permissions are negotiated (not consent) and additional legal justifications applied byt the Data Controller should be informed.

ConsentWorkshopSubmission-Ubicomp2014-MLizarMHodder.pdf

² Lizar, M, Binns R, 2012 "Opening up the Online Notice Infrastructure" Presented at the W3C Do Not Track and Beyond Conference .https://www.w3.org/2012/dnt-ws/position-papers/23.pdf

³ Lizar, 2014, Kantara Initiative [Presentation] Addressing the Biggest Lie on the Internet, with Consent and Notice Receipts,

https://kantarainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Kantara-Consent-Receipt-Presentation.pdf

Obar, 2020 The biggest lie on the internet,

https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/opc-actions-and-decisions/research/funding-for-privacy-research-and-knowledge-translation/completed-contributions-program-projects/2019-2020/p_2019-20_04/

⁵ Lizar, M and Hodder, M, 2014 <u>Usable Consents:</u>





• Data Controllers and Data Subjects have a difficult time understanding which privacy rights apply.

Data Sovereignty on the Internet

The internet originated in the USA where Terms and Conditions frameworks were invented to bootstrap a commercial Internet. They began as a one size fits all policy for online services, when digital identity and online surveillance was in its infancy. As the surveillanced evolved the policy,transparency, accountability and control didn't. The one size fits all policy framework didn't evolve, or incorporate data sovereignty safeguards, for its people, not only as 'end users' of a service.

End user license agreements, (T&Cs) and associated contract frameworks, have not implemented proportionate on reciprocal access to rights

Originally a data governance starting point, static privacy policies became a workaround forcing an op-in to terms, as a method to legitimize the surveillance permissions of online services. Referencing a privacy policy is unreasonable and not fair in a service delivery context. Today, this is a critical security flaw promoting weak Data Controller transparency with strong Data Subject surveillance. People are not often aware of who the Data Controller is or have access to privacy rights before 'opting-in' to what is mis labelled as consent.

Extra-Territorial Considerations:

- Services based on T&Cs, for example in the USA where privacy regulation is fragmented, or in China (where the privacy law is superseded by state security) provide for a contract framework that challenge the data sovereignty of a Single Digital Market., Obstructing access to data privacy rights which implement privacy and security people expect.
- International Trade Agreements ban data localization are also a challenge that require an international standard mechanism for people to control their own data

Providing for the economic argument for the use of a neutral internationally standardized format for the record of notice and consented as evidence of transparency. Which is why the project outputs are contributed to the Kantara Initiative's Advanced Notice & Consent Receipt (ANCR) Working Group.

Privacy as Expected: Addressing Permission Fatigue

Privacy standards are used to strengthen, simplify and improve the effectiveness of privacy rights. Standards which are adopted or enforced promise great rewards by reducing the overall costs of privacy while also increasing the overall benefits they provide. For example, Improving the trustworthiness and usability





of transparency and accountability in the use of surveillance and security systems, A, reduction in stakeholder friction and legal costs. Most importantly a better 'user' experience that facilitates access to markets, reduces the intermediary policy requirements and streamline one's own experience at a fraction of the costs.

For Usability, when privacy is not as expected, standardized and assured (witnessed) notice, notification or disclosure can be generated and independently present a corresponding Privacy notice indicator, indicating a change to the valid state of consent, like the one in this project's PaE signaling icon.

- PaE signalling is intentionally an 'at a glance' privacy measure used to contextually indicate a level of privacy assurance, centred on human expectations, to dramatically changing the paradigm in which privacy usability can be measured.
- In terms of improving human computer interaction, and reliving system permission fatigue, the PaECG protocol's works to reward practices that maintain a shared understanding of purpose and a valid state of consent.
- The receipt is used as a Measure by the Data Controller to reduce the notices and interruptions that people need to see while increasing trust in the Online interaction.

Overall, the PaECG's prototyping focus has been in the web browser in order to contrast the one-size-fits-all terms of use (contract based) model against the alternative and legally compliant personalized permission model, customised by the records Data Subject keep themselves.

2 Use-cases

A Consent Receipt is a proof of notice artifact recording a 'knowledge transaction' between the individual and one or more 'entities', similar to a conventional shopping receipt that records the exchange of money for a service or a product between the provider and the consumer. A record of the valid state. Traditionally provided using paper, receipts are now also disseminated electronically with possibilities of copies for both sellers and consumers.

A receipt, because of its inherent simplicity and familiarity as a record of a transaction to the average person, is a powerful tool for governance because:

- Consent Receipts provide proof of notice that is missing with opt-in privacy polices online, offering proof of meaningful consent, knowledge of who the controller is, and the purpose for processing and access to rights, all of which are invisible to the person online.
- Consent Receipts can be instantly generated with little preconditions or information outside of the data transaction itself.
- Consent Receipts are small, portable, contain claims, useful to port digital identifiers and easily storable.





- Consent Receipts can be self-sufficient by containing all required (meta)data concerning the transaction. In this way a functional micro-credential for rights.
- Consent Receipts are actionable artefacts, such as for asserting rights and specifying the control, storage, access, authorisation and use of personal data.
- Consent Receipts can be used to bind digital identifiers and even digital currency, and can be actionable in a truly anonymous fashion without losing its efficacy as a bearer token.
- Critical for Privacy as Expected, Consent Receipts can be generated by the data subject, compared against each other, to see a) if the provider has posted changes (or notifications) that effect privacy for dynamic risk discovery and b) to notify of changes since the last interaction to provide proof of notice/knowledge.

Architecture

In order to support Consent Receipts, typical web and mobile applications need to provide support to a few essential mechanisms. Figure 1 illustrates our point. It is a simplified view of the wider Privacy and Data Protection. It shows four key entities. The first one, central to our project, is the user and its device. Second, it shows an online service that will collect personal information from the user.

The figure further shows two key stakeholders. A group of (generic) third parties, each a service provider (in some form) on their own, obtains personal data from the principal service provider. The second stakeholder represents the wider community, watchdogs, regulators or national authorities.





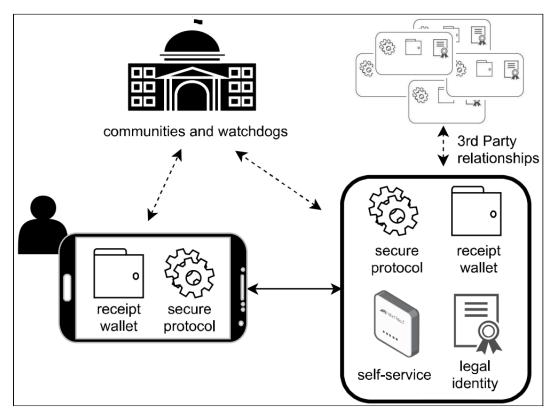


Figure 1 - Technical vision of PaECG

The data subject (aka User Agent) on the left is used to access the applications and needs two new components. First, it needs a special storage facility to generate notice records, collect, store and manage receipts. We anticipate that a single person will generate and collect many receipts per day. This component requires a User Agent such as the web browser, which is why we developed a common browser add-on extension. The extension silently generates or collects the receipts and stores them in a searchable database.

The second component on the user side is a secure protocol. As discussed before, a receipt will be of little use if one cannot trust its contents. We point to existing external work that discusses and demonstrates its implementation and feasibility (jesus_towards_2020⁶).

On the service provider side, a similar component must exist in order to run the secure protocol. It further needs its own wallet to gather receipts (potentially at scale).

Whereas the user agent does not need to present a state-accredited form of identity, the service providers must have an explicit data controller identity. In order to be compliant with laws such as GDPR and CCPA, the identity of the Data Controllers needs to be disclosed along with reaching them for access to privacy rights. For example, a form of contact must exist so that individuals can exercise their access rights, and the delivery of a receipt accomplishes this. The identity

⁶"Towards an Accountable Web of Personal Information: The Web-of-Receipts", Vitor Jesus, IEEE Access Vol.8 https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2020.2970270





component of the service provider, as such, is not purely technical. It is driven from legal requirements achieved with a consent receipt that provides proof of notice.

Finally, and not necessarily a required component but rather a feature of consent receipts, we envision that service providers will offer a "self-service point" as discussed previously. Using the receipts, and not strictly needing anything else, people can independently manage their personal data with privacy rights to the extent the law allows (e.g., withdraw consent or request data deletion, object to processing, the right to be forgotten etc) to the extent the service provider is able to perform to. For example, instead of a person having to send an email to the organisation, that a human will have to manually process, people can simply use an ANCR record, to generate their (secure) receipts as a verified claim to access a control panel on the service providers website.

Use-Cases of the proof-of-Concept

We strictly followed the high-level architecture originally outlined in the proposal for the project (Fig. 1) to chart use-cases and implementat components (Fig.2):

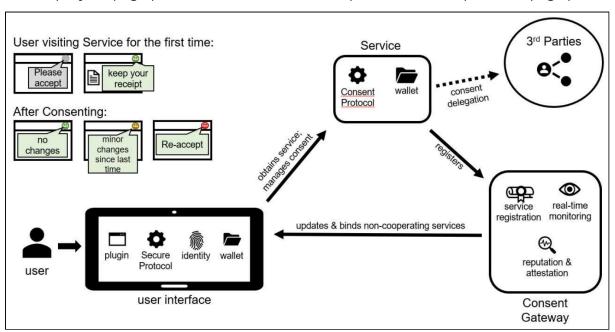


Figure 2 - Technical implementation architecture of PaECG

The PaECG project created a proof-of-concept of these relationships. We have identified the following use-cases:

- 1. when the website is directly compliant with the PaECG framework
- 2. when the website is compliant with the PaECG framework but not directly and delegates to a Consent Gateway
- 3. when the website is not compliant with the PaECG framework and the user requests the engagement of the Consent Gateway
- 4. when third-parties collect personal information via websites



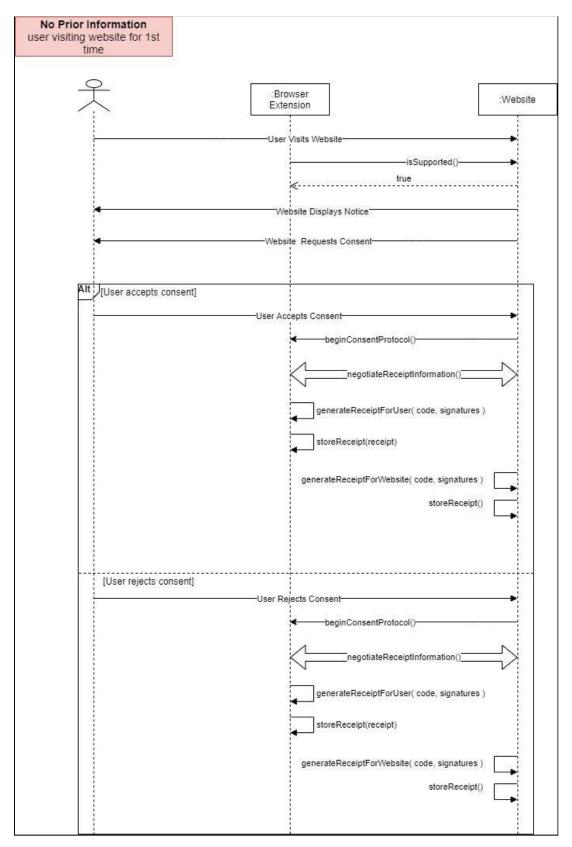


PaECG implemented the first three use-cases. Given the complexity of the fourth, we opted to leave it for future work.

The following figures show the sequence and messaging diagrams of the selected use-cases.



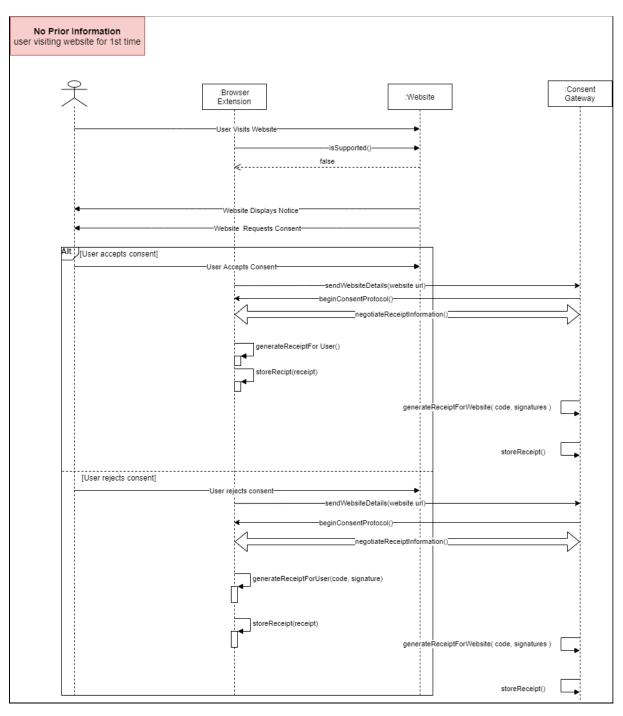




Use-case 1: Website directly supports the PaECG framework.







Use-case 3: Website is not compliant with PaECG so the user engages the CG on its behalf.





3 Implementation

The software implementation focused on the three key components:

- a user-agent, in the form of a browser plug-in or add-on
- a web server component
- and the accessory service of the Consent Gateway

3.1 User's Browser Extension

The user's Plug-In acts to administrate the protocol and generate the signalling protocol in order to cryptographically sign and notarize the consent notice receipt.

The first time that the plug-in is installed by the data subject, it generates a key pair that effectively creates a notional identity while being completely anonymous (if so desired). A key pair contains a private key and a public key. These keys will later be used to sign receipts and ensure their integrity. Agent Id and consent notice receipt token will be required to for proof of notice and consent and used to manage the use of receipts to make privacy rights (truly) actionable.

```
chrome.runtime.onInstalled.addListener(function (details) {
         if (details.reason === "install")
36
             publicKey = keyPair.publicKey;
37
38
             privateKey = keyPair.privateKey
39
             publicKey_pem = forge.pki.publicKeyToPem(keyPair.publicKey);
40
             privateKey_pem = forge.pki.privateKeyToPem(keyPair.privateKey);
41
             userId = createUUID();
42
             userToken = generateToken(16);
43
             let config = {
44
                  'userId': userId,
45
                  'privateKey': privateKey_pem,
46
47
                  'publicKey': publicKey_pem,
48
                  'userToken': userToken,
49
              };
             saveToLocalStorage('config', config);
50
51
             chrome.tabs.create({
                 url: "/popup/config.html"
52
```

After the PaE plug-in is installed in the browser it opens a page to show the configuration to the user. The configuration file contains the key pair, the record log, the user id and the token for the user. The user can save the configuration file for future use. It is advised to download the record log stored in the file to a safe/secure place and import receipt store on a new device to access privacy rights and for future uses (e.g. service/product discovery).





UserId			
Token			
PrivateKey			
PublicKey			
Download C	onfig File		

When a user visits a website, the browser plug-in checks if the website supports the protocol or not. The website must explicitly mention it supports the protocol. The website needs to add additional metadata to the website to inform the plug-in it supports the protocol.

Also, the website should include additional paecg.js file so the website and the plug-in can communicate with each other.

```
69 <script src="<u>paecg.js</u>"> </script>
```

If the website wants to be compliant with the protocol, then information about the consent submission elements, user inputs fields, JavaScript being used in the page and link to the policy URL should be provided in the correct format. Additional information about the data controller can be also mentioned.

How to provide configuration information to the plug-in.

1. Add the paecg.js file to the page.





- 2. Create a new instance of PaECG with correct JSON fields and format.
- 3. Call setup method on PaECG instance created on step 2.

JSON fields and format to be provided are as follows:

- info_for_receipt= required, JSON, is used to give additional information about the data controller and data, can be left blank if the user does not want to give additional information.
- consent_submission_elements= required, JSON, is used to provide information about elements responsible for handling the consent interaction.
- user_inputs= required Array, is used to provide information on elements having the user data.
- javascript= required Array, is used to give information on the JavaScript files included in the page.
- policyurl= required Array, is used to give information on the privacy policy page linked to the page.

Example

```
<script>
     var details={
71
         'info_for_receipt':{
                                    'piicontrollers':[{
72
             "name": "Acme Inc.",
73
            "localid": "PIIC-A",
"address": "Wonderland",
74
75
             "url": "http://example.com/",
76
             "contact": {
77
                 "phone": "000",
"email": "acme@example.com"
78
79
80
              policies": {
81
                  "privacy": "http://example.com/privacy",
82
                 "termsconditions": "http://example.com/tandc"
83
            }
84
85
        }]},
         consent_submission_elements':{'Submit':'Accept'},
        'user_inputs':['fname','lname','email'],
'javascript':['http://3.10.208.186/js/one.js','http://3.10.208.186/js/two.js'],
87
88
        'policyurl':['http://3.10.208.186/policy/one.html','http://3.10.208.186/policy/two.html']
89
90
     var paecg=new PaECG(details);
91
92
     paecg.setup();
     </script>
```

The plug-in checks if the website supports the protocol and displays it to the user.

```
function isSupportedWebsite() {
    return (($("meta[name='pisp']")).length > 0);
}
```





Not Supported

Privacy as Expected: Consent Gateway



Generate Receipt

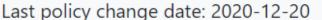
Show all receipts

Current Site Receipts

No receipts found for this site

Supported

Privacy as Expected : Consent Gateway





Since last aggreement, no changes have been made

You clicked on Accept last time on Fri Mar 26 2021 15:19:17 GMT+0000 (Greenwich Mean Time)

Show all receipts

Current Site Receipts

When there is consent interaction between a user and a website on a PaECG compliant website then a message is sent to the Plug-in's Content Script.





```
50
         runProtocol(element) {
51
             var PII = {}
             for (var thisInput of this.user_inputs) {
52
53
                 PII[thisInput] = document.getElementById(thisInput).value;
54
55
             var user_click=this.consent_submission_elements[element];
             var clicked_element=JSON.stringify(document.getElementById(element).outerHTML);
56
             window.postMessage({
57
                 type: "FROM PAGE",
58
                 title: 'fetchConsentDetails',
59
60
                 PII: PII,
                 clickedElement:clicked_element,
61
62
                 user_click_value:user_click,
                 thirdparties: this.thirdparties,
63
64
                 javascriptUrls:this.javascript,
65
                 policyUrls: this.policyurl,
66
                 all_receipt_data:this.all_receipt_data
              }, "*");
67
                 console.log('Sending click response ...');
68
69
70
```

The Content Script listens to the event and retrieves all the information from the webpage and starts the protocol.

```
window.addEventListener("message", function (event) {
565
          if (event.source != window)
566
567
              return;
          if (event.data.type && (event.data.type == "FROM_PAGE")) {
568
               switch (event.data.title) {
569
570
                   case "fetchConsentDetails":
                       /**Get all Info */
571
572
                       clickedElement = event.data.clicked_element;
573
                       PII = event.data.PII;
                       consentText = event.data.user click value;
574
575
                       allJavascriptUrls = event.data.javascriptUrls;
576
                       allPolicyLinks = event.data.policyUrls;
577
                       consent_data = event.data.consent_data;
                       info_for_receipt = event.data.info_for_receipt;
578
                       /* Run the Protocol*/
579
                       generateReceiptForCompliant();
580
581
582
583
      });
```

The protocol generates a current timestamp as the timestamp of the interaction between the user and the website. Then it gets all the Java Scripts, Policy pages





from the URLs provided by the website. It also gets the HTML of the page. After gathering all the files, it hashes them.

```
timestamp=new Date().getTime();
console.log('Generate Receipt For Compliant');
/* Run the Protocol*/
Promise.all([gatherJavascriptFiles(allJavascriptUrls),
gatherPolicyFiles(allPolicyLinks), getHtml()]).then(() => {
    hashContents().then(() => {
```

If the website is compliant with its own receipt generator, then it will create a WebSocket connection with the website's receipt generator. But if the website does not have receipt generator, then it will create a WebSocket connection with the consent gateway.

```
if (pispUrl == 'Consent Gateway') {
    pispUrl = 'ws://46.101.26.188';
}
```

The user Plug-In sends a message to the WebSocket with all the URLs provided by the website.

```
let messageToSend = {
  title: "getContentsAndHash",
  data: {
    info_for_receipt: info_for_receipt,
    consentText: consentText,
    clickedElement: clickedElement,
        javaScriptUrls: allJavascriptUrls,
        policyUrls: allPolicyLinks,
        htmlUrl: window.location.href,
    },
};
```





If the website is using the consent gateway, a consent receipt is generated that uses the information as above and requests verification with signatures.

```
267 websocket.send(JSON.stringify(messageToSend));
```

When the receipt generator gets the message, it starts to hash the contents. When the hashing is completed by the receipt generator then it sends all the hashes back to the plug-in.

```
websocket.addEventListener("message", message => {
    let message_data = JSON.parse(message.data);
    if (message_data.title == "hashingCompleted") {
```

The user Plug-in checks if the hashes generated by the plug-in and receipts generator are the same. As both the plug-in and server component are fetching the contents from the URL independently, the contents should be the same, and therefore the hashes must be the same, if both are honest. When hashing is completed the plug-in sends a message to the receipt generator to start the signing process along with the data involved. The Plug-in also starts to sign the details on its end. When the signing is completed, signed messages are exchanged between both ends.

```
278
    let sendPII = { 'title': 'getSignedMessage', 'data': { PII }};
279
    websocket.send(JSON.stringify(sendPII));

284
    sendMessageToBackground('signDetails', messagetoSign);

291
    if (verify_signed_message(message_data)) {
```

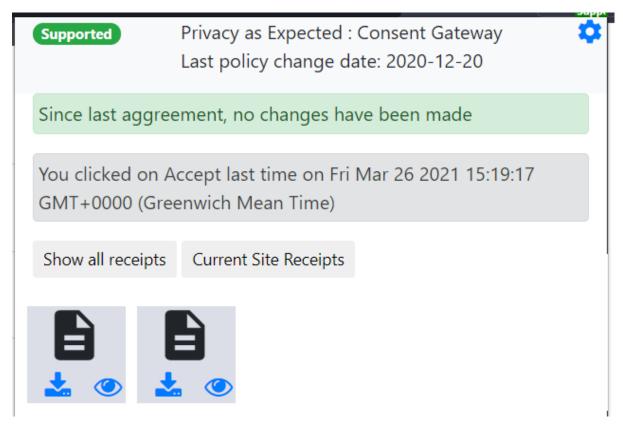
If the signed message received from the receipt generator is valid then the plug-in starts to create a JSON file using the details gathered. Then the JSON is saved to the cloud. Users can also save the file locally into the device.

```
sendMessageToBackground("saveToCloud", cloudReceiptData)
downloadReceipt(JSON.stringify(receipt_structure), `receipt_${receiptId}`);
```

All the receipts previously generated are displayed to the user in the plug-in. The Plug-in can filter receipts according to the website being visited. Plug-in allows users to download the receipt from the plug-in.







The User plug-in also works for PaECG non-compliant websites as well. A user willing to generate a receipt on PaECG non-compliant website has to click on the 'generate receipt' button in the plug-in before doing any consent interaction on the website.



When there is any interaction on the web page then the plug-in collects all the JavaScript URLs used in the page, it also tries to gather all the privacy policy links in the page.





```
consentText = element.value;
allJavascriptUrls = [];
Array.prototype.slice.call(document.scripts).forEach(element => {
    if (element.src != "") {
        allJavascriptUrls.push(element.src);
}
```

After gathering all the links from the page, the plug-in fetches all the javascript files, policy pages. The Plugin also gets all the data from the input fields in the page. After getting the required data, the plug-in hashes all the contents.

```
Promise.all([gatherJavascriptFiles(allJavascriptUrls),

getAllPrivacyPolicyUrls(), gatherPolicyFiles(allPolicyLinks), gatherAllPII(),

getHtml()]).then(() => {

hashContents().then(() => {
```

Then the plug-in creates a connection with the consent gateway. The Plug-in sends all the links to the consent gateway. The Consent gateway gets all the files from the links and sends the hashes of them back to the plug-in. The Plug-in checks if the hashes are matching. If the hashes are the same, then the plug-in sends a message to the consent gateway to start signing the details. The plug-in also starts to sign the details. After receiving the signed message from the consent gateway, the Plug-in checks if the signed message is valid. If the signature is valid then the plug-in makes a file from the details gathered previously. The Plug-in saves the generated receipt to the cloud and prompts the user to save the receipt locally as well. The Plug-in also sends the signed message to the consent gateway when it finishes signing the details.

3.2 Web Server Module

The web server Component is responsible for handling the requests from the user plug-in.

For this project, Node.js with express JS is used in the backend to handle the requests from the plug-in. But any language and any frameworks can be used to configure the web server component.

The Web Server component communicates with the plug-in using a WebSocket to generate receipts. The server component is also referred to as receipt generator. The web server component requires a key pair. These keys will be used when exchanging and verifying the consent details.





```
23
     const rsa = forge.pki.rsa;
     const keyPair = rsa.generateKeyPair({
24
25
         bits: 1024,
         e: 0x10001
26
27
     });
     const publicKey = keyPair.publicKey;
28
29
     const privateKey = keyPair.privateKey
     const publicKey_pem = forge.pki.publicKeyToPem(keyPair.publicKey);
30
     const privateKey_pem = forge.pki.privateKeyToPem(keyPair.privateKey);
31
```

It 'listens' to the connections from the plug-in.

```
34 wss.on("connection", ws => {
36 ws.on("message",data=>{
```

When there is a connection from the plug-in, the WebSocket retrieves data as JSON. The Plug-in sends data to the server component in the specific format for different purposes. This JSON has a title field to instruct the server component which action to perform on retrieving the message. The data field contains all the data to facilitate the action to be performed.

```
37 let message=JSON.parse(data);
```

The different actions that request that the Web Server component can receive, and how to respond to those requests, are mentioned below.

On receiving the title "getContentsAndHash" from the browser addon, Web Server component has to hash all the contents such as HTML, Privacy policy pages, and JavaScript pages. It has to send the hashes back to the Plug-in in a specified format.

Message from the Plug-in.

- "title": getContentsAndHash
- "data": JSON
 - "javascriptUrls", Array, Javscripts links in the page
 - "policyUrls", Array, of all the policy pages links in the page.





- "htmlUrl", String, URL of the page.
- "consentText", String, Consent Text of the Interaction
- "info_for_receipt" JSON, Additional Information

Format to send message back:

- "title": 'hashingCompleted', Required.
- "data": JSON, Required.
 - "javascriptHash", Required, String, JavaScript hash of all the JavaScript pages combined.
 - "policyHash", Required, String, Hash of all the policy pages combined.
 - "htmlHash", Required, String, Hash of the HTML of the page.

When receiving "getContentsAndHash" as a message title from the Plug-in, the Web Server Component gets all the necessary information such as HTML, Privacy policy pages, and JavaScript links. It iterates through all the links, fetch contents of all the links and hashes them.

```
Promise.all([gatherPolicyFiles(),
47
                       gatherJavascriptFiles(),
48
                       getHtml()]).then(() => {
49
                  generateHash().then(() => {
50
130
      async function getHtml(){
131
          htmlContent=await getContentFromUrl(htmlUrl);
132
133
      async function gatherJavascriptFiles() {
134
135
          allJavascriptContent='';
          for (let javascripturl of javascriptUrls) {
136
              let javasciptcode = await getContentFromUrl(javascripturl);
137
138
             allJavascriptContent += javasciptcode;
139
140
141
142
      async function gatherPolicyFiles() {
          allPolicyContent='';
143
          for (let policyUrl of policyUrls) {
144
145
             let policyUrlContent = await getContentFromUrl(policyUrl);
             allPolicyContent += policyUrlContent;
146
147
148
```





Another request that the web server component can receive, is to sign the details involved in the consent interaction. When the Plug-in gets the message with the title "getSignedMessage", it should start to sign the details and send the signed details back.

Message from the user Plug-in.

- "title": "getSignedMessage"
- "data": JSON
 - "PII", JSON, User data used in the consent interaction.

```
if (message.title == "signedMessage") {
58
         let user_public_key = forge.pki.publicKeyFromPem(message_data.public_key);
59
         let user_signed_message = message_data.signed_Data;
60
             let consent_details={
61
                 htmlContent: htmlContent, javascript: allJavascriptContent,
62
                 policy: allPolicyContent, PII: message_data.PII,
63
                 timestamp: message_data.timestamp, nounce: message_data.nounce,
64
                 info_for_receipt
65
66
         let messageDigest = forge.md.sha256.create();
67
         messageDigest.update(consent details, 'utf8');
68
         let verify = user_public_key.verify(messageDigest.digest().bytes(), user_signed_message);
```

The message to send back to the Plug-in is shown below.

- "title": "signedMessage", Required.
- "data": JSON, Required.
 - "signedMessage", Required, String, JavaScript hash of all the JavaScript pages combined.
 - "server_publickeypem", Required, String, Hash of all the policy pages combined.
 - "timestamp", Required, Number (Javascript), Hash of the HTML of the page.
 - "nounce", Required, String Nonce.

The signed message also needs to be in the correct format. The Web Server component signs the JSON data with specific field and data. The JSON and fields are explained below.

- htmlContent: HTML page of page.
- javascript: Content of all the JavaScript used in the page.
- policy: Content of all the policy pages used in the page.
- PII: User data used in the consent interaction.





- timestamp:timestamp
- nounce:nounce
- info_for_receipt: additional information about the page.

```
99
          if(message.title=='getSignedMessage'){
100
              let timestamp=new Date().getTime();
              let nounce=( 1e9*Math.random()*1e9*Math.random() ).toString(16);
101
102
              let consent_details={
                  htmlContent: htmlContent, javascript: allJavascriptContent,
103
104
                  policy: allPolicyContent, PII: message_data.PII, timestamp: timestamp,
105
                  nounce: nounce, info_for_receipt: info_for_receipt
              };
106
107
              let rc = forge.md.sha256.create();
108
              rc.update(consent details, 'utf8');
              let sigedMessaged = privateKey.sign(rc);
109
              console.log("Data Signed By the Server")
110
111
              let data = {
112
                  signedMessage: sigedMessaged,
                  server_publickeypem: publicKey_pem,
113
114
                 timestamp:timestamp,
115
                  nounce: nounce
116
117
              console.log("Sending Signed Data To the Client");
              ws.send(JSON.stringify({'title':'signedMessage','data':data}));
118
119
120
```

In the case where the Web server component receives a message with the title "signedMessage" it verifies if the signature is valid. If the signature is valid then it gathers all the previous information and generates a JSON file as the receipt and saves it locally.

Message from the user Plug-in.

- "title": "signedMessage"
- "data": JSON
 - "public_key", public_key of the user plug-in. Public key is in PEM format.
 - "signed_Data", the data user plug-in signed.

As all the hashes matched previously, all the contents must be the same at both ends. The Web component gathers all the information and makes a JSON in the same format that the Plug-in signed it. The Web component checks if the signed





message from the Plug-in is authentic and has not been tampered with. When the web server component verifies the signed message, it creates and saves a JSON file with all the details gathered previously.

```
let receiptData = {
73
              'identifier': message_data.receiptId,
74
75
         };
         receiptData['paecg']={
76
              'user_public_key':message_data.public_key,
77
              'signed_Messaged': message_data.signed_Data,
78
             'DataSigned':consent details,
79
              'PII':message_data.PII,
80
             'html':htmlContent,
81
              'javascript':allJavascriptContent,
82
             'policy':allPolicyContent,
83
             htmlHash,javascriptHash,policyHash
84
85
         let fileName=`receipts/receipt${message_data.receiptId}.json`;
86
         fs.writeFileSync(fileName, JSON.stringify(receiptData));
87
88
         console.log("Receipt Downloaded successfully....");
```

3.3 Consent Gateway

The PaE Protocol, facilitated by Consent Gateway is designed to produce a proof of privacy notice record, for the semantically standardized <u>W3C vocabulary</u>, utilising the ISO/IEC 29100 Privacy framework for baseline term definitions for stakeholders. This is further elaborated on in the ISO/IEC 29184 Online privacy notices and consent standard, in which an example of the Consent Receipt is published in the appendix, and further developed in ISO/IEC 27560.3 (WD3) Consent Record information structure.

The Consent Gateway's function is to aid in the verification and non-repudiation of the state of consent and permissions, captured in the Consent Receipts when the Data Controller does not directly provide proof with a Consent Receipt. It addresses the gap where people tick boxes asserting that they read a policy that they then can't track.





How the Consent Gateway is operated

When the Website does not have the capacity to generate a receipt, the user Plugin can generate a record and send it to the Consent Gateway to sign the record and generate the receipt. The Consent Gateway acts as a witness to the notice between the website and the user.

The user Plug-in communicates with the Consent Gateway to generate receipts. It is similar with the web server component part, where the WebSocket is used as secure way to communicate between the endpoints.

When the Consent Gateway receives a message from the user Plug-in, firstly it verifies the controller and website information provided by the user's (data subject's) Plug-in. It generates a mirrored record from this verification and stores it in the Consent Gateway Ledger as a proof of notice.

Then it checks if the request is for a compliant or non-compliant website and handles the request accordingly.

If the request is to hash contents for the complaint website, it sends hashes back to the Plug-in after fetching all content of all the required URLs.

```
90
         if (
           message.title == "getContentsAndHash" &&
91
           message.website type == "compliant"
92
93
             Promise.all([getHtml(htmlUrl),
103
              gatherJavascriptFiles(javascriptUrls),
104
              gatherPolicyFiles(allpolicyUrls),
105
             1).then(() => {
106
107
               generateHashcompliant().then(() => {
```

If the request is from a non-compliant notice information on the website, then Consent Gateway captures the html and the privacy and terms policy alone, together with the URL's, JavaScript and the contents of the policies, before hashing them and sending them back to the user Plug-in. The plug-in the sends the data as a record (using the PaE protocol and format) to the Consent Gateway to sign the record to turn it into the Consent Receipt (a type of verified claim).





```
200
          if (message.title == "getSignedMessage") {
201
            let timestamp = new Date().getTime();
            let nounce = (1e9 * Math.random() * 1e9 * Math.random()).toString(16);
202
            let consent details = {
203
              htmlContent: htmlContent,
204
205
              javascript: allJavascriptContent,
              policy: allPolicyContent,
206
              PII: message_data.PII,
207
208
              timestamp: timestamp,
209
              nounce: nounce,
210
             };
211
212
            let rc = forge.md.sha256.create();
213
            rc.update(consent details, "utf8");
            let sigedMessaged = privateKey.sign(rc);
214
215
            console.log(">>>>>Data Signed By the Server<<<<<");</pre>
            let data =
216
               signedMessage: sigedMessaged,
217
218
               server_publickeypem: publicKey_pem,
              timestamp: timestamp,
219
220
              nounce: nounce,
221
             };
            console.log("Sending Signed Data To the Client");
222
223
              JSON.stringify({ title: "signedMessageFromConsentGateWay", data: data })
224
225
             );
226
```

When the user's (Data Subject's) browser Plugin sends the record to the Consent Gateway with a title "signed message" it verifies the website information captured in the record. If the captured information is validated then the Consent Gateway generates a Consent Receipt JSON file with all the information previously gathered as the proofs' payload. The receipt is saved in the ledger linked to the Consent Gateway server. If the data controller information or the signature is not valid then the consent gateway discards the record and does not generate the receipt.





```
if (message.title == "signedMessage") \[\[\]
121
122
            console.log(message.data);
            let user_public_key = forge.pki.publicKeyFromPem(message_data.public_key);
123
124
            let user_signed_message = message_data.signed_Data;
125
              let consent details={
                htmlContent: htmlContent, javascript: allJavascriptContent, policy: allPolicyContent,
126
127
                PII: message_data.PII, timestamp: message_data.timestamp, nounce: message_data.nounce, info_for_receipt
128
129
            console.log("Signed Message From Client");
            let messageDigest = forge.md.sha256.create();
130
131
            messageDigest.update(consent_details, 'utf8');
132
            let verify = user_public_key.verify(messageDigest.digest().bytes(), user_signed_message);
            // If the signature is valid then
133
            if (verify)
134
135
                console.log("Signature is Valid");
136
                let receiptData =
                    'identifier': message_data.receiptId,
137
138
139
                receiptData['paecg']={
140
                    'user public key':message data.public key,
                    'signed Messaged': message data.signed Data,
141
142
                    'DataSigned':consent_details,
143
                    'PII':message_data.PII,
144
                    'html':htmlContent.
                    'javascript':allJavascriptContent,
145
                    'policy':allPolicyContent,
146
147
                  htmlHash,javascriptHash,policyHash
148
149
                let fileName=`receipts/receipt${message_data.receiptId}.json`;
                fs.writeFileSync(fileName, JSON.stringify(receiptData));
150
151
               console.log("Receipt Downloaded successfully....");
152
153
        else{
        console.log('Signature not valid from client');
```

3.4 Consent Receipts

This section provides a summary of the work conducted regarding Consent Receipts in terms of exploring information required for assessing and demonstrating the 'validity of consent' according to specific legal requirements. The data set required to be recorded regarding consent and its provision is dictated by legal requirements and is provisioned as a Consent Receipt for providing verifiable and accountable records to involved stakeholders. The data required, the specification and format into which it is put, and its relation to GDPR is explored in more detail within the 'Deliverable 2.4 Consent Receipt' and is published at the PaE:CG website⁷ as well as deposited to Zenodo⁸ for long-term availability and archival.

The public Consent Receipt (v1.1) was published by Kantara Initiative in 2018. This version is not compatible with the current laws, their interpretations, and the ecosystem within which they operate, more specifically regarding the changes following GDPR's enforcement in 2018. This is primarily due to the consent receipt specification utilising different terminology and the difference in information from what is required as per GDPR's requirements for consent. The primary aim

⁷ https://privacy-as-expected.org/deliverables.html

⁸ https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5076603





of this work is therefore to provide a Consent Receipt specification based on GDPR's requirements regarding consent.

Additionally, the work also provided an exploration of the following objectives:

- 1. Providing trust, transparency, and accountability by utilising cryptographic signatures as explored in prior work⁹
- 2. Operating within a global landscape consisting of multiple non-compatible jurisdictions and the role of standards such as ISO/IEC 29100¹⁰ and 29184¹¹ in assessing adequacy while harmonising vocabulary and application
- 3. Specifying information required within the receipt in online notices and the webpages they operate within.

Within the PaE:CG project, the deliverable D2.4 Consent Receipt guides the information fields utilised by the other deliverables, which are: D2.1 User Plug-in, D2.2 Consent Gateway, and D2.3 Server Component. While the implementations of these latter deliverables use only a *subset* of the possible fields, the D2.4 deliverable outlines the superset of fields possible for inclusion and their role within the consent processes.

The identification of relevant information is based on analysis of currently enforced European data protection and privacy laws, including ePrivacy Directive (ePD, 2002) and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR, 2016). The laws provide the basis for information necessary to be provided to individuals - both within the context of consent as well as for other purposes associated with the processing of personal data, and the consideration of 'validity of consent' based on meeting certain requirements. These requirements were interpreted to record specific 'fields of information' that can be used to demonstrate or verify the authenticity and legitimacy of consent obtained or given, as well as other interactions within the context such as the provision of notice, information about rights, or the proposed processing of personal data dependent on that consent.

Given that the Consent Receipt (v1.1, 2018) is an existing specification, the PaE:CG project first assessed the capability and extent of it meeting the requirements for specifying the required information. Based on this, necessary changes were identified and codified into the newer set of fields intended to be recorded within a receipt. Both the analysis and the fields are presented within the more comprehensive D2.4 deliverable. Additionally, requirements were also obtained from the ISO/IEC 29184 Online privacy notices and consent given its important role in the standardisation of the process and information in scope for the PaE:CG project.

A list of possible fields based on interpreting the above information is presented in the table below. The list consists of questions involved in assessing the validity of consent, and the required 'concept of information' necessary to answer or evaluate the requirements based on that question.

_

⁹ Jesus, V. (2020). Towards an Accountable Web of Personal Information: The Web-of-Receipts. IEEE Access, 8, 25383–25394. https://doi.org/10/ggsgh4

¹⁰ https://www.iso.org/standard/45123.html

[&]quot; https://www.iso.org/standard/70331.html





Questions about Receipt	Fields	
How to uniquely identify or reference this receipt?	Receipt ID	
How to uniquely identify or reference the schema of this receipt?	Receipt Schema	
When was this receipt generated?	Receipt Generation	
Who generated this receipt?	Receipt Generating Entity	
How was this receipt generated?	Receipt Generation Method	
Why was this receipt generated?	Receipt Generation Timestamp	
What location was this receipt generated and provided at?	Receipt Provision Location	
What medium was this receipt generated and provided in?	Receipt Provision Medium	
What is the language of information used by this receipt?	Receipt Language	
What is the encoding of information used by this receipt?	Receipt Encoding	
Is the receipt signed?	Receipt Signatures	
Who has signed this receipt?	Receipt Signing Entity	
What is the role of each entity that has signed this receipt?	Receipt Signing Entity Role	
What is the algorithm used in the signature?	Receipt Signing Algorithm	
What is the value of the signature?	Receipt Signature	
What is the checksum of receipt for verification of integrity?	Receipt Checksum	
What is the format of the checksum?	Receipt Checksum Format	
Does this receipt replace or void another receipt?	Receipts Replaced	
Is this receipt a companion to another receipt?	Relevant Receipts	
Questions about Entity	•	
What is the (legal) name of this entity?	Entity Legal Name	
What is the type of this entity?	Entity Legal Type	
What is the legal (identifier) of this entity?	Entity Legal Identifier	
What is the URL of this entity?	Entity URL	
What is the physical address of this entity?	Entity Physical Address	
What is the communication point for contacting this entity?	Entity Communication Point	
What is the type of contact for this entity?	Communication Type	
What is the value of contact for this entity?	Communication Details	
What are the relevant policies for this entity?	Entity Policies	
What is the URI for the policy for this entity?	Policy URI	
What is the type of policy for this entity?	Policy Type	
What is the version for the policy for this entity?	Policy Version	
What is the checksum for this policy?	Policy Checksum	
What is the public key for this entity?	Entity Public Key	
What is the algorithm or type for the cryptographic public key for this entity?	Public Key Algorithm	
Questions about Notice containing Consent Request		





Who provided the notice?	Notice Providing Entity
What is the identifier or URL for the notice?	Notice ID
What is the version of the notice?	Notice Version
What is the timestamp of the notice?	Notice Timestamp
What is the method used for providing the notice?	Notice Provision Method
What is the location used for providing the notice?	Notice Provision Location
What is the medium used for providing the notice?	Notice Provision Medium
What is the form of the notice?	Notice Form
What is the language used for providing the notice?	Notice Language
What is the checksum of the notice?	Notice Checksum
Was the notice associated with consent or matters other than those presented in the receipt?	Notice Provision Purposes
What information about personal data and its processing was provided?	Notice for Personal Data Processing
Questions about Choice regarding Consent	
What choices were presented in the notice?	Choices
What was the type of impact for the choice presented?	Choice Type
What was the value of label for the choice presented?	Choice Label
What was the method for indicating the choice?	Choice Indication Method
Was this the choice chosen?	Choice Indication
When was the choice chosen?	Choice Indication Timestamp
What is the location used for providing the choice?	Choice Provision Location
What is the medium used for providing the choice?	Choice Provision Medium
What is the language used for providing the choice?	Choice Provision Language
What is the form of the choice?	Choice Form
Who made this choice?	Choice Made By Entity
What is the relationship of the Entity that made the choice with the data subject?	Entity Relationship with Data Subject
Is there an expiry or validity duration for this choice?	Choice Validity / Duration
Is there a condition or event that invalidates this choice?	Choice Invalidation Conditions
How can this choice be changed or discarded?	Method for Changing Choice
Questions about Consent	_1
What is the consent decision recorded in the receipt?	Consent Decision
What is the status of consent?	Consent Status
What is the type of consent?	Consent Type
What is the label used to indicate consent?	Consent Indication Label
What is the method used to indicate consent?	Consent Indication Method
What is the timestamp for decision regarding consent?	Consent Timestamp





What is the location where decision regarding consent was made?	Consent Location
What is the medium where decision regarding consent was indicated?	Consent Medium
Who made the decision regarding consent?	Consent indicated by Entity
What was the relationship of decision making entity to individual?	Entity Relationship to Data Subject
When does this decision regarding consent expire or what is its duration?	Consent Duration
What are the conditions under which this decision regarding consent is no longer valid?	Consent Invalidation Conditions
How to change decision for consent or to withdraw it?	Method for Changing Consent or Consent Withdrawal
Questions about Jurisdiction and Legality	
What are the jurisdictions applicable for this record?	Jurisdiction
What are the types of applicable jurisdictions for this record?	Jurisdiction Type
What are the authorities relevant for this record?	Authority
What are the rights included or provided based on jurisdictions for this record?	Rights
Who exercises the right?	Right exercised by
How to exercise the right?	Method for Exercising Right
What is the form of information required for exercising the right?	Information Required for Rights
Questions about Personal Data Handling	
What are the purposes for which consent is required?	Purpose
What is the type or category of Purpose?	Purpose Category
What is the value or label used for Purpose?	Purpose Label
Who is responsible for the Purpose?	Responsible Entity for Purpose
What Personal Data or Personal Data Categories are required for this purpose?	Personal Data (/Categories)
Is the personal data of sensitive or of special categories?	Sensitive or Special Category Personal Data
Is the personal data of identifying nature or is an identifier?	Identifier or Identifying Personal Data
Is the personal data inferred or derived?	Inferred / Derived Personal Data
How is the personal data collected?	Data Collection Method
Where is the personal data collected from?	Data Collection Source
What is the frequency of Personal Data collection?	Data Collection Frequency
What is the duration over which Personal Data will be collected?	Data Collection Duration
Are any processors involved in personal data collection?	Processors
How is personal data stored?	Data Storage Method
	1
Where is the personal data stored?	Data Storage Location





What happens after data storage period expires?	Data Deletion Policy
Is data securely stored?	Data Storage, Security
Are any processors involved in personal data collection?	Processors, Data Storage Collection
What (other than collect, store, and delete) processing operations required for purpose?	Processing Activity
Who is responsible for carrying out the processing operation?	Processor
Where will the processing be carried out?	Processing Location
Will the Personal Data be shared with other recipients?	Recipients, Data Sharing
Who will be sharing the Personal Data?	Data Sharing Entity
Who will be receiving the shared Personal Data?	Recipient
What will be the frequency of sharing Personal Data?	Data Sharing Frequency
What will be the method of sharing Personal Data?	Data Sharing Method
What will be security measures involved in sharing of Personal Data?	Data Sharing, Security
Questions about Risks and Risk Management	•
At any point, will the personal data move outside the stipulated jurisdictions?	Jurisdiction, Data Transfer
If personal data is moved outside stipulated jurisdiction, what are the justifications?	Jurisdictions
Does the purpose involve any automated decision making?	Automated Decision Making
Does the purpose involve processing at large scales?	Large Scale Processing
Does the purpose involve monitoring or profiling of the individual(s)?	Monitoring, Profiling
Does the purpose involve any novel or uncertain use of technologies?	Novel, Uncertain Technologies
Does the purpose involve creation of scores or measures of the individual(s)?	Scores, Measurements
What risks are involved in the processing of personal data?	Risks
What is the likelihood of risk to happen?	Risk Likelihood
What is the severity of impact if risk does happen?	Risk Severity
What are the mitigation measures undertaken to prevent and address the risk?	Risk Mitigation Measure
What are the technical measures undertaken to safeguard the data and privacy?	Technical Measures
What are the organisational measures undertaken to safeguard the data and privacy?	Organisational Measures
Questions about Standards, Signals, Measures related to Consent/DataProtection/Privacy	
Are there any specific standards, signals, or measures indicated by the individual or their agent in connection with this record?	Signals, Standards, Measures
What is the method for providing the signal or measure?	Signal Method
What is the value of the signal or measure?	Signal Value





This information can be specified in the form of machine-readable (meta-)data by using the following methods:

- 1. As JSON or JSON-LD data structures ready for use in a wide range of tools and software as well as natively supported by web technologies
- 2. As semantic vocabularies or ontologies for interoperability and formal specification of the concepts, as necessary for legal interpretation
- 3. As more concise or practically relevant formats, such as binary representations, based on requirements of the use-case or domains e.g. data constraints within IoT.

Along with identifying the information relevant for assessing and demonstrating the validity of consent, the project also explored the possible means of provisioning this information for the creation and utilisation of receipts within the context of a web browser. For these, the following methods were explored:

- 1. Specifying information in web-pages directly using JSON or JSON-LD declared using the <script> element.
- 2. Specifying information in web-pages by specifying the link to an external resource containing the information by using the <meta> element.
- 3. Embedding information using Microdata or RDFa

This work also explored how notices and consent requests and/or consent decision interfaces (together constituting 'consent dialogues') can be enriched with embedded semantic annotations using both available HTML methods, which uses the <dialog> element for representing notices, and <data-*> elements for indicating information of their locations. The work also explored annotating semantic information by using external vocabularies such as Schema.org or other semantic vocabularies available through the existing research in this area.

This work, in particular the analysis of information requirements from the GDPR and the resulting 'fields of information', are expected to be part of dissemination to external groups by the project members to: ISO/IEC 27560 ongoing standardisation efforts, W3C's DPVCG, Kantara's ANCR working group, and Schema.org.

4 Evaluation

There were two sets of tests regarding evaluation

- functional testing
- and usability/trials tests. at some scale

For the first part, we successfully demonstrated that the PaECG architecture is simple and minimally viable, to be deployed in virtually any website. The feedback obtained, which is included in our paper to Open Identity Summit 2021, is that, with sufficient software integration on the websites and apps, PaECG should be viable beyond the typical difficulties of modifying current software deployments (which is beyond the scope of PaECG itself).





Users also found the software easy to use, based on qualitative informal and non-extensive tests.

Regarding usability and trials tests, the project was unable to proceed at the desired pace. Our plans were to invite a browser maker – Brave - with a known interest in Privacy. The add-on we developed was planned to be natively integrated into the browser and we expected a sizable set of users (in say, 10s) and at least 10 websites to support PaECG receipts.

Due to the unfamiliar operating environment due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were unable to progress trials.

5 Project Outcomes

1.1. Final Technical Report (this deliverable)

This deliverable represents the work conducted within the PaE:CG project. The dissemination level of this document is public, which enables any interested individual or party to view this document freely and without detriment. It has been made available on the project website¹² and has been deposited to Zenodo for long term availability and archival.¹³

1.2. Open Source Software

The key results of the PaE:CG project are:

- User Agent Plug-in: for assisting people in generating, validating, and managing consent receipts; with code released as open source
- Server component: for assisting data controllers and service providers in generating, validating, and managing consent receipts; with code released as open source
- Consent Gateway: for acting as a trusted third party in the consent receipt process as a witness, and for providing additional services; with code released as open source
- Consent Receipt: a documentation \required for validating and demonstrating the validity of consent in the form of a record of information associated with the consent process; published

The PaE:CG project has made code available for implementing components as a reference and proof-of-concept at: https://github.com/PAECG/NGI-PaECG-public as open source under a permissive license to encourage adoption and reuse.

1.3. Contributions to ISO/IEC 27560

The goals of ISO/IEC 27560 Consent record information structure strongly align with those of this PaE:CG project in that they both aim to create a specification for privacy notice records and involve the utilisation of Consent Receipts as their

¹² https://privacy-as-expected.org/deliverables.html

¹³ https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5086239





basis. Given the topicality of PaE:CG's work in addressing the requirements of the GDPR in an EU context, and the necessary global abstraction befitting an ISO standard – there is no full overlap in utilising the PaE:CG to directly work within the ISO standard. This difference notwithstanding, several of the concepts have a corresponding overlap. For those that do not, such as the GDPR-specific concept, their inclusion provides motivation for inclusion of additional information within the Consent Receipt.

Contributions to ISO standards drafts are made by submitting comments and contributions through national standards bodies and liaisons. As of the close of the PaE:CG project in July 2021, ISO/IEC 27560 is inviting comments and contributions on its third working draft. The PaE:CG project has contributed comments to the second working draft early in 2021 via the NSAI (IE) national body and Kantara Initiative (Category C Liaison). Selected outputs of this project, including this deliverable, will be submitted through the same channels as well as BSI (UK) to the third working draft whose deadline for accepting contributions is in August 2021.

1.4. Kantara, Advanced Notice and Consent Receipt Working Group

This deliverable will also be an input to the Advanced Notice & Consent Receipt Working Group (ANCR-WG)¹⁴ within Kantara, which has continued the Consent Receipt Specification with the aim to unify the semantic elements to produce a V2 Consent Receipt Information structure.¹⁵ The leadership of ANCR-WG consists of PaE:CG project members who will oversee the transfer of information and its utilisation within the scope of the WG. The ANCR is chartered to "publish a Notice Record and Consent Receipt Specification as a conformance assessment tool to address the technical gaps in the current (v1.1) specification and include recent standards and other technical and legal developments." with specific objectives in updating the consent receipt v1.1 and incorporating ISO/IEC 29184 requirements. This deliverable provides valuable work for both objectives.

1.5. W3C Data Privacy Vocabulary CG

This deliverable will be an input to W3C's DPVCG¹⁶ as suggestions to improve DPV in addressing its fields for representing information about consent. More specifically, the ontological notation and legal references are of interest to the group given its overlap with the concepts in DPV. Members of PaE:CG are also active members of the DPVCG and will initiate and oversee the contribution.

¹⁴Kantara Initiative, ANCR WG Home page,

https://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=140804260

¹⁵Kantara Initiative, ANCR WG "Consent Receipt v1.2: Anchoured Notice Record and Consent Receipt", https://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=144016373 ¹⁶ W3C Data Privacy Vocabulary Community Group, https://www.w3.org/community/dpvcg/





1.6. Schema.org

Currently, schema.org does not provide any concepts related to consent or even commonly used concepts such as privacy policies, controllers, terms and conditions, notices, and so on. This perhaps reflects its focus on providing concepts only of interest within SEO applications. However, PaE:CG project members consider that even information such as legal identity, privacy practices of a website, and the availability of such information is a matter of interest and importance for search engines and has application beyond merely the generation of consent receipts, to annotating privacy policies to enable search engines (and authorities, researchers, and machines) to extract information and answer questions for the layperson.

For this reason, PaE:CG project members propose this work to form the basis for initiating discussions and suggesting concepts for inclusion in schema.org or the creation of an extension for providing legal concepts for use in web pages. The existing LegiCrowd¹⁷ project has similar goals and provides direction for the application envisaged. LegiCrowd specifically addresses consent¹⁸ in three types explicit, implicit, and for minors and uses the GDPR as its source for the concepts.

1.7. Workshop on Consent

To further fulfil the dissemination objectives of the PaE:CG project, project members successfully organised an "International Workshop on Consent Management in Online Services, Networks and Things" (COnSeNT)¹⁹ within the IEEE European Security & Privacy Conference.

The workshop is scheduled to be conducted alongside the main conference on September 7th 2021 in a virtual setting. The workshop will consist of presenting academic as well as discussion papers, a keynote by Dr Johnny Ryan FRHistS (ICCL), and a panel discussion consisting of members: Hielke Hijmans (DPA, Belgium), Irene Kamara (Tilburg university), Mark Lizar (Kantara Initiative), Robin Berjon (New York Times), Rob van Eijk (Future of Privacy Forum), Townsend Feehan (IAB Europe).

1.8. Privacy as Expected (for Parental Consent) - Workshop on Global Code of Conduct for Parental Consent

To further fulfil the dissemination objectives of the PaE:CG project, project members are involved in the Children's Digital Rights Council²⁰ - July 28th 2021 Workshop for leaders in children's privacy, standards, and trust, inviting world renowned experts to team up and solve some of the toughest governance challenges humans may ever face. It is focused on re-defining privacy with the rights of the child being the focus rather than just the Parental. Proposing PasE

¹⁷ http://www.legicrowd.org/

¹⁸ http://www.legicrowd.org/schema/schemahierarchy.php

https://privacy-as-expected.org/consent2021/

²⁰ https://accessprivacv.org





for Global Privacy Rights Access to support a universal approach to improving online privacy rights access.

1.9. Publication of Research Outputs

This project's outputs have been influenced through the following publications funded by the PaE:CG project:

- 1. "Comparison of notice requirements for consent between ISO/IEC 29184:2020 and GDPR" by Harshvardhan J. Pandit and Georg Philip Krog. Published in Journal of Data Protection & Privacy vol.4 issue.3 (2021). https://www.henrystewartpublications.com/jdpp/v4
- 2. "Crowd-sourcing Multi-Domain Issues in Consent Dialogues for Automated Generation of Legal Complaints" by Harshvardhan J. Pandit*, Brian Lynch, and Dave Lewis. Presented at CHI Workshop on Dark Patterns in Design: What Can CHI Do About Dark Patterns? (DarkPatterns) co-located with ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2021). https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4553324
- 3. "[How] Do Users Benefit From Giving Consent?" by Harshvardhan J. Pandit, Soheil Human, and Mandan Kazzazi. Presented at Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection (ConPro) co-located with IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (IEEE S&P 2021) https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4601141
- 4. "Role of Identity, Identification, and Receipts for Consent" by Harshvardhan J. Pandit, Vitor Jesus, Shankar Ammai, Mark Lizar, Salvatore D'Agostino at Open Identity Summit 2021 (OpenIdentity) https://dl.gi.de/handle/20.500.12116/36495
- 5. "Consent Through the Lens of Semantics: State of the Art Survey and Best Practices" by Anelia Kurteva, Tek Raj Chhetri, Harshvardhan J. Pandit, Anna Fensel. Published in Semantic Web Journal (forthcoming, 2021). http://www.semantic-web-journal.net/content/consent-through-lens-semanticsstate-art-survey-and-best-practices

Additionally, the following publications acknowledge the PaE:CG project and its work as a source for funding:

- 1. "Building a Data Processing Activities Catalog: Representing Heterogeneous Compliance-related Information for GDPR using DCAT-AP and DPV" by Paul Ryan, Harshvardhan J. Pandit, Rob Brennan at International Conference on Semantic Systems (SEMANTICS). (to be presented) paper archived at: https://hdl.handle.net/2262/96594
- 2. "ODRL Profile for Expressing Consent through Granular Access Control Policies in Solid" by Beatriz Esteves, Harshvardhan J. Pandit, Victor Rodriguez Doncel at Workshop on Consent Management in Online Services, Networks and Things (COnSeNT) co-located with IEEE European Symposium on Security and Privacy (EuroS&P 2021). (to be presented)





6 Future Work

6.1 Technical Developments

The project team believes that PaECG broke new ground in terms of the development and adoption of the concept of Consent Receipts. The essential use-cases were defined and implemented in a robust and easy to use prototype. The code is open source.

Through the Kantara Initiative's ANCR WG and ISO Board of Trustees Liaison Sub-Committee project team members were able to channel more than a decade of community interest in consent and information sharing into this project.²¹,²²,²³ and through the PaECG project's contributions to Kantara, PaE concepts and components can be contributed back to ISO/IEC 27560 in comments due Aug 16 2021.

In the immediate future, we hope to continue this work through:

- running large scale trials inviting key industry partners, websites/apps and users
- implementing the remaining use-cases -- notably, the use case that keeps third-parties accountable.

It is worth noting that the PaECG project also only tackled the problem of static collection of personal data -- such as registration forms. To limit the scope to the time and resources available, it deliberately kept out of scope dynamic scenarios such as cookie-based functionality and dynamic tracking. These are equally important problems and, perhaps, even more crucial in correcting the power imbalance of current online Privacy.

The Open Consent Group and the Kantara initiative has facilitated the development, adoption and start-up of several community efforts and Consent Receipt collaborations, most notably;

- W3C Data Privacy Vocabulary WG, where critical consent record and receipts semantic challenges have been addressed.
- The My Data Global Community, originating in the OKF open-data mydata work group. The Consent Gateway was born out of participation in the

²¹Mark Lizar, Monvoisin & Givotosky, 2007 Identity Trust Charter @ Identity Commons http://wiki.idcommons.net/Identity_Trust_Charter

²² Kantara Initiative Consent & Information Sharing WG 2015-2019 https://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/display/archive/WG+-+Consent+and+Information+Sharing+-+CISWG

²³ Kantara Initiative ANCR-WG, (2020) Consent Notice Receipt v1.2 Record and Receipt Framework, https://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=144015859





MyData community, evolving a Kantara Consent Receipt presentation into a winning series of hackathons²⁴²⁵ for universal MyData controls.

6.2 Future usability with GDPR

The PaE protocol as defined in this deliverable can be adopted as a 'delegated act' as defined in Article 12.8 for the purpose of the Data Subject and PII Controller demonstrating compliance with Article 30, Records of Processing, ²⁶ offering Proof and evidence that a Data Subject had a choice by virtue of using a Consent Receipt, thereby also assisting those that co-regulate the processing of personal data.

With the above in mind two near term activities are being considered:

- One of the PaE:CG project partners (Open Consent Group) is looking to further develop the PaE protocol by applying for upcoming EU funding in NGI Atlantic and Horizon Europe
- Working towards a submission to the European Data Protection Board (EDPB), requesting a review of the PaECG protocol to be adopted as a 'measure' for a 'delegated act' of authority, (Article 12.8);
 - To authorize the use of the PaECG protocol for consent driven data portability mechanisms and required privacy risk assurance for Data Subjects in the European Digital Single Market.
 - To operationalize Identity Governance Authorities with a Consent Gateway Controller Register of notice standards and conformant Codes of Practice (a.k.a Certification of Trust Assurance or Trust Registrar) operated by industry trade organizations with verified claims used to establish digital identity assurance between federated identifier ecosystems.

Future Interoperability

Continued work on the Consent Receipt works in the Kantra Initiative ANCR workgroup includes the specification of the consent gateway api protocol for privacy claims that can use by automatically used in digital identity protocols for authorisation and authentication, to be able to set permissions for data processing that are more reasonably what people expect.

 ²⁴ Joss Langford, 2016 - Consent Gateway - MyData UltraHack Finals,
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8Gzs0Dqc3Q [Joss is also Chair of COEL TC at OASIS)
 ²⁵Mark Lizar, Consent Receipt Gateway 2016 3rd competition Final Round,
 https://youtu.be/95pYF2ohAbU

²⁶GDPR, Article 30,1 'Each controller and, where applicable, the controller's representative, shall maintain a record of processing activities under its responsibility.' Which the Data subject can do privately while sharing the performance of access to rights





- UMA Work Group²⁷ for User Managed Access protocol that can implement and validate the scope of rights and access to resources
- FAPI (Financial Application Programing Interface, https://openid.net/wg/fapi/) with OpenID
- GNAP Grant Negotiation and Authorization Protoco https://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/gnap/about/ developing in the IETF, the next generation internet identity management protocol.

With this approach, the PaE protocol can be useful as a conformity assessment tool for use with national iD schemes and frameworks such as:

- eIDAS European Identity Framework
- UK Digital Identity Schemes
- NIST US internet and cybersecurity trust assurance
- DIACC Pan-Canadian Trust Framework

Laws, Standards & Technical Communities

Privacy as Expected is based on an extremely well- established legal test for the application of privacy rights, derogations and data processing obligations. It leverages the fact that the reasonable expectation of privacy is an element of privacy law that determines in which places and in which activities a person has a legal right to privacy, and how people can access these rights with consent.

This legal test is reflected in tort law around the world and in the EU is very well substantiated through case law and the European Court of Human rights act Article 8, Right to Respect for Family and Private life. ²⁸ In which the reasonable expectation of privacy is a well established right.

In this regard, these laws, that require a privacy policy on a website, a sign for surveillance and the like, represent a globally available policy infrastructure for consent to operate PaE using the Consent Gateway.

This includes the multi-national regulation and conventions like the GDPR, and CoE 108+, in which there are provisions to enforce privacy. What's more, we extend these laws and legal semantics with standards and specifications from the industry and community technical committees.

²⁷ Kantara Initiative, 2021 User Managed Access WG, (UMA_WG) https://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/display/uma/Home

https://www.echr.coe.int/Documents/Guide Art 8 ENG.pdf





Annex - Technical Communities

ISO/IEC 29100 Privacy and Security Techniques

ISO/IEC 29100 is an international semantic foundation for extending data sovereignty online. It is an open ISO/IEC standard (no charge). This made possible the development of the consent receipt into a purpose specification protocol. It meets the need for a standard semantic framework for the Internet for defining roles of privacy stakeholders for data portability, control and liability in between regions and jurisdictions

An international (and intra- national) technical privacy and security framework used for international governance interoperability providing data control alternatives to standard contractual clauses.

Semantic Terms Mapped

• In the ISO/IEC 29100 the Data Controller and PII Controller are specified as equivalent terms and privacy stakeholder roles. In addition, the Data Subject and the PII Principal are also equivalent.. (ref)

ISO/IEC 29184 Online Privacy Notice and Consent

This standard consists of a sub-framework of notice content controls to address semantic dark patterns in consent notice, notification and disclosure structure. Annex B publishes the Consent Notice Receipt v1.1 (circa 2015) which was developed in interactions that synced with the the 5 year development of 29184, in which the Kantara Initiative ISO Liaison had an active role commenting on its development.

Semantic Terms Mapped

The ISO/IEC 29184 standardizes a generic version of the legal justifications in the GDPR. These justifications are critical infrastructure for computational privacy and data governance interoperability.

Six categories of legal justifications to layer

- Consent
- Contract
- The vital interest of the PII Principal
- The interest of Public Safety and Security
- The legitimate interest of the PII Controller
- A Legal Obligation

PaECG protocol application:





The flow of use for PaE protocol is human centric and requires strict adherence to human centric semantics. This is not the current service (or user) centric semantics, and is distinctly recognized in this manner.

- The PaECG protocol asserts consent (and democratic consensus) as the primary paradigm in which the other legal justifications transparently operate with reciprocal (risk driven) accountability and proportionality.
- Multiple legal justifications for processing can and do happen at once
 - a. For access to privacy as a service, the use of a right associated with consent, when asserted online can effect many processors, joint controllers, and 3rd parties in different legal jurisdictions,
 - b. A grant of consent for a purpose, is defined here as a specific technical scope for digital identity protocols to use to implement access with identifier management and security.
- Legal Derogations
 - a. Derogations are applied to the consent paradigm as an overlay, and in the PaECG protocol with an overlay capture architecture.
 - b. This enables dynamic data controls for emergency situations, break the glass scenarios, data breach, parental consent, the protection of children by the state, fraud, criminal surveillance and the like, with the protections of Individual baked in.
 - For a meaningful consent receipt, a notice of risk includes whether derogations exist or not.

ISO/IEC 27560.3 Consent record information structure

- Adopted from the Kantara Initiative Consent Receipt v1.1 in 2019 and voted to standard (29184) in 2020.
- The Open Consent Group has led the efforts at the Kantara Initiative to author and develop the consent receipt.
 - a. CISWG v 1.1 Consent Receipt
 - b. ANCR \vee 1.2.1 Notice Record and Receipt framework for the 29184 Consent Notice Receipt (in draft)²⁹

W3C Data Privacy Vocabulary Controls Community Group (W3C DPV CG)

Data Privacy Vocabulary Controls is a Community Group³⁰ chaired by Harshvardhan Pandit (our team member). Presenting a legal ontology that is technically specified for semantic use both human understandable and machine readable. Developed with active participation of the German Data Protection Office and technically used with semantic protocols like RDL, OWL, RDF etc.

²⁹ Where the Privacy as Expected CG protocol has been contributed for input as a comment to the 27560 committee.

³⁰ W3C, Data Privacy Vocabulary Community Group https://www.w3.org/community/dpvcg/





The DPV adopted the consent receipt format and ISO vocabulary in v0.2³¹ of the DPV published in 2019.

- Originating from the SPECIAL³² the DPV CG was launched at the Open Data Institute on the eve of the GDPR. Hosted by the Kantara Initiative CISWG WG³³ and MIT Media Labs (<u>live recording</u>) in Boston.
- A significant point is that the DPV can now be used for human and machine readable records, and with PaE signalling, proof of human understandable consent which can enable high risk privacy transparency and compliance.
- The DPV as it is provided, does not recommend any specific way to use its concepts. Adopters are free to utilise their preferred models (e.g. RDFS-style, OWL2-style, or simply as a list of terms),
- The PaECG utilises the DPV to specify purpose, notice, notifications and disclosures in the PaE protocol. It is the interaction with Notice that generates a Consent Receipts. Memorializing service notification and interaction to personalize privacy for people.
- Utilizing standard semantics to automate privacy rights informance access and access performance monitoring.

OASIS COEL - Classification for Everyday Living

- An industrial standard from OASIS³⁴ in which a data governance authority is used to capture contextual attributes into event based atoms.
- A WG effort at OASIS with roots in the monumental work that OASIS contributed to the development of international guidelines and standards. OASIS IPR as well as semantics are derived form the consent receipt v0.7 are interoperable..
- COEL interoperability is seen in the ability to extend the Consent Gateway
 with an atom based public data store which only the PII Principal can
 aggregate, but all stakeholders can us for analytics and deep/big data
 insights,

Trust over IP: Notice & Consent Task Force

• The V1 Draft of the Controller Notice Credential³⁵ is under way in the Inputs and Semantics WG. The assertion of the controller and contact information is a required PaECG security component. It specifies the use of the PaECG

https://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=coel

³¹ W3C DPV, (2021) Data Privacy Vocabulary v0.2, https://dpvcq.github.io/dpv/

³² SPECIAL Project, https://www.w3.org/2018/vocabws/report.html

³³ Kantara Initiative + W3C DPV + MIT Medial Labs (May 24, 2018) End of Privacy 1.0, Workshop, K W3C DPVCG Launch event

https://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/download/attachments/3408008/May-24_-End-of-Privacy-1.0-Report-2018.pdf?version=2&modificationDate=1528791074000&api=v2

³⁴ COEL, Classification of Everyday Living

³⁵ Controller Notice Credential; https://wiki.trustoverip.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=72225





protocol stack by a 'user agent' to generate a digital twin of the privacy notice, in the form of ANCR Record³⁶, which is then used to generate a consent receipt.

- When using the PaECG protocol the Consent Gateway cannot be accessed without a verified Controller (Notice) Credential. This initial point of discovery is required for self asserted access to privacy rights information.
- The Privacy Controller Credential (PCC) comprises the legal to technical requirements for Privacy Assurance, and is intended to be extended by the self-sovereign (consent authorized) use of verified claims as digital identity identifiers.

Blinding Identity Taxonomy: Kantara Initiative³⁷

- A Kantara publication, the taxonomy is used for securing PII by one way linking Consent Notice Receipts so that only the Data Subject can be the Master ANCR Record Controller and Aggregator of its receipts.
- Useful for the safe storage of Consent Receipts. Dramatically lowering the
 privacy impact of identifier surveillance and security of digital privacy risks.
 While increasing the capacity to produce verifiable claims for single market
 capable services like self-advertising.
- De-risking the access, use and processing of personal data for dynamic data controls with multiple stakeholders and legal justifications. A contribution from the Human Colossus foundation.³⁸

https://kantarainitiative.org/download/blinding-identity-taxonomy-pdf/

³⁶ The first record of the digital identifier relationship captured with the protocol is an anchored, notice and consent receipt record, and is used to generate and validate the state of consent.

³⁷ Blinding Identity Taxonomy

³⁸ The human colossus foundation is an NGO, a non-profit focused on developing global schema semantic architecture with capture overlays, led by Paul Knowles, who is also the chair of ToiP: Inputs and Semantics WG, engineering global semantic interoperability infrastructure, developing a dynamic data system overlay capture architecture