

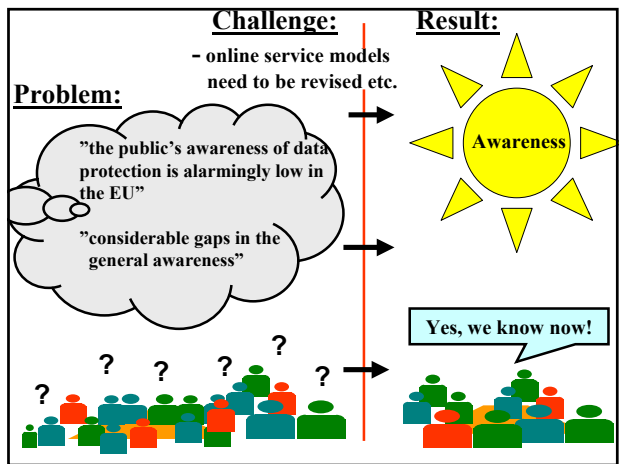
The 26th International Conference on Privacy and Personal Data Protection

Wroclaw, 14.9. 2004

THE INDIVIDUALS' AWARENESS OF THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY

Reijo Aarnio
Data Protection Commissioner
Finland

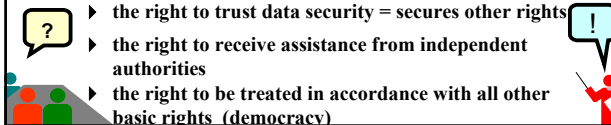
 OFFICE OF THE DATA PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN



What does "data protection" mean?

- It is about the right to privacy when our personal data are processed
- belongs to every natural person

- ▶ the right to control and decide how (autonomy)
- ▶ the right to know how
- ▶ the right to live your life without undue interference (confidentiality in all communications, regulated by law)
- ▶ the right to be evaluated on the basis of correct and relevant information
- ▶ the right to know what criteria automatic decision-making systems are based on
- ▶ the right to trust data security = secures other rights
- ▶ the right to receive assistance from independent authorities
- ▶ the right to be treated in accordance with all other basic rights (democracy)



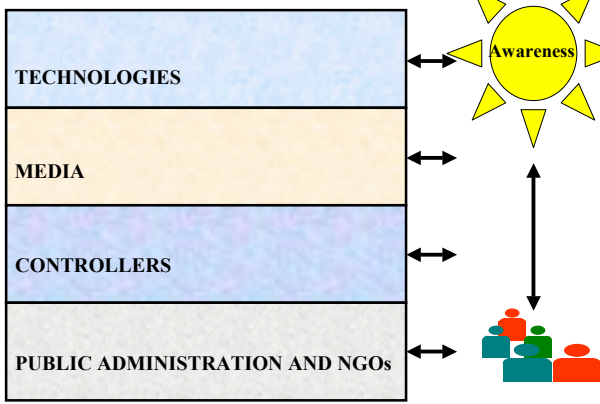
Why all these rights?

We need these rights so that:

- ▶ our human dignity is respected
- ▶ our autonomy is respected
- ▶ our honour is respected
- ▶ we will not be discriminated against
- ▶ our equality as citizens is secured.



Whose job is it?



Whose job is it?

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND NGOs

Data protection is
- part of basic and human rights
- part of civic skills
- part of education

responsibilities:

- to allocate the resources
- to prevent the discrimination (young people/old people)
- to support civic activities
- control
- transparency
- openness
- publicity, informing the citizens/members

