

Morgan Johansson
Minister for Justice and Home Affairs
Regeringskansliet
103 33 Stockholm

Stockholm, 2 March 2018

RE: European Union member state application of the General Data Protection Regulation

Dear Minister Johansson,

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and its over six million member companies, chambers of commerce and business associations in over 130 countries, wish to recognize the tremendous effort made within the European Union (EU) to reach political agreement to reform data protection rules that crystallized in Regulation EU 2016/679 (the General Data Protection Regulation or “GDPR”). The reform will allow European citizens and businesses to benefit from the digital single market.

As EU member states embark on their final efforts to conclude national legislation, we would like to underscore the need for consistency and coherence in the application of the Regulation.

A harmonized approach to applying the GDPR across all EU member states is crucial for the digital single market and a stream-lined, efficient data protection regime. We would like to echo the recent European Commission communication that urged member states not to adopt national measures “which would jeopardize the simultaneous and uniform application” (COM(2018) 43 final) of the regulation.

ICC works to further the development of an open world economy with the firm conviction that international commercial exchanges are conducive to both greater global prosperity and peace among nations. It is in this context that we urge EU member states “to promote consistency and limit fragmentation in the application of the Regulation, taking into account Member State’s room for specification” (COM(2018) 43 final), to harness the GDPR’s opportunity to promote economic development and privacy across Europe.

Yours sincerely,



Lena Johansson
Secretary-General, ICC Sweden



CC:

Lena Lindgren Schelin, Director-General, Datainspektionen