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EPIC HONORS EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION SUPERVISOR PETER HUSTINX,  
US CRYPTOGRAPHER PHIL ZIMMERMANN,  
2015 INTERNATIONAL PRIVACY CHAMPION AWARD

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM – The Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) has awarded the 2015 International Privacy Champion Award to former European Data Protection Supervisor Peter Hustinx and the 2015 US Privacy Champion Award to cryptographer Phil Zimmermann.

The awards will be presented at the annual conference on “Computers, Privacy, and Data Protection” in Brussels, Belgium on 22 January 2015, in advance of International Privacy Day.

EPIC Chair Deborah Hurley said, “Peter Hustinx is one of the architects of modern privacy law. He helped design the framework of privacy and data protection that exists in many countries today. Thank you, Peter. It is our privilege and duty to continue to build upon that foundation, to safeguard privacy, not resting until everyone enjoys its benefits.”

In accepting the award, Peter Hustinx also mentioned the great team at EDPS that now continues to support a new team of Supervisors, as well as the key role of EPIC in the civil society movement for better privacy and personal data protection.

“Where we can, we should advance in creating better protection, both in law, in technology and in practice. This is the year to make sure that the right decisions are taken, at the right time and the right place”, said Peter Hustinx.

Jacob Kohnstam, the chair of the Dutch Data Protection Authority and the former chair of the Article 29 Working Party, said, “He was not only the ‘doyen’ of the Working Party, who kept us on a straight path at crucial moments, but also a leader who brought us together. Discussions between ourselves could sometimes be fierce, amongst others because of our cultural differences that can lead to different points of view on privacy and when we reached an impasse in negotiation, we looked to him and he would find a creative solution. I am very pleased to see him receive this award from EPIC.”

Isabelle Falque-Pierrotin, the chair French Data Protection Agenda and the current chair of the Working Party, stated “Peter brought in depth knowledge to our work on emerging data protection issues and is a wonderful colleague. We are very pleased to see him receive this award from EPIC.”

The U.S. Champion of Freedom Award was presented to Phil Zimmermann, the creator of PGP and the Co-Founder of Silent Circle.

“More than twenty years ago, Phil led the effort to make cryptography widely available. The Internet community will again call on Phil for a renewed effort to safeguard privacy and security,” said EPIC President Marc Rotenberg.

“I met Marc back when PGP was first released. We take it for granted today, but at that time there was no way for two normal human beings to communicate securely. We solved that problem. But today we must face down the threat of pervasive surveillance, and I'm glad we have EPIC on our side,” said Phil.

Bruce Schneier, the author of *Applied Cryptography* and the forthcoming *Data and Goliath*, said, “Again and again we learn that strong cryptography is our best defense against both criminals and totalitarian governments. Widely used, it makes us all safer, and Phil Zimmerman has been a strong advocate for it from the beginning.”

The EPIC International Privacy Champion Award was given first in 2009 to Italian jurist Professor Stefano Rodotà. Since then the Award has gone to Australian jurist Michael Kirby (2010), MEP Sophie in't Veld (2011), Canadian Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart (2012), EU privacy campaigner Max Schrems (2013), and MEP Jan Philipp Albrecht (2014).

EPIC also presents an award to a leading Privacy Advocate in the United States. The EPIC US Privacy Champion Award was given first to Beth Givens, founder and director of the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse in San Diego, in 2010. Subsequent awards have gone to Jeff Chester, founder and director of the Center for Digital Democracy (2011), Christopher Soghoian, a computer researcher and privacy advocate (2012), Susan Grant, Consumer Federation of America (2013), and Evan Hendricks, the publisher of Privacy Times (2014).

The EPIC Champion of Freedom Award was given first to Senator Patrick Leahy in 2004, on the occasion of EPIC's tenth anniversary. Since that time, the Champion of Freedom Award has gone to distinguished US policy makers, jurists, writers, and litigators who have helped safeguard privacy and democratic values.

The members of the jury for the 2015 EPIC International Privacy Champion Award are Professor Ross Anderson, Computer Laboratory, University of Cambridge; Professor Alessandro Acquisti, Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University; Professor Colin J Bennett, Department of Political Science, University of Victoria; Simon Davies, Founder, Privacy International and Privacy Surgeon; David Flaherty, former Commissioner British Columbia; Pamela Jones Harbour, Former Commissioner, US Federal Trade Commission; Professor Paul de Hert, Law, Science, Technology & Society, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Deborah Hurley, Chair, EPIC Board of Directors; Dr. Kristina Irion, Institute for Information Law, University of Amsterdam; Rebecca MacKinnon, Author, *Consent of the Networked: The*

Worldwide Struggle for Internet Freedom; Dr. Pablo Molina, Chief Information Officer, American Association of Law Schools; and, Marc Rotenberg, President, EPIC and Georgetown University Law Center.

The 2015 EPIC US Privacy Champion Award recipient was selected by the staff of EPIC.

#### About Peter Hustinx

Peter Hustinx served as European Data Protection Supervisor between 2004 and 2014. He has been closely involved in the development of data protection legislation from the start, both at the national and at the international level. Before entering his office, he was President of the Dutch Data Protection Authority for more than twelve years

#### About Phil Zimmermann

Phil Zimmermann is the creator of PGP, the most widely used email encryption software in the world, and the Zfone/ZRTP secure VoIP standard. Phil is also Co-founder of Silent Circle, a private encrypted telecommunications firm based in Geneva and Washington DC, providing encrypted text, mobile phone and video teleconference services.

#### About EPIC

The Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) is one of the leading privacy advocacy and research organizations in the world. Based in Washington, DC, EPIC was established in 1994 to focus public attention on emerging privacy and civil liberties issues. EPIC maintains two of the top-ranked privacy web sites – EPIC.ORG and PRIVACY.ORG. In 2015 EPIC will release *Privacy in the Modern Age: The Search for Solutions* (The New Press 2015), a collection of essays by members of the EPIC Advisory Board. EPIC has identified “algorithmic transparency” as a fundamental requirement for privacy in the modern age.

The 2015 EPIC Champion of Freedom Awards dinner will be held June 1, 2015 in Washington, DC. Details will be posted at [www.epic.org/june1/](http://www.epic.org/june1/)

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