

## Press Release Cluster C – To whom shall my data belong? – Data Sovereignty

“Is the right to be forgotten actually respected in today’s world?”, Ivo Visak, moderator at the conference “Europe Shall Hear You”, asked the group of Cluster C on the topic “To whom shall my data belong - Data Sovereignty?”. He was joined by Claudia Otto and Mait Valberg, German and Estonian lawyers specializing in the area of data protection and privacy, who gave brief introductions into the topics of blockchain, AI, the international and national legal situation regarding data sovereignty. Together with the participants of the German-Baltic Youth Forum conference, an active debate took place. Areas of discussion included data privacy and ownership, global dependency on services provided by the “Big Four”, and future trends in the area of data collection. In the end, the group agreed to several key issues and proposed solutions to them, both of which were presented by moderator Ivo Visak at the last day of the conference and which will be forwarded to European policy makers shortly. “Powerful companies always seem to get around data protection authorities”, Claudia Otto replied to the moderator’s question. Luckily, new data protection agreements like the GDPR provide new hope for change. However, there is still room for improvement.