

## Privacy of ICT users: what and how

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are closely related to accessing and gathering data. Internet, the main access to the ICT, is open and public. Hence, there exist some security and privacy concerns related to these technologies and their use.

For instance, the so called tracking cookies collect our browsing habits and feed spammers' databases so as to be overwhelmed with tons of spam. On the other hand, gigabytes of data are delegated from collectors to statistical agencies and marketing centres with the purpose of analysing behaviours and market responses to new products.

The Directive 2002/58/EC (*Directive on privacy and electronic communications*) deals with the relationship between ICT and the privacy and security of their users. In addition to classical concepts regarding information security (*i.e.* encryption and digital signatures) the directive elaborates on some issues related to the privacy of users (for instance, those related with location-based services).

In this talk we describe problems and solutions related to the privacy of ICT users. First, the relationship between privacy and localisation is explained. Localisation can be classified into *conscious localization* (in case of location-based services) and *unconscious localisation* (for instance, when wearing RFID tags).

Moreover, we elaborate on the problem of disclosure in statistical databases: since techniques such as record linkage can disclose personal data of respondents, some techniques must be applied to statistical data before releasing them, other than encryption and authentication.

### Résumé of Dr. Antoni Martínez Ballesté

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In 1999 he received a Bachelor in Computer Systems Engineering from the URV. In 2002 he received a M. Sc. in Computer Engineering also from URV. In 2004 he received with honors a Ph. D. in Telematics Engineering from the Technical University of Catalonia (UPC).

Dr. Martínez-Ballesté's research interests are related to security in computer networks, secure applications and privacy related to ICT users. He has authored more than 30 articles in journals and conferences. He is currently working on innovative learning techniques in engineering and the European Higher Education Space.

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