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DATA PROTECTION AND SENSITIVE PERSONAL DATA

This is a response to the Danish Folketinget concerning the following questions.

- 1. How is the oversight/control of public authorities dealing with sensitive personal data organized in your country? What are the experiences?*
- 2. Which authority do they have?*
- 3. What is the budget and how is it funded?*
- 4. Do you have a public debate about data security and data protection in relation to public authorities' treatment of sensitive personal data in your country? If yes, what are the main features in that debate?*

How is the oversight/control of public authorities dealing with sensitive personal data organized in your country? What are the experiences?

In Sweden this falls under the responsibility of the Swedish Data Inspection Board.¹ The Board's task is to protect the individual's privacy in the information society without unnecessarily preventing or complicating the use of new technology. The Board supervises that authorities, companies, organizations and individuals follow: the Personal Data Act (1998:204), the Data Act (1973:289), the Debt Recovery Act (1974:182), and the Credit Information Act (1973:1173).

Which authority do they have?

The Board works to prevent encroachment upon privacy through information and by issuing directives and codes of statutes. The Board also handles complaints and carries out inspections. By examining government bills the Data Inspection Board ensures that new laws and ordinances protect personal data in an adequate manner.

¹ www.datainspektionen.se

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What is the budget and how is it funded?

The budget for the financial year 2014 was approximately 4.7 million euro (43 790 000 SEK) as set out in the Government's appropriation directions for the Swedish Data Inspection Board.²

Do you have a public debate about data security and data protection in relation to public authorities' treatment of sensitive personal data in your country? If yes, what are the main features in that debate?

Yes, there is a public debate in Sweden. The main topics are matters regarding integrity on the Internet, surveillance and data retention.

² <http://www.esv.se/Verktyg--stod/Statsliggaren/Regleringsbrev/?RBID=15322>