

Personal financial data in danger: The case of the new smart tax-card in Greece

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In meeting with e-government needs for flexible public services, saving on costs and reducing bureaucracy, the new Greek Law 3842/2010 (O.G. A' 58/23.04.2010) on the "establishment of taxation justice, confrontation of tax evasion and other arrangements" provides for tax allowances when receipts are produced. To aid citizens in the collection of these, the Greek government is introducing a citizens' expenses registration system. This involves citizens making transactions using a smart card. This move has given rise to opposition due to the risks of infringement to personal data

As a result, the General Secretariat of Information Systems (Ministry of Finance), asked the National Data Protection Authority (D.P.A) to state an opinion on the above mentioned registration system, in respect to the legal framework in force on the protection of personal data. In December 2010, the D.P.A provided its opinion No 4/2010.

This study aims to present the abovementioned alternative registration system, the risks for individuals' privacy and the relative legal issues.