

Spring 2012

PSI DIRECTIVE REVIEW PROPOSAL PUBLISHED



The European Commission has published its long awaited Open Data Strategy, which contains at its heart a proposal for the Review of the PSI Directive.

The Directive contains many promising elements, including policies that the PSI Alliance has been pushing hard to see implemented, including:

- the **scope** of the of the Directive would now include **libraries, museums and archives** for the first time, thus potentially opening up a huge amount of new data for reuse
- **marginal cost** where the burden of proof would now rest with the public authority to show that it provides data at marginal cost, thus helping prevent authorities from entering into the market
- an **independent authority** in each Member State to rule on disputes, allowing closure and certainty for companies and entrepreneurs on disputes that often are very expensive and can drag on for several years in court
- all **data to be re-useable** and in a **machine readable format** (where possible), allowing the absolute maximum to be made out of the data
- As part of its Open Data Strategy, the Commission will be launching its own **Data Portal** with the intention of serving as a single-access point for re-usable data from all EU institutions, bodies and agencies and national authorities

You can read the Directive Review [here](#) and the original Directive [here](#).

NEXT STEPS: THE PSI DIRECTIVE REVIEW IN THE PARLIAMENT AND COUNCIL

The European Parliament and Council are currently at the early stages of reviewing the European Commission's proposal with the dossier currently scheduled to be completed in November 2012 in each institution meaning a common position will be sought between the institutions in January 2013. The Danish Presidency will lead on the Review in the European Council, followed by the Cypriot Presidency. Meanwhile, the European Parliament has appointed Ivailo Kalfin MEP (S&D) to be rapporteur in the Industry Committee (ITRE).



HEARING FROM THE PSI ALLIANCE

The PSI Alliance continues to speak at PSI conferences across the European Union, recently in Copenhagen on 27 February at a conference organised by the Danish Presidency and will take part in the ePSIplatform Advisory Board in Rotterdam on 15 March. For more information or if you would like to hear from the PSI Alliance at your conference, please get in contact.

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PSI ALLIANCE CONFERENCE AND FIVE STAR COMPETITION

**INSTITUTO
GEOGRÁFICO
NACIONAL**



The PSI Alliance will once again be hosting its conference in Brussels this summer – date to be confirmed.

As well as hearing from top level-speakers from the private and public sector, the PSI Alliance will be awarding the PSI Alliance 5 Star award to the best public authority. Last year the prize was awarded to the Spanish Instituto Geografico Nacional for excellence in data provision. The City of Vienna was given an honourable mention for their efforts to make public data available in a portal. If you know of a public authority that matches the following criteria, then contact us on info@psialliance.eu.

- information on the website about assets and prices for re use
- a person/unit responsible for contact with re-users and a process for dealing with complaints
- solutions for deliveries of raw data (not value added data) to the re-users
- no unreasonable intellectual property rights restrictions connected to the information
- pricing based upon marginal costs

A SNAPSHOT OF PSI DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EU IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS

In **Austria** the national platform for open government data will be launched in April, which will also link to the EU's data portal. Meanwhile, on 22 March in Vienna there will be an 'Open Government Data Business Day 2012' focusing on the value of PSI to business and business development. In **Estonia**, there will be a new national data portal due to be online shortly, but the Commission has opened an infringement process for incorrect transposition of the PSI Directive.



In **Finland** the National Land Survey is to put all topographical data online and free for reuse as of May 2012. In **France** there is a new committee to be formed to advise on public data sets that are available for reuse and are subject to payment, there was also a national data portal recently launched. In **Hungary**, open standards have been made default, and all ministries with the exception of the Ministry of Defense must complete the transition by March 31st. In **Portugal** there is a new national data portal, still in beta form, with data sets from several portals. In **Poland** and **Slovakia**, the European Commission has opened up an infringement case for not properly transposing the current PSI Directive, despite **Poland's** new PSI Law. **Spain** has a new law making PSI open by default, putting the onus on authorities to explain if they do not make data available. In **Sweden**, the Competition Authority has published a study intended to support both public sector bodies and re-users to better understand and apply the PSI rules. The **UK** government has initiated a consultation on open standards (deadline 3 May).