

Microsoft [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] paid a courtesy visit to Commissioner Reynders, 20 January 2020

[REDACTED] main messages were very supportive of EU's position:

- e-evidence: support of Commission proposal, insistence on the need to have a single regime in the EU and to reach an international agreement with the US;
- data protection: in favour of the international promotion of GDPR, in particular through adequacy decisions; [REDACTED] insisted that more pressure should be put on China also to address unfair use of data by Chinese competitors.
- AI: support for human centric approach; understanding of the need for Europe to make economic use of its high value data; insistence that Microsoft is ready to provide the cloud infrastructure for EU AI policy.

Asked about his assessment on the chances that the US adopts a Federal data protection legislation, [REDACTED] explained that, at Federal level, Congress has other priorities and this could happen in 2021 at the earliest. He added that at State level, things were progressing more quickly: a proposal to reinforce the Californian law is being debated, and the State of Washington could adopt (before 31 March) a GDPR like legislation.

Commissioner Reynders:

- explained that the Commission is committed to find an agreement on the e-evidence proposal ASAP, and to conclude a comprehensive agreement on cross-border access to e-evidence with the US;
- confirmed that the EU will continue to proactively promote its data protection model internationally; including in plurilateral settings where the Chinese issue should preferably be addressed;
- informed that the Commission is about to launch consultations on its AI policy and Data strategy with an emphasis on a human centric approach and on the need to boost investments and competitiveness in Europe.