

### PSI ALLIANCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE – MOVING FORWARD TO ECONOMIC GROWTH



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The PSI Alliance's successful fourth annual conference in Brussels had as its theme 'economic growth' and the role PSI can bring in bringing prosperity to the EU.

The conference had high-level speakers from private enterprise, government, local authorities and academia. It focussed what the key drivers for economic growth in Europe in PSI are. The conference learnt about the economic impact of PSI, how to access the data, how to best put the data on the online, innovative examples of re-use and future trends of what data will be published.

Free and open discussion continued over the course of the rest of the day about what a revised directive should contain and how it should be revised. The conference also gave insight into the direction of the PSI industry, novel examples of PSI re-use and the value of PSI to the economy as a whole – in some ways an impossible question, as speaker Graham Vickery succinctly put – “asking what PSI is worth to the economy is like asking the value of electricity on the market”. More details and copies of the presentations are available by clicking [here](#).

### THE PSI DIRECTIVE REVIEW MARCHES ON

The European Commission spoke in depth at PSI Alliance conference that about the review of the PSI Directive, for which the Alliance has been long campaigning. The Commission has gone through the early stages of the legislative process including the Consultation and Consultation Report. The Impact Assessment Report is currently with the Impact Assessment Board and should be approved this autumn. Meanwhile, the proposal for revision will shortly go to the inter-service consultation stage of the internal legislative process leading to the adoption of the proposal by the Commission at the end of November. Once this takes place, then the Council and Parliament will go through their review processes.

The PSI Alliance has been involved at every step of the way and is keeping up its campaign for a definition of raw data, a definition of marginal cost and effective supervision of the PSI market.

### PSI ALLIANCE FIVE STAR COMPETITION



The PSI Alliance has awarded its inaugural 5 Star award to the Spanish National Geographic Institute. The Institute matched and excelled the 5 Star criteria set for the provision of public data by a local authority. In particular, the National Geographic Institute received the award for the excellent work regarding the development and promotion of a spatial data portal, its commitment and effort on cross-border projects of homogenization and standardization of data.

The new Vienna City Open Data Portal came a close second and received an honourable mention for its high quality provision of public data.

### PSI ALLIANCE AT THE 15<sup>th</sup> PSI GROUP MEETING, LUXEMBOURG

The PSI Alliance attended the 15<sup>th</sup> PSI Group Meeting in Luxembourg on 13 September. The group meeting is a bi-annual meeting for Member States representatives to discuss the latest developments in their respective countries and provide feedback to the Commission on the positions of the Member States on their desired direction of travel. The Commission updated delegates on the latest developments in the PSI Directive and although was not able to commit to specifics of what will be in the Report. Delegates also heard reports regarding the market value of PSI, economic models for PSI and a study on PSI and the cultural sector. The presentations will be made available on the Commission website shortly.

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

In the **UK**, a "freemium" service is emerging as a likely business model for opening the national resources of public sector information up for re-use, offering basic data for free, but then to charge for more sophisticated services. In **Italy** the new website for the Italian statistics office is to put all content as well as data under an open license. **France** is in the final stages of a data portal headed by the Prime Minister, who wants to open all the country's databases and free of charge. **Portugal** are looking to launch a data portal in late September/early March with the aim of being mostly free and **Germany** are developing a licensing model to be tested at the beginning of October.

Meanwhile a national data portal will be launched in **Spain** in mid-October and the Spanish Government has confirmed that it will present an access to information law to the parliament. Similarly in **Poland**, the government is sending a bill to parliament amending the bill on Access to Public Information which will offer data without conditions and free of charge. The **Austrian** government is creating the structure for providing open government data and a central national data catalogue to be realized this autumn.