

ANÁLISIS DE TEXTO EN INGLÉS

EU COULD GIVE POLICE DIRECT ACCESS TO CLOUD DATA IN WAKE OF TERROR ATTACKS

The European Union is seeking to make it easier for police and law enforcement agencies to retrieve electronic evidence from US tech firms, including directly from cloud storage. In the wake of terrorist attacks across Europe, the European Commission is proposing new legislation to speed up the transfer of crucial data from companies such as Facebook and Google, even when it is stored in another EU member state – which is often a slow process.

The EC is set to propose three options that will form the basis of a future legislative proposal. EU Justice Commissioner Vera Jourova said: “I am sure that now in the shadow of the recent terrorist attacks and increasing threats in Europe there will be more understanding among the ministers, even among those who come from countries where there has not been a terrorist attack.” EU justice ministers are to meet in Brussels on Thursday to discuss the EC’s proposals, which will then form the basis of a motion put forward by the EU executive by early 2018.

Of the three EC proposals, the least intrusive option involves allowing law enforcement agencies in one member state to ask an IT provider in another member state to turn over electronic evidence, without having to ask that member state first. The second option would see the companies obliged to turn over data if requested by law enforcement agencies in other member countries. The most intrusive option, allowing law enforcement agencies direct access to information in the cloud, is being suggested for situations where authorities do not know the location of the server hosting the data or there is a risk of the data being lost. “This third option is kind of an emergency possibility which will require some additional safeguards protecting the privacy of people,” Jourova said: “You simply cannot massively collect some digital data for some future use.” “My preference is to go for this as an extraordinary measure for extraordinary threats, for high gravity criminal offences such as terrorism and there I am in favour of enabling the use of personal data,” Jourova said, adding that no decision has yet been taken.

The types of data that could fall within the scope of the law will be discussed on Thursday, from location or traffic data to personal communications, as well as safeguards such as requiring that law enforcement requests are necessary and proportionate.

Currently law enforcement agencies in Germany seeking data stored in Ireland – the location of many US tech firms’ European headquarters, including Facebook’s – would have to rely on Irish authorities requesting the data from them, which is a slow and cumbersome process. It is a fine line between speeding law enforcement efforts in moments of crisis and eroding user data privacy, with critics saying that maintaining user trust in the cloud is critical, particularly where that data could be seized. Direct access to user data would raise many questions over privacy and safeguards.

By Samuel Gibbs, *The Guardian*.

1.- Write a comment on the article, giving your opinion about the EC proposals.

Your comment should have at least a hundred words.(4 points)

2.- According to the text, in which circumstances would direct access to online information be an option? Use YOUR OWN words to answer. (1 point)

3.- Explain, in YOUR OWN words, what the writer means when he says: “It is a fine line between speeding law enforcement efforts in moments of crisis and eroding user data privacy”. (1 point)

4.- Match four phrases or words taken from the text to these definitions or synonyms: (2 points)

- a) proposed (2nd paragraph)
- b) to deliver to people in charge (3rd paragraph)
- c) compelled (3rd paragraph)
- d) at the present time (5th paragraph)

5.- Rewrite the following sentence using the passive voice: (1 point)

“In the wake of terrorist attacks across Europe, the European Commission is proposing new legislation to speed up the transfer of crucial data from companies such as Facebook and Google”

6.- Rewrite the following sentence using reported speech: (1 point):

EU Justice Commissioner Vera Jourova said: ‘I am sure that now in the shadow of the recent terrorist attacks and increasing threats in Europe there will be more understanding among the ministers’.

CRITERIOS DE EVALUACIÓN Y CALIFICACIÓN

IMPORTANTE: Toda la prueba debe realizarse en inglés.

La prueba se calificará con un máximo de 10 puntos y habrá que obtener al menos cinco puntos para superarla. La distribución de los puntos será la siguiente:

Ejercicio 1º: Su puntuación máxima es de 4 puntos. El texto debe tener una extensión mínima de 100 palabras. Se valorará:

- que el texto esté bien estructurado,
- que se organicen los argumentos de manera lógica,
- que se empleen elementos lingüísticos adecuados para dotar al texto de cohesión y coherencia,
- que se maneje léxico adaptado al contexto y al propósito comunicativo que se persigue,
- que el texto se ajuste con consistencia a los patrones ortográficos, de puntuación y de formato de uso común.

Ejercicios 2º y 3º: Cada uno de ellos puntúa un máximo de 1 punto. Las respuestas deben tener la forma de un pequeño texto escrito con un mínimo de 20 palabras. Se valorará que se identifique la información detallada del texto y algunas implicaciones. Asimismo, se valorará la utilización de términos y estructuras diferentes de las que aparecen en el texto.

Ejercicio 4º: El ejercicio puntúa como máximo 2 puntos. Se calificará con 0,5 cada palabra o sintagma correctos. En este ejercicio se evalúa el reconocimiento de léxico común.

Ejercicios 5º y 6º: Cada uno puntúa como máximo 1 punto. Se evalúa que se saben utilizar correctamente las estructuras morfosintácticas, sin errores que conduzcan a malentendidos.