Privacy and Data Protection

The NHRI mandate in the digital age

#GANHRI2026 | Asia Pacific Forum

Swipe to explore how NHRIs in the Asia Pacific are responding to growing privacy and data protection challenges in an era of rapid digital transformation.

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Digital technologies have significantly expanded privacy risks

State surveillance, biometric data collection, and algorithmic profiling now permeate public administration across the Asia Pacific, often lacking transparency, proportionality, and avenues for redress.

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NHRIs hold a distinct mandate in this space

#HumanRightsMechanisms in #DigitalAge

NHRIs are uniquely positioned to respond, receiving complaints, monitoring compliance, and advising on the laws and policies that shape digital rights across the region.

From complaints to policy: the scope of NHRI engagement

Across the Asia Pacific, NHRIs are seeing growing complaints related to data practices, surveillance, and digital identity. Their work is moving from individual redress to systemic policy engagement.

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The accountability gap requires institutional attention

Many data systems operate without independent oversight or clear avenues for remedy. NHRIs are well placed to address this, and the need for their engagement has never been greater.

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A global conversation on digital rights

As part of the global network of NHRIs under GANHRI, the APF supports its 27 member institutions across the Asia Pacific to build capacity, share practice, and strengthen their engagement on privacy and data protection.

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