ARE WE USING DATA IN THE BEST WAY TO MANAGE THE COVID-19 PANDEMICS?

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Managing the Coronavirus progression – what is the secret of Asian countries success?
Mapping diffusion of digital technologies to manage the pandemics (25 March 2020)

Degree of digital surveillance and use of personal data

- **LOW**
  - Government use of anonymized location datasets
    - Germany, Italy, Austria, Belgium, Poland, Spain, Norway... + EC plan
  - Use of smartphone apps with citizens’ consensus
    - South Korea, Poland, Israel, Spain, Italy (call) (Iran?)
  - Government use of non-anonymized location data
    - Singapore, Honk Kong, Israel, Taiwan

- **HIGH**
  - Use of surveillance drones
    - Belgium, Italy, Spain, China
  - Full digital surveillance (facial recognition, data from smartphones, QR codes...)
    - China (Taiwan?)

**Draft: work in progress**
The policy imperative: balancing public health and privacy protection

- Digital contact tracing will be needed to manage the next phase of the Coronavirus pandemic, after full lockdown which cannot last forever
- Different technology and governance models emerging with different degrees of «intrusiveness» and digital surveillance
- China’s model of intensive digital surveillance not acceptable in Western Democracies
- Need for fast action: possible way forward balancing ethical and transparency requirements with effectiveness and centralized governance – but breaching old boundaries of personal data use by governments
- The EDPB has confirmed the use of personal data for public health can be done with proper cautions (Statement on the processing of personal data in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak. Adopted on 19 March 2020)