

Privacy foundation SDBN changes its name to Data Justice Europe

Amsterdam 28 september 2026 – As of today, Stichting Data Bescherming Nederland (SDBN) will be called [Data Justice Europe](#). It is the same legal entity under a new name. The ongoing class actions against Amazon, Adobe, and X Corp. continue unchanged, and participants don't need to do anything, their registration remains valid.



The name Data Justice Europe better fits the foundation's work and the countries in which it operates. The foundation has been granted the status of a qualified entity by the European Commission under the Representative Actions Directive (RAD). This means Data Justice Europe can now also take action on behalf of victims outside the Netherlands. At the same time, the foundation is broadening its scope: it is fighting not only for personal privacy, but also considers the broader societal impacts of data collection and surveillance.

What the foundation does

Data Justice Europe works along three lines. First, the foundation holds companies accountable for violating privacy rights. This includes the mass claims against companies that track users online and illegally collect data (Amazon, Adobe, and X Corp.). Second, it also exposes privacy violations without legal interventions (such as wrongful cookie use by political parties) and runs awareness campaigns aimed at encouraging a wider audience to take action. Finally, it engages in advocacy in The Hague and Brussels for the preservation and further tightening of privacy legislation.

From the Netherlands to Europe

RAD status makes it possible to bring collective cases in other European countries as well. According to the foundation, this is necessary to increase pressure on Big Tech, since these companies don't operate on a per-country basis. The Dutch name therefore no longer covered its scope. *"Big Tech doesn't operate per country, so neither do we anymore. From now on we can litigate on behalf of Europeans, not just the Dutch"*, says Anouk Ruhaak, chair of Data Justice Europe.

From data protection to data justice

The goal of Data Justice Europe remains the same: preserving individual's right to privacy. In addition, the foundation will expand its focus to include the societal impacts of data collection and use.

"Data protection focuses on the lawful collection, use, and security of personal data, while data justice focuses on the impact of illegally obtained data use on people's lives and society. Data justice therefore goes beyond our individual right to privacy and also looks at the societal consequences of large-scale surveillance", says Anouk Ruhaak, chair of Data Justice Europe.

The fight over the GDPR

Over the past year, the foundation has become more actively involved in the European debate on privacy legislation. This was prompted by the Digital Omnibus package presented by the European Commission in November 2025, which aims to simplify privacy rules. According to Data Justice Europe, the proposal effectively amounts to a hollowing-out of the GDPR and diminishes the privacy rights of Europeans. That's why Data Justice Europe is now also fighting for the right to privacy at the policy level. To work effectively in Brussels, it's important that the foundation's name is also understandable to people who don't speak Dutch.

Attached to the name

Changing the name was not an easy decision. In Anouk Ruhaak's words: "*We were attached to our name, and we know a lot of people were too. We did not take this decision lightly, but if you want to seriously pursue privacy across all of Europe, at some point you also have to cross the border yourself.*"

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If you have any questions for Anouk Ruhaak, please contact Michel Langendijk, press coordinator at Data Justice Europe, on 06 - 4096 3010 or press@datajustice.eu