

Undergraduate Internship Program Report – Fall 2017

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Having had the opportunity to be a visiting scholar and doing research at Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University, this report summarizes the work I have done between 28 of August and 31 of October 2017 as well as the experience I had while living in Pittsburgh.

My research was focused in Data Privacy between different regulatory regions and I had the supervision of Douglas Sicker (CMU) and Luis Antunes (FCUP).

Due to simultaneous advent of rapid technological development and strong globalization, we are presented with times of great opportunities, but also of great risks. If, on one hand, the internet and technology behind it allow us to shorten physical distances and boost our productivity, the growing amount of information therein contain leads to unrestrained privacy issues, i.e. on the other hand the possibility of silently tracking the actions, preferences, and locations of its users.

Today, with an increase in frequency and severity of privacy issues, data privacy has become a hot topic for governments.

My work at CMU was focused on writing a paper about the different approaches both from EU and U.S. with particular incidence in regulations like GDPR, EU-US Privacy Shield and NIS directive in order to create a baseline of understanding regarding data privacy and aiming to enhance the comprehension on data protection compliance needs when moving data from one jurisdiction to the other. The paper summarizes the major changes enforced by the aforementioned regulations and suggest an approach to increase the chances of meeting the technical requirements and of address the citizen' privacy concerns.

Besides the work and research I was doing, the whole CMU / Pittsburgh / EUA experience was memorable and really enriching. The University environment is the perfect fit both for work and fun but also for sports activities. Being there feels like the campus encourages the constant synergy of responsibility and fun with super interesting activities and student groups. Students are really focused on their goals and the faculty staff are always willing to help. The University resources are great and students have access to most of it. Additionally, every day is possible to attend interesting research seminars, classes or events.

Pittsburgh is relatively a small but wonderful city, full of constant activities and events, with different types of lifestyles and mentalities and very well connected to other places in the US.

After the UIP I can say that both my skills as my personal understanding of different cultures were significantly enriched by the activities I've participated at CMU. Having said that I strongly recommend the program.

Finally, I have to thank the EPP department for having me and to Professor Douglas Sicker for hosting me and for the constant reviews to my paper. Besides I also have to leave a special acknowledgement to Euronext for giving me the opportunity to participate in such life changing program.

