



BEING-WISE
CA22104

COST ACTION CA22104
Behavioral Next Generation in Wireless
Networks for Cyber Security
(BEING-WISE)



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EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



Funded by
the European Union

This educational material is based upon work from COST Action BEING-WISE CA22104, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology). COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

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BEING-WISER AWARENESS SERIES

This app wants your location.

Does it really need it?



Most apps ask for more than they need. Swipe to find out why that matters and what you can do about it.



WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

By the end of this, you'll see data collection differently:

What data minimization is

Why over-collection is risky

How to question any request



SOUND FAMILIAR?

Apps ask for a lot. More than they need.



Location – always on

Even when the app is closed.



Your contacts

For an app that has nothing to do with messaging.



Your microphone

For a service that is text-only.



Your birthday

For a newsletter that just sends articles.

Each one felt normal. None were truly necessary.

THE PRINCIPLE

Data Minimization

Collect only **what is genuinely necessary for a specific purpose** and nothing more.

It is not about collecting less for convenience. It is about collecting less **by design**, because every unnecessary data point is an unnecessary risk.





WHY IT MATTERS

More data. More risk.

- **More data stored = more exposed in a breach**
- **More data shared = more surfaces for misuse**
- **More data collected = less control for you**

📄 The more you share, the more you expose, even if nothing goes wrong today.

Requests that should raise a flag.



Flashlight app

Wants access to your contacts and location. A flashlight turns on a light. That is all it needs.



Weather app

Requests constant background location tracking. A city name works just as well.



Newsletter sign-up

Asks for your full date of birth, phone number, and home city. To send you articles.



Online store checkout

Requires you to create an account with full identity details just to buy one item.

If it does not need it to function, **it is a risk, not a requirement.**

THINK ABOUT IT

Which of these is actually necessary?



A quiz app wants your real name, email, birthday, and location

To tell you which type of learner you are.



A map app tracks your location 24/7, even when you are not navigating

Because it is the default setting.

The uncomfortable truth: most of us have already said yes to both.

Four questions. Ask them every time.

1

What is being asked?

Name exactly what data the service wants from you.

2

Why is it needed?

Is there a clear reason this data is required to deliver the service?

3

Can it work without it?

Try saying no. Most services still function.

4

What happens if I refuse?

If the answer is nothing, the data was never necessary.

 If it is not necessary, it is a risk. Refusing is not rude; it is smart.

**If a service does not
need it;
do not give it.**

Sharing less is not paranoia. It is the smarter, safer default. Protection does not always come from adding more tools, sometimes it comes from giving less away.



Your turn;

Think about:

What is the most unnecessary piece of data an app or website has ever asked from you?