

Germany's Constitutional Court on hessenDATA — Police Automated Data Analysis Struck Down for Lacking Statutory Limits

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Germany

Quality score: 60/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

On 16 Feb 2023 Germany's Constitutional Court voided Hesse's and Hamburg's powers for automated police data analysis (hessenDATA): no limits on data or methods, including self-learning systems. Hamburg's rule fell at once; Hesse had until 30 Sep 2023 to rewrite.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	2/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability beyond pilot	1/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-07

[Bundesverfassungsgericht \(Federal Constitutional Court\); Hessian and Hamburg police](#) — accessed 2026-10-07

[Federal Constitutional Court press release \(EN\)](#) — accessed 2026-10-07

[LTO — BVerfG on hessenDATA](#) — accessed 2026-10-07

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