Diederik Willem "Dirk" Walgien

Curriculum Vitae

dirk@walgien.nl
dirk-walgien-a97b4618a



Profile

Privacy and tech advisor focusing on the GDPR and the AI Act, with a background in philosophy (MA) and a CIPP/E certification. I help organisations get a grip on this legislation, translating legal frameworks into workable practice. I also help people develop a healthy, critical relationship with technology: showing why privacy and information security matter, and that everyone has something to protect, even those who think they have nothing to hide. My experience with Linux, self-hosting and open-source software helps me understand the technology I advise on.

Work experience

2026–present **Privacy & Tech Advisor**, *Privacy1*, Groningen
- Advising on the GDPR and the AI Act
- Co-developing an AI maturity model covering ten themes
- Designing AI governance training for privacy and compliance professionals
- ELSA-NN consortium (Work Package Law): responsible for the AI Act component of a legal toolkit for AI in healthcare, bringing together the GDPR, the MDR and the AI Act
- Data Protection Officer for a client organisation (since November 2026)

2025–2026 **Teacher, Lokaal EXTRA**, *YEPPE*, Stadskanaal
- Teaching digital skills and artificial intelligence to upper-year classes in pre-vocational secondary education (vmbo), two days a week
- Mentoring students and giving enrichment lessons

Other work experience

Sales assistant at Slijterij Groningen, a liquor store (2024–2025); self-employed seller of handmade goods in Bulgaria (2022–2023); lease car delivery driver at Fleetport (2019–2023); and earlier part-time jobs as a dishwasher and babysitter in Bergen, North Holland.

Education

2026 **AI Safety Governance Cohort**, *SAIN (Safe AI Netherlands)*, Groningen
Final project on the Aithos study of generative AI and human rights

2023–2025 **MA Philosophy**, *University of Groningen*
Thesis: *Diagonaalbewijzen: Structurele overeenkomsten tussen de paradox van Cantor, de paradox van Russell, de paradox van Grelling en de Gödel-Carnap dekpuntstelling* (Diagonal proofs: structural similarities between Cantor's paradox, Russell's paradox, Grelling's paradox and the Gödel–Carnap fixed-point theorem)

2018–2023 **BA Philosophy**, *University of Groningen*

2021–2022 **Minor Law and Governance**, *University of Groningen*

2020–2021 **Minor Data Science & AI**, *University of Amsterdam*

2015–2017 **VWO (pre-university secondary education)**, *Regio College*, Zaandam

Skills & Certifications

Certifications CIPP/E (IAPP, 2026), AI Safety Governance (SAIN, 2026), Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)

Expertise GDPR, AI Act; developing: information security

Technical Linux (Arch- and Debian-based), server administration and self-hosting (Docker, Caddy), LaTeX, Python, R, open-source tools

Languages Dutch (native), English (C1), French (B1), Spanish (A2), German (A1)

Volunteering & Other Roles

2013–present **Angel (volunteer)**, *OHM/CCC/SHA/WHY*
Setup and facility support at large hacker events (around 3,000 attendees)

2025–present **Helping people switch to open alternatives**, *Self-employed*, Groningen
Helping people move to Linux and other open-source alternatives to Big Tech

2019–2022 **Board and committee member**, *Study association STUFF*, Groningen
Internal affairs officer on the board of an association with around 150 members; later organised a camping event for around 100 participants

2024 **Room steward**, *Night of Philosophy (Nacht van de Filosofie)*, Groningen
Hosting duties at lectures

2016 **First aid volunteer**, *Projects Abroad*, Ghana
Medical support at primary schools

2014–2016 **Homework tutor**, *CSG Jan Arentsz*, Alkmaar
Supporting secondary school students with study skills

Interests

Playing keyboard instruments (from classical piano to synthesisers), audio engineering, cooking, cycling, reading, writing, languages, gaming, film, cars