

Unit 2 Reflections

This week I learnt about an agreement that the EU has with America that allows American companies to process EU data. This agreement allows processing even though America's Data Protection rules are more lenient. The agreement is called the Privacy Shield and this agreement means that although you may be using a service provided by an EU company that applies by GDPR if the data was hosted and processed in America it would not be held to the same standards. A fellow student Jonathan Mason informed me that at the company where he works it is recommended not to use services that make use of the Privacy Shield agreement.

It is interesting that companies are looking past the legal agreements and making decisions for themselves regarding data protection. This example goes to show how trade deals can undercut local regulations. Thinking particularly cynically I wonder if companies that did not want to follow the stricter Data Protection rules of one country might intentionally exploit such trade agreements by moving aboard data processing abroad purely to circumnavigate such regulation. I think that the decision taken by Jonathan's company is a good one.

Example of the 'law enforcement' vs 'ethical perspective' debate that Nawaz Khan raised being answered ethically.

Additional Reading Includes:

<https://corporate-social-responsibility-blog.com/2018/03/27/cambridge-analytica-and-facebook/>

<https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/business-law-blog/blog/2019/05/mandatory-corporate-social-responsibility-legislative-innovation-and>

<https://www.privacyshield.gov/welcome>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_data#/media/File:Hilbert_InfoGrowth.png