The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was created from the European Commission to reform data protection across the European Union in order to make Europe ‘fit for the digital age’. (1) The origins of what is now known as the GDPR began in 2012. All organizations in the member-states across Europe, including those who have dealings with businesses in Europe must adhere to the GDPR EU framework. The GDPR was approved and adopted in April 2016 but was not enforced until May 25, 2018. (2)

“The key changes in the reform include:

* A **single set of rules** on data protection, valid across the EU. Unnecessary **administrative requirements,** such as notification requirements for companies, will be removed. This will save businesses around €2.3 billion a year.
* Instead of the current obligation of all companies to notify all data protection activities to data protection supervisors – a requirement that has led to unnecessary paperwork and costs businesses €130 million per year, the Regulation provides for increased **responsibility and accountability** for those processing personal data.
* For example, companies and organisations must notify the national supervisory authority of serious **data breaches** as soon as possible (if feasible within 24 hours).
* Organisations will only have to deal with a **single national data protection authority** in the EU country where they have their main establishment. Likewise, people can refer to the**data protection authority** in their country, even when their data is processed by a company based outside the EU. Wherever **consent** is required for data to be processed, it is clarified that it has to be given explicitly, rather than assumed.
* People will have easier **access to their own data** and be able to **transfer personal data** from one service provider to another more easily (right to data portability). This will improve competition among services.
* A **‘right to be forgotten’** will help people better manage data protection risks online: people will be able to delete their data if there are no legitimate grounds for retaining it.
* EU rules must apply if personal data is **handled abroad**by companies that are active in the EU market and offer their services to EU citizens.
* **Independent national data protection authorities** will be strengthened so they can better enforce the EU rules at home. They will be empowered to fine companies that violate EU data protection rules. This can lead to penalties of up to €1 million or up to 2% of the global annual turnover of a company.
* A new**Directive**will apply general data protection principles and rulesfor **police and judicial cooperation** in criminal matters. The rules will apply to both domestic and cross-border transfers of data.” (1)

The GDPR at its core is powerful and needed, however, the application of it interferes with the premise behind Blockchain Technology.

***##Find and Discuss specific GDPR articles that related to blockchain. Unpack each one with a few sentences or small paragraph.***

***## Potential sources (not journals – just gathering info to read)***

* [***https://cointelegraph.com/news/gdpr-and-blockchain-is-the-new-eu-data-protection-regulation-a-threat-or-an-incentive***](https://cointelegraph.com/news/gdpr-and-blockchain-is-the-new-eu-data-protection-regulation-a-threat-or-an-incentive)
* [***https://www.cnil.fr/en/blockchain-and-gdpr-solutions-responsible-use-blockchain-context-personal-data***](https://www.cnil.fr/en/blockchain-and-gdpr-solutions-responsible-use-blockchain-context-personal-data)
  + [***https://www.insideprivacy.com/financial-institutions/the-cnil-publishes-report-on-blockchain-and-the-gdpr/***](https://www.insideprivacy.com/financial-institutions/the-cnil-publishes-report-on-blockchain-and-the-gdpr/)
* [***https://www2.deloitte.com/dl/en/pages/legal/articles/blockchain-datenschutzrecht.html***](https://www2.deloitte.com/dl/en/pages/legal/articles/blockchain-datenschutzrecht.html)
* [***https://www.hlengage.com/\_uploads/downloads/5425GuidetoblockchainV9FORWEB.pdf***](https://www.hlengage.com/_uploads/downloads/5425GuidetoblockchainV9FORWEB.pdf)
* [***https://medium.com/varanida/gdpr-results-impacts-and-the-blockchain-opportunity-d9f368d347aa***](https://medium.com/varanida/gdpr-results-impacts-and-the-blockchain-opportunity-d9f368d347aa)
* [***https://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/justice-and-fundamental-rights/data-protection/2018-reform-eu-data-protection-rules\_en***](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/justice-and-fundamental-rights/data-protection/2018-reform-eu-data-protection-rules_en)

***#Could create a timeline of the history of GDPR (***[***https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/data-protection/legislation/history-general-data-protection-regulation\_en***](https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/data-protection/legislation/history-general-data-protection-regulation_en)***) as part of our report (it would take up space!) 😊***

1. <http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-12-46_en.htm?locale=en>
2. <https://www.trunomi.com/eu-gdpr-compliance-trunomi/>