

What is GDPR

GDPR stands for General Data Protection Regulation, which was first approved by EU parliament on the 14th of April 2016 and became enforceable on the 25th of May 2018, is the world's toughest privacy and security laws in the world. It protects the data of the people within the European Union, from organizations inside and outside of the EU. GDPR applies if one processes personal data, offers goods, and or services to any one from the EU even when the vendor themselves is not. The GDPR regulation is composed of hundreds of pages but the main terms are personal data, data processing, data subject, data controller, and data processor. Data controller and data processor could either be people or machines such as cloud servers. There are very high fines for GDPR breaches which can amount to 20 million euro or 4% of global revenue, whichever is higher. (What is GDPR, the EU's new data protection law? - GDPR.eu, 2022)

Why was it introduced?

In the 1950 the European Union approved the European Convention on Human rights, Article 8. right to respect for private and family life. Section 1. Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.

(European Convention on Human Rights)

This was the first act on which the EU began the protection of some information. This was, however, before the invention of the Internet, and didn't account towards how digital data was gathered.

This led to the later introduction to the 1995 European Data Protection Directive which established some data privacy standards. (DIRECTIVE 95/46/EC)

However, due to the constant fast paced change of the internet it didn't cover some data protection rights. And after several data breaches and a woman suing Google for scanning her emails, the European Union decided that there was a dire need for an update of the data protection legislation, which led the introduction of GDPR.

(DIRECTIVE 95/46/EC)

Problem 2: Case Study

The company's idea to develop a website and app in order to let alumni of a university to keep in touch after graduation is possible and legal but will have to be approached carefully and with the utmost transparency with the users.

The company must not hide anything from their user, and must be honest and upfront about how and why they are collecting so much personal data. However, with that they should also limit the amount of data they are collecting. As the goal is to let former classmates keep in touch it is unnecessary to collect data about their salary or address. A general address like province would be more acceptable. This would add a level of privacy and protection to the user in case of a data breach.

The company will also have to ensure accuracy of personal data, not only because it is going to be shared with the person's classmates or due to inaccurate data; not their classmates. But also individuals have the right to request inaccurate or incomplete data to be rectified or deleted.

The company should also consider storage. If a large crowd joins the website and each of them uploads their personal information the storage size would be large. As well as that people often switch jobs and receive greater salaries etc. The company should discard old

salaries or jobs that the user doesn't wish to display as it could be redundant information taking up storage.

Lastly, the company needs to keep in mind integrity and confidentiality. The data they collect should be kept safe and with security against attacks in mind. GDPR doesn't state which measures companies should take to protect their data as technology is constantly evolving. But data should always be at least encrypted.

(Irwin, 2022)

References:

GDPR.eu. 2022. *What is GDPR, the EU's new data protection law? - GDPR.eu*. [online] Available at: <<https://gdpr.eu/what-is-gdpr/>> [Accessed 24 September 2022].

European Convention on Human Rights. 8.

DIRECTIVE 95/46/EC.

Irwin, L., 2022. *The GDPR: Understanding the 6 data protection principles*. [online] IT Governance Blog En. Available at: <<https://www.itgovernance.eu/blog/en/the-gdpr-understanding-the-6-data-protection-principles>> [Accessed 28 September 2022].