

**Ready or not, GDPR takes effect 25-May - WSJ**  
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- In a front-page article, the WSJ observes that the General Data Protection Regulation has affected hundreds of thousands of companies, far beyond the Facebook/Google tech giants that have gotten the headlines.
- Privacy lawyers and consultants tell the WSJ that many companies simply aren't ready; the chief compliance officer for First Solar tells the WSJ that the company underestimated what the law would require of it.
- Allianz's chief privacy officer tells the WSJ that complying, which has cost the company tens of millions of euros, has been a "mammoth task;" Accor's data-protection officer tells the WSJ that listing how the company gathers and processes information will be a "never-ending process."
- A US airline executive, who appointed himself chief data-protection officer, since the law requires one, tells the WSJ that the focus has been on inventorying the personal data for frequent fliers; it's not clear if he's referring to his airline specifically or speaking on behalf of all American airlines.
- The co-founder of a reservation and guest-information service tells the WSJ that the requirements of the law have surprised some smaller US restaurants, who have information on European tourists who visit and the restaurants therefore need to manage their data as they are tech companies.
- *Editor's note: Though this article seems set to appear in the 25-May print edition of the WSJ, it was published online at 05:30 ET 24-May.*

**Reference Links:**

- [Wall Street Journal](#)

**Industries:** Unspecified, Alternative Energy, Insurance (Prop. & Casualty), Hotels & Motels, Computer Hardware, Computer & Internet Services, Airline

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