

As much as the GDPR tries to regulate every organisation in the EU, it is apparent that it is being violated left, right and centre willingly or unwillingly. In recent years it may most likely be unwillingly or people profess ignorance so as to avoid the heavy fines. Between January 2020 and January 2021, penalties under the GDPR totalled \$191.5million (DLA Piper, 2021). This just goes to show that no matter the hefty fines, the GDPR will still be violated. This was also evidenced by the various case studies that my colleagues posted with the GDPR articles and directives being breached in each case.

However, it is important to note as stated by K Shofner (N.D) that given the GDPR's 72-hour timeframe for reporting a data breach, there isn't much time for a company to fully assess the damage of a breach before reporting it a supervisory authority and to data subjects if the breach is high-risk. This may be find many organisations wanting and heavy fines imposed on them just because they did not have enough time to assess and report. There is also a lot of trainings on the GDPR and data security that companies need to engage their staff on so as to avoid data breaches.

References

DLA Piper (2021) GDPR Data breach survey 2020 Available from: <https://www.dlapiper.com/en/us/insights/publications/2020/01/gdpr-data-breach-survey-2020/>

Kenzie Shofner (N.D) With the GDPR , How will a data breach affect your company? Available from: <https://www.unitedlanguagegroup.com/blog/with-gdpr-data-breach-will-affect-company>