TEU00311

What is the Internet doing to me? (witidtm)

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https://github.com/sftcd/witidtm
https://down.dsg.cs.tcd.ie/witidtm

Caveat!

- This is really Eoin's assignment

- I still need to chat to him about these details so some minor things may change

  – We'll let you know via BB/email

- Blame me if stuff here is wrong, but do check on BB before starting work on this assignment

General Data Protection Regulation

- The GDPR entered into force in May 2018

- It's an EU framework that gives data subjects (people:-) rights and imposes responsibilities on data controllers and data processors (companies, basically)

- GDPR imposes responsibilities any time data can be personally identifying
    - It is consistent with the GPDR that IP addresses, as used in the Internet protocol, can sometimes be personally identifying, and hence data controllers may be required to handle them specially

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Data_Protection_Regulation

- https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32016R0679&from=EN

- https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection_en

GDPR principles, roughly

- Your consent is needed

- Data must be collected for a stated reason, if new uses are developed, consent may need to be re-acquired

- Consent can be withdrawn any time

- Data subjects have a right to request a copy of the information held about them by a data controller

- You have a right to ask to be "forgotten"

Assignment #1

- Do a GDPR subject access request or right to be forgotten request to a service provider you use, document the process followed, anonymise the results and report on those, analyse the capabililty of that service provider to influence/track you and report on your conclusions

- Marks: 25%
  - We would like some diversity in terms of chosen service providers so at most 5 of you can choose the same service provider for the same request type

- Expectation: 4-5 pages, could be more or less

- Anonymisation: we won't publish your submissions, but write them as if we (or you) were going to publish
  - The submission should still reflect the fine-grained information in the service provider's data about you

Assignment #2

- This is an individual assignment, it's fine to chat about HOWTO with others but the text needs to be yours alone
  - Don't forget BB has plagiarism tools and those are turned on!
- Deadline: Dec 19th 2025
- You can submit however many versions you want, only the last will be marked
- Submissions open: now

AS1: HOWTO

- Picking a target: select one where you're actually interested in the results
- Think about what data you think they might have about you or what being forgotten by them might mean
- Search their web site for details on how to do GDPR requests – that should be there
- Submit your request for data or to be forgotten
- Document all the above for your submission

AS1: Web Form for Targets

- I have a web page with a bit of PHP scripting that enforces the "max 5" rule

- That's at: https://down.dsg.cs.tcd.ie/gdprsar/

- It's pretty basic, send me email if any problems

- If trying with >1 target, then input the least likely to be used by others on that form

AS1: Bad target

- Many targets will respond quickly, but some will be slow or will do nothing
- You can try with >1 target if you want to avoid that
- If they just don't respond, keep trying and document all you and they did (or didn't do)
- You won't lose marks if you ended up with a bad target
    - Note that we kinda know now some of the bad targets, so don't be tempted to make stuff up!

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Questions?

- Ask now or at the start/end of any lecture
- Sending email is also always fine