

Summary

The EU General Data Protection Regulation – An Overview

The GDPR is a directly applicable legal framework governing the processing of personal data in all EU Member States and provides for consistent data protection standards across all Member States. It will enter into force on 25 May 2018.

Examples of new rules added to the GDPR:

1. European-wide **obligation to appoint a data protection officer** under certain conditions
2. **Principle of prohibition with the reservation of authorization**, i.e., all activities that are not expressly sanctioned are prohibited
3. **Enhanced rights of the data subject**, e.g., the right to be forgotten
4. **Law of the place of performance**, i.e., based on where your company is domiciled
5. **One-stop shop**, i.e., companies based in the EU that have subsidiaries in one or more EU Member States can work with the supervisory authorities where they are headquartered to resolve any matters concerning data protection law.



Examples of changes adopted in the GDPR:

1. **Transmission of personal data to third countries:**
This is only permitted if there is an appropriate level of data protection in place in the third country or suitable measures are taken to ensure the data is protected to the necessary degree.
2. Every Member State is required to set up one or more **independent supervisory authorities**.
3. **Increase in sanctions in the event of violations**, e.g., significantly higher fines