

An overview of the GDPR

During this course, much has been discussed and many aspects of the **General Data Protection Regulation** have been addressed. Hopefully, now you understand the most important aspects of this Regulation and its impact on your activities or activities of your organisation.

When personal data are processed, those who are involved in this processing should not forget that they are required to comply with the GDPR if it is applicable. In this regard, the material and territorial scopes of application of the Regulation should be taken into account. They can be found in Article **Articles 2 and 3** of the GDPR.

Importantly, you are now familiar with a variety of actors having different data protection roles under the Regulation. **Data controllers** are natural or legal persons, public authorities or other bodies that alone or together with others, determine the purposes and means of the processing of personal data. (**Article 4(7) GDPR**). **Data processors** are natural or legal persons, public authorities or other bodies processing personal data on behalf of data controllers. (**Article 4(8) GDPR**) **Data subjects** are in essence identified or identifiable natural persons whose personal data are processed, as stated in **Article 4(1) GDPR**. Finally, there are **data protection officers** that are appointed by data controllers and data processors and carry out important tasks in the context of the processing of personal data. Under the GDPR, we also have **supervisory authorities**(**Article 4(21) GDPR** and **Article 51 GDPR**) and **the European Data Protection Board** (**Recital 139 GDPR** and **Article 68 GDPR**). More information on these actors can be found in the relevant steps of the course.

By following this course, you must have become aware of a spectrum of rights that data subjects have under the Regulation and that are crucial to the protection of personal data. These individuals have the rights **to access** their personal data (**Article 15 GDPR**), **to rectify** them (**Article 16 GDPR**), **to erase** them (**Article 17 GDPR**) or **to transfer** them from one controller to another (**Article 20 GDPR**). In addition, data subjects may exercise their rights **to object** to the processing (**Article 21 GDPR**) or **to restrict** it (**Article 18 GDPR**). When the processing is not carried out in accordance with the GDPR, data subjects can make use of their rights **to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority** (**Article 77 GDPR**) and **to obtain an effective judicial remedy against a decision of such an authority** (**Article 78 GDPR**) or **against a controller of a processor**(**Article 79 GDPR**) Also, these individuals have rights **not to be subjected to a decision that is based only on an automated**

processing, including profiling (Article 22 GDPR), to be represented by not-for-profit bodies, organisations or associations (**Article 80 GDPR** and **to receive compensation** from a controller or a processor (**Article 82 GDPR**). It means that those who acts as controllers and processors should also pay close attention to the rights we have discussed. The requirements for invoking these rights can be found in the relevant steps of the course.