

Glossary of GDPR Terms

Data Controller

The entity that determines the purposes and means of the processing of personal data. Closely linked to ‘Data Processor’

Data Processor

The entity that processes personal data on behalf of the controller, under the controller’s instructions.

European Union

In addition to full EU member nations, which include Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the UK, the GDPR also applies to natural persons from countries in the European Economic Area (EEA), which include Iceland, Lichtenstein, and Norway.

Information and Systems

Information and Systems include people, processes, and technology, and include non-electronic systems. Such systems must comply with the following principles:

1. Personal information shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner
2. Personal information shall be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes
3. Personal information shall be adequate, relevant, and limited to what is necessary
4. Personal information shall be accurate and, where necessary, kept up-to-date
5. Personal information shall be retained only for as long as necessary
6. Personal information shall be processed in an appropriate manner to maintain security

Lawful Processing/ Lawful Basis for Processing

Under EU data protection law, there must be a lawful basis for all processing of personal data (unless an exemption applies). Lawful purposes can include Explicit Consent, Contractual Necessity, and Public Interest, among other reasons. Each basis (or purpose) for collection has requirements and impacts (for example, if the basis for lawful collection is Explicit Consent, consent can be withdrawn, resulting in a triggering of the right to be forgotten)

Natural Person

A natural person, or data subject, is generally a living person (and in some cases a deceased person, or an entity or organization) who can be identified, directly or indirectly by reference to an identifier.

Personal Data

Personal data, or identifier, is any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person, also known as a data subject. Personal data may include an identification number, location data, online identifier or, may refer to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of a natural person