Microsoft

Will you be ready for the GDPR in May 2018?

In **May 2018**, a new European Union (EU) privacy regulation goes into effect with broad reaching implications not just for companies in the EU, but for organizations that offer goods and services to people in the EU, or that collect and analyze data tied to EU residents. The regulation, called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), sets a new bar for privacy rights, security, and compliance. The GDPR contains many requirements about collecting, storing, and using personal information, including how you:

- Identify and secure the personal data in your systems
- Accommodate new transparency requirements
- Detect and report personal data breaches

Organizations will need to build the new requirements into their own businesses as well as play a key role in helping customers handle all the complexities introduced by the GDPR. It is a business-wide challenge that will take time, tools, processes, and expertise; and could require significant changes to your business and to customers' privacy and data management practices.

The time to prepare is now.

There's a lot to do to get ready; we suggest that you begin reviewing your privacy and data management practices now so that you can take steps to comply before the regulation takes effect in May 2018. Failure to comply with the GDPR could prove costly, as companies that do not meet the requirements and obligations could face substantial fines and reputational harm.

GDPR: Not just Europe.

The GDPR applies more broadly than many people think. The law imposes new rules on companies, government agencies, non-profits, and other organizations that offer goods and services to people in the EU or that collect and analyze data tied to EU residents—no matter where the personal data is processed.

The GDPR is applicable to organizations of all sizes and all industries.

It all comes down to personal data.

GDPR analysis begins with understanding what data exists and where it resides. The GDPR regulates the collection, storage, use, and sharing of "personal data."

Personal data is defined very broadly under the GDPR as any data that relates to an identified or identifiable natural person. For example, personal data can reside in:

- Customer databases
- Feedback forms filled out by customers
- Email content
- Photos
- CCTV footage
- Loyalty program records
- HR databases

Microsoft's GDPR commitment.

As reflected in a blog published by Microsoft's Chief Privacy Officer (https://aka.ms/cpoblog), we have committed to being GDPR compliant across our cloud services and supporting our customers and partners in their transition to GDPR compliance before enforcement begins in May 2018. We have a long history of providing trustworthy cloud services. Our principled approach to privacy, security, compliance, and transparency means you and your customers can trust the digital technology on which you rely. We have the most extensive compliance portfolio in the industry, and were the first to adopt key standards such as the ISO/IEC 27018 cloud privacy standard.

Four key steps to GDPR.

We recommend that you begin your journey to compliance with the GDPR by focusing on four key steps: Discover, Manage, Protect, and Report. Microsoft products and services provide powerful solutions to tackle these steps. To learn more about how Microsoft products and services can help you prepare to comply with the GDPR, see GDPR resources.

	Discover	Manage	Protect	Report
Needs and Challenges:	Identify what personal data exists and where it resides.	Govern how personal data is used and accessed within an organization.	Establish security controls to prevent, detect, and respond to vulnerabilities and data breaches.	Keep required documentation, manage data requests, and provide breach notifications.
The Microsoft Cloud:	Makes it easier to locate and identify the personal data you collect, simplifying your ability to find and evaluate the data across your organization.	Enables centralized processing by more effectively managing applicable policies, data categorizations, and use cases.	Synthesizes unparalleled threat intelligence and provides tools that help you leverage that intelligence, benefiting your security efforts.	Centralizes and streamlines technical and administrative steps required for compliance such as demonstrating due diligence and handling data access requests.
You can use our services to help you:	**Perform security and risk assessments, locate relevant personal data, and develop a plan to achieve and maintain compliance.**	**Develop, implement, and manage compliance plans by designing, configuring, and monitoring the policies and controls appropriate for your data and applications.**	**Monitor, analyze and act on threat intelligence and user behavior information to help effectively address vulnerabilities and breaches.**	**Help meet documentation requirements and notification obligations and respond expediently to data requests.**

Learn more.

Learn how Enterprise Mobility + Security, Windows, SQL, SharePoint / Exchange, Office 365, Microsoft Azure, and Dynamics 365 can help you meet your compliance needs at **https://Microsoft.com/GDPR.**

Read our "**Overview of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**" white paper, which serves as an introduction to the GDPR and its key concepts. **https://aka.ms/GDPROverview.**

Take our free online GDPR readiness assessment at **https://gdprbenchmark.com**.

Overview of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

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