

# PRIVACY AND EU DATA PROTECTION

*Seminar I.*

**Introduction. History, Context and Background of EU DP Law. And DP Institutions**

*prof. dr. Gerrit-Jan Zwenne*

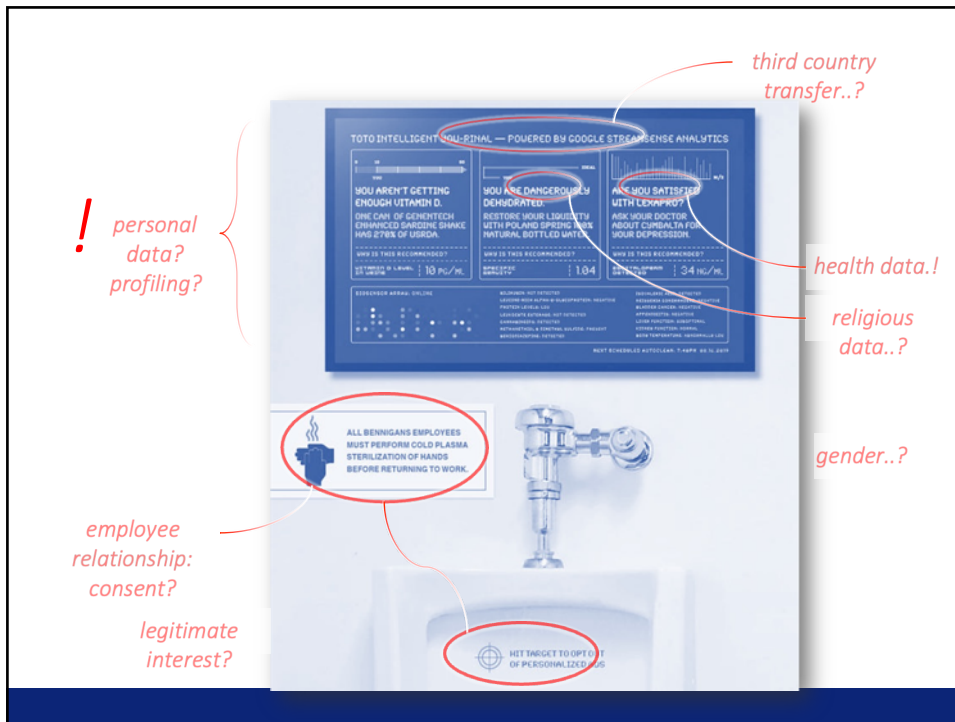
November 9, 2022



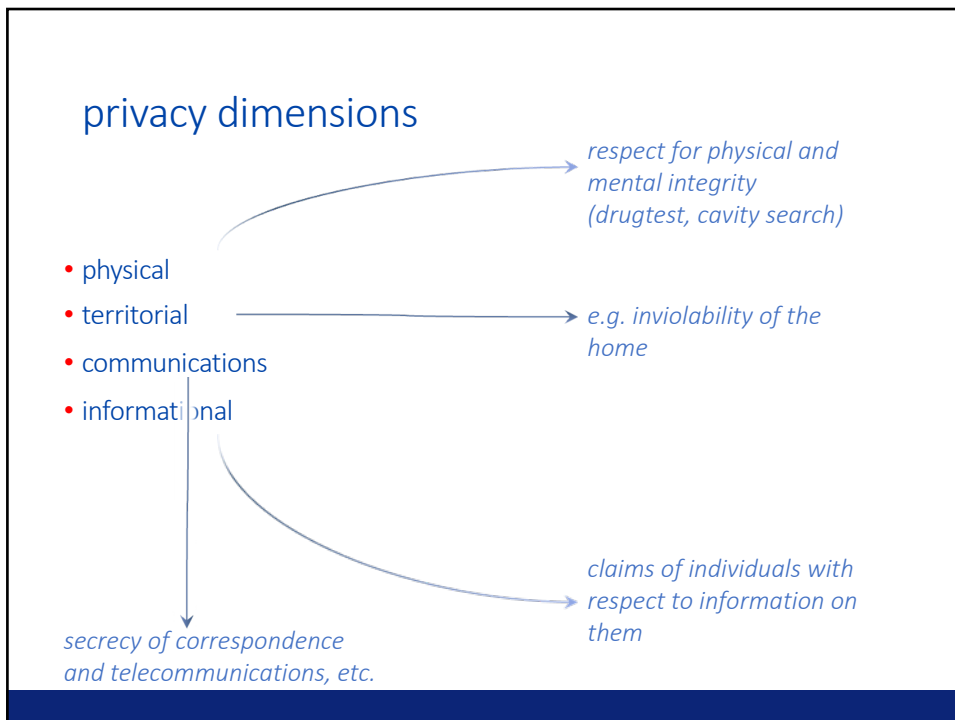
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# history

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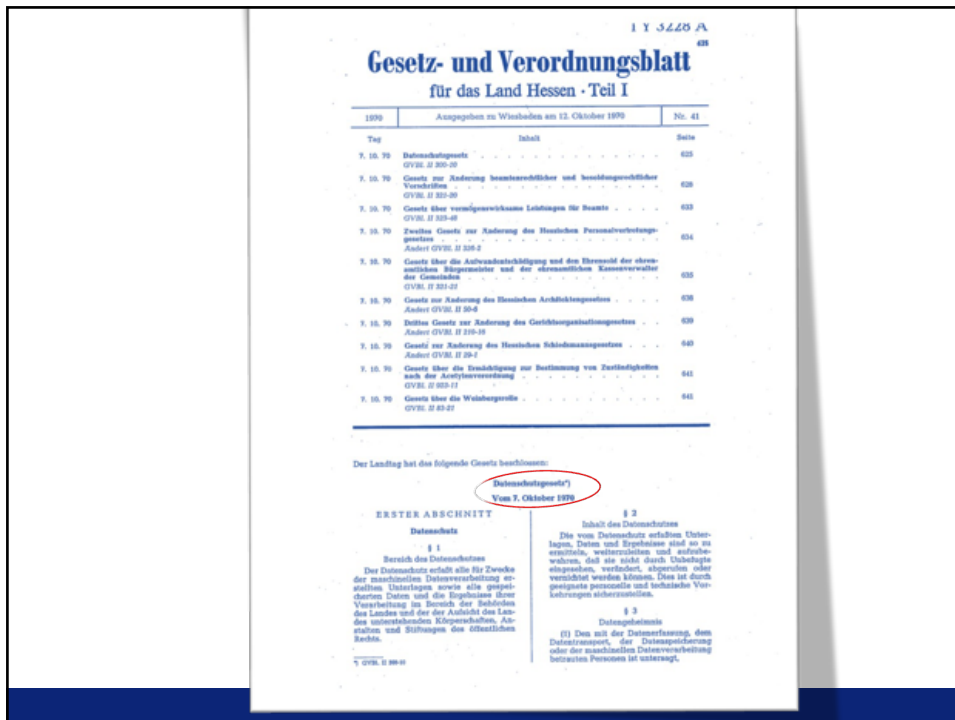
**“The Right to Privacy”**  
Warren and Brandeis  
Harvard Law Review  
Vol. IV December 15, 1890 No. 5  
THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY[1].

“It could be done only on principles of private justice, moral fitness, and public convenience, which, when applied to a new subject, make common law without a precedent, much more when received and approved by usage.” — Wilson, J., in *Millar v. Taylor*, 4 Burr. 2303, 2312

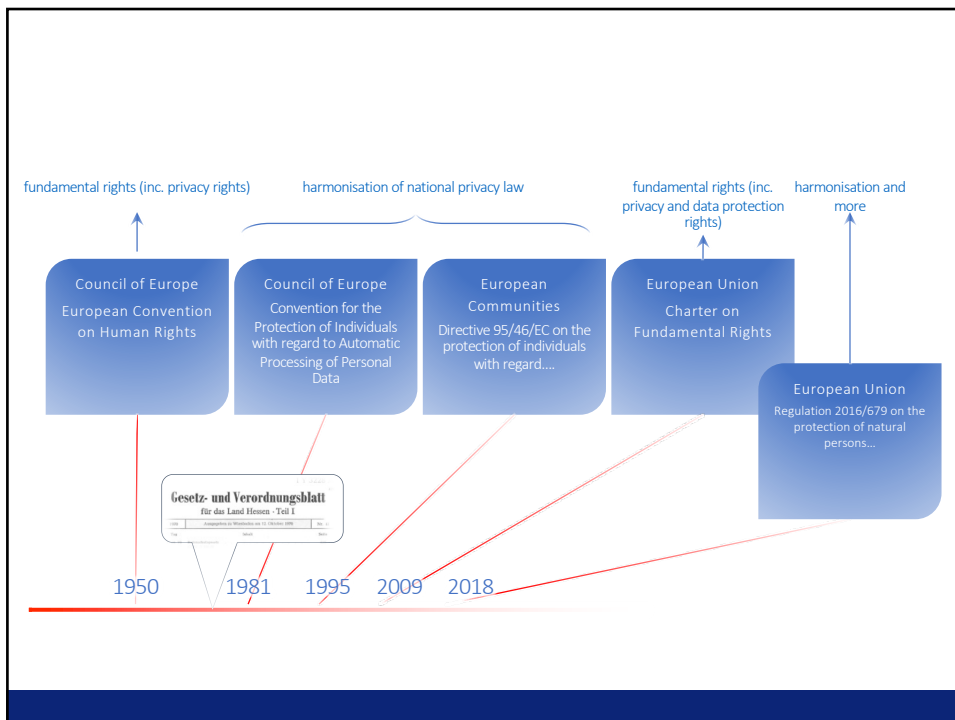
**T**hat the individual shall have full protection in person and in property is a principle as old as the common law; but it has been found necessary from time to time to define anew the exact nature and extent of such protection. Political, social, and economic changes entail the recognition of new rights, and the common law, in its eternal youth, grows to meet the new demands of society. Thus, in very early times, the law gave a remedy only for physical interference with life and property, for trespasses vi et armis. Then the “right to life” served only to protect the subject from battery in its various forms; liberty meant freedom from actual restraint; and the right to move about as the individual his lands and his cattle. Later, there came a recognition of...



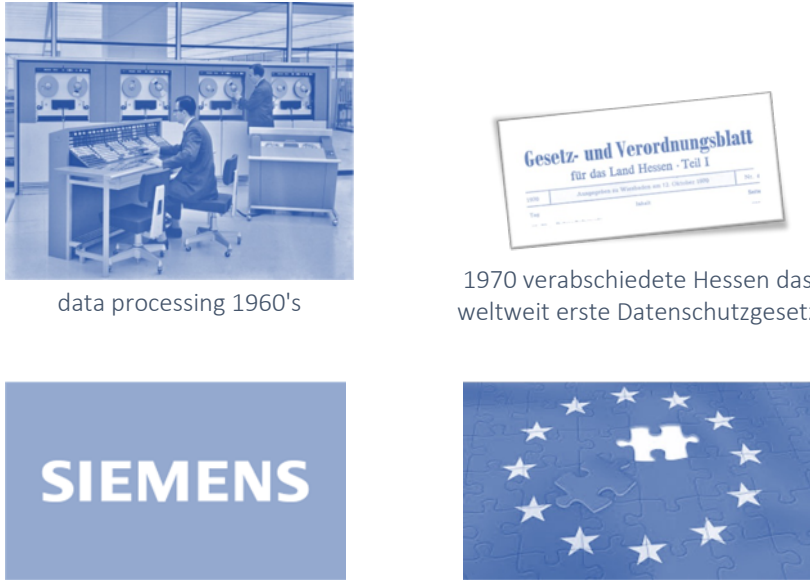
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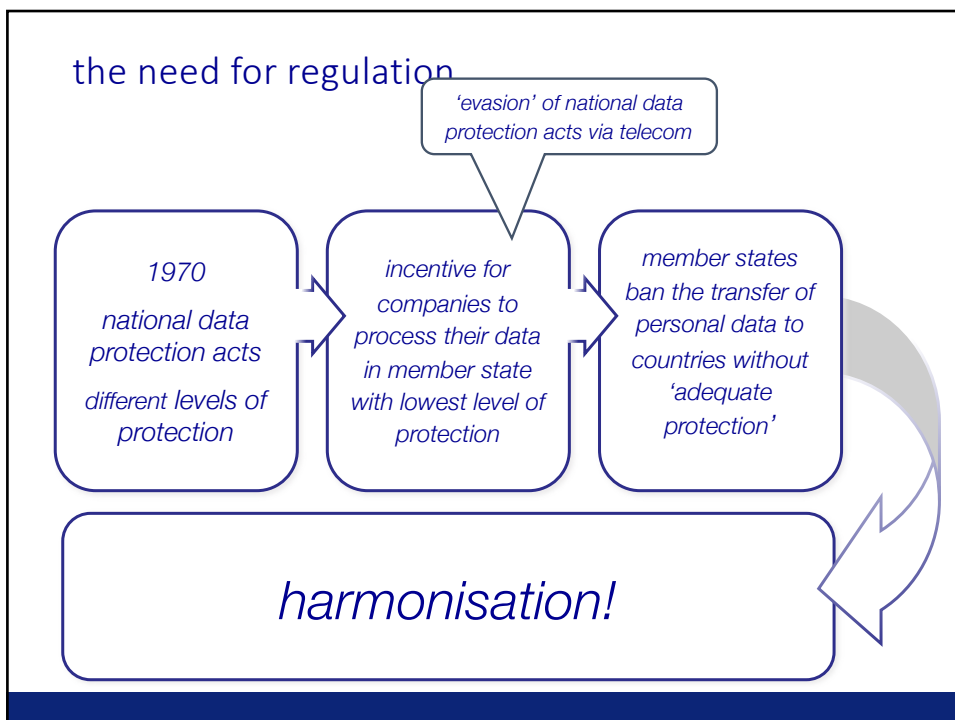


data processing 1960's

1970 verabschiedete Hessen das weltweit erste Datenschutzgesetz

**SIEMENS**

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(9) The objectives and principles of Directive 95/46/EC remain sound, but it has not prevented fragmentation in the implementation of data protection across the Union, legal uncertainty or a widespread public perception that there are significant risks to the protection of natural persons, in particular with regard to online activity. Differences in the level of protection of the rights and freedoms of natural persons, in particular the right to the protection of personal data, with regard to the processing of personal data in the Member States may prevent the free flow of personal data throughout the Union. Those differences may therefore constitute an obstacle to the pursuit of economic activities at the level of the Union, distort competition and impede authorities in the discharge of their responsibilities under Union law. Such a difference in levels of protection is due to the existence of differences in the implementation and application of Directive 95/46/EC.

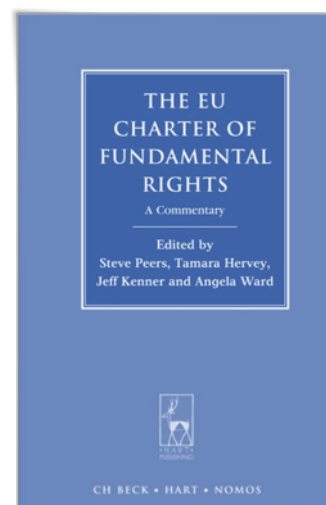
(13) [...] The proper functioning of the internal market requires that the free movement of personal data within the Union is not restricted or prohibited for reasons connected with the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data.

## General Data Protection Regulation

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## EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (2000)

- art. 7 privacy
- art. 8 data protection
- art. 11 freedom of information



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## legal basis

### Article 16(2) TFEU

The European Parliament and the Council [...] shall lay down the rules relating to the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, and by the Member States when carrying out activities which fall within the scope of Union law, and the rules relating to the free movement of such data. [...]

### Article 114(1) TFEU

The European Parliament and the Council shall [...] adopt the measures for the approximation of the provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States which have as their object the establishment and functioning of the internal market.



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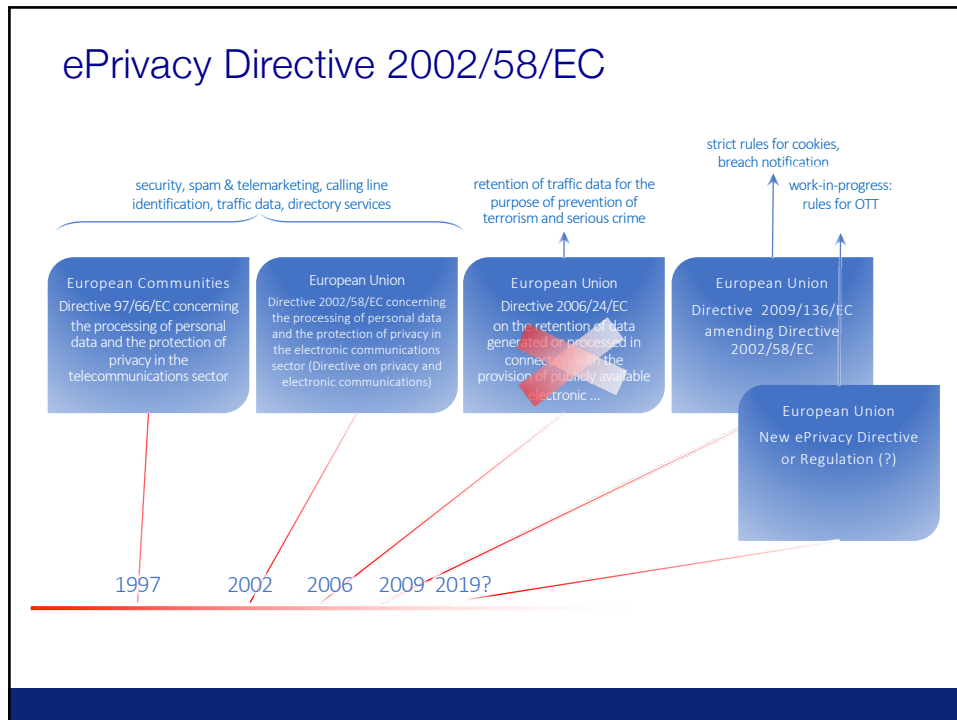
## horizontal effect

*'there may be positive obligations inherent in an effective respect for private or family life [...].*

*These obligations may involve the adoption of measures designed to secure respect for private life even in the sphere of the relations of individuals between themselves'*

*I. v. Finland 2008*

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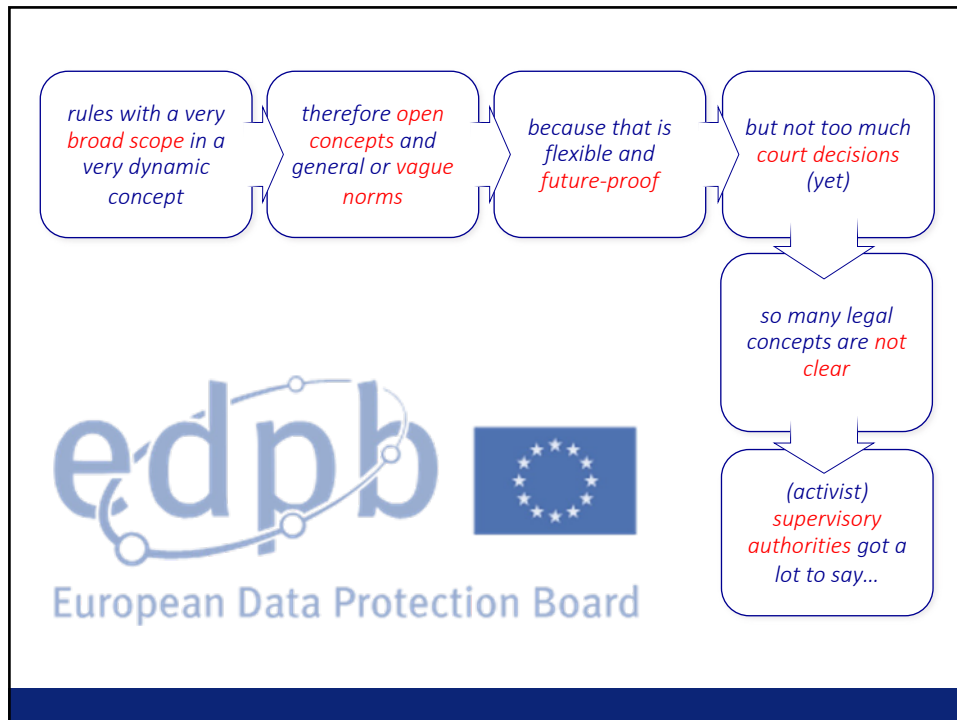
### national DP-law

- special data and criminal data
- health care and social security
- exemptions for the press (freedom of information)
- establishment and organisation of the supervisory authority

In the Netherlands:  
GDPR Implementation Act  
(*Uitvoeringswet AVG* or *UAVG*)

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*interesting discussions...*

**POLITICO**




**Meet the Dutchman who cried foul on Europe's tracking technology**

As European governments rushed to embrace technology to fight the coronavirus, a plainspoken Dutchman emerged as a thorn in their side. Aleid Wolfsen's message: Don't pretend your solutions are privacy-friendly. In a group that normally keeps disagreements quiet, Wolfsen stands out. A former politician and mayor of Utrecht who had no formal training in data protection when he took on his role in 2016, he has repeatedly been at odds with other watchdogs, most of whom do not have a political background.

The official in charge of Europe's grouping of privacy regulators was also keen to play down any disagreements. There is "no difference in the positions" of different privacy regulators and the "Dutch case was a specific case," Andrea Jelinek said, while a spokesperson for the group, the European Data Protection Board, added: "The legal concept of anonymization is not an absolute concept."

Europe's Data Protection Supervisor, who had OK'd the Commission's use of telecoms data to track the coronavirus, said: "There is a difference between the technical impossibility of doing something to the very end, and something which we would call an effective anonymization."



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## QUESTIONS

1. When did the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR) enter into force?

- A. 1946
- B. 1949
- C. 1953
- D. 1966

Question 1a preparation assignment questions

2. And what article of that Convention deals with privacy and data protection?

- A. Article 6
- B. Article 8
- C. Article 10
- D. Article 12

Question 1b preparation assignment questions



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## QUESTION

3. Why did policymakers and lawmakers in some European countries see the need for data protection law (data privacy law) in the 1960s and the early 1970s

- A. Because, at that time the ARPANET, a precursor of the internet, was created and subsequently specific DP-law was needed
- B. Because, particularly government and multinationals started using computers for processing personal data and as a result new threats to privacy emerged
- C. Because of Alan F. Westin's influential books on Privacy and Freedom (1967) and Databanks in a Free Society (1972)

Question 2 preparation assignment questions



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## QUESTION

4. In 1976 the European Commission commented that

*“[t]he diversity of national approaches and the lack of a system of protection at community level are an obstacle to completion of the internal market”.*

How can this diversity be such obstacle?

- Because companies don't have sufficient knowledge of all data protection rules in all member states
- Because member states that have data protection rules cannot allow companies to avoid these rules by using facilities in member states without these rules
- Because it is immoral that some European citizens are protected, and some other citizens are not

Question 3 preparation assignment questions)

### SEMINAR I. AND II. 18 QUESTIONS

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  - In 1976 the European Commission commented that “the diversity of national approaches and the lack of a system of protection at community level are an obstacle to completion of the internal market”. How can this diversity be such obstacle?
  - What is the role of the position papers, policy papers, and background papers by the EDPS? Are they legally binding?
  - Which ECJ (CJEU) cases are considered particularly influential in shaping EU DP law?
  - What are the definitions of the controller and the processor? Give a few real examples of both.
  - What is meant by ‘joint controllership’? What are the consequences of such joint controllership?
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  - A Dutch electronics manufacturer instructs an India-based ICT service provider to analyse a set of personal data on individuals in South Africa, in order to sell its devices. Does the GDPR apply to personal data on individuals in South Africa, in order to sell its devices.

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## QUESTION

5. What is the role of the position papers, policy papers, guidelines and background papers published by WP29, EDPB and EDPS? Are they legally binding?

- The position papers, policy papers and background papers are not binding; the guidance is binding
- All documents published by these authorities are binding
- None of these documents are binding
- These documents only bind the authorities that published these

Question 4 preparation assignment questions

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institutions

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## European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)

- broad interpretation of privacy (art. 8 ECHR)

*the concept of "private life" is a broad term not susceptible to exhaustive definition*

*e.g. S. and Marper v. UK 2008*



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## Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU)

- Luxembourg
- highest authority on interpreting EU law
- national courts can ask CJEU advice on interpretation EU law

*Lindqvist, Data Retention, Google Spain, Weltimmo, Schrems I and II, Breyer, GC/CNIL, Schrems I and II, etc.*



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## independent authorities

- National: Data Protection Authorities (“DPAs”) or Supervisory Authorities (“SAs”)
- European Data Protection Board (“EDPB”) Advisory body: opinions, working documents etc.
- European Data Protection Supervisor (“EDPS”) Supervises processing by EU bodies (Reg 45/2001, art 41-48)

*→ CNIL, AP, GBA, etc.*

*former so-called “Article 29 Working Party” or “WP29”*

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## QUESTIONS

1. Which ECJ (CJEU) cases are considered particularly influential in shaping EU DP-law?

- A. CJEU 13 May 2014, C-131/12, (Google Spain) and CJEU 24 September 2019, C-507/17 (Google/CNIL) and CJEU 24 September 2019 C-136/17 (GC/CNIL)
- B. CJEU 17 July 2014, C-141/12 and C-372/12 (IND) and CJEU 20 december 2017, C 434/16, (Nowak)
- C. CJEU 6 October 2015, C-362/14 (Schrems I)
- D. All of the above (and many more)



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## PRIVACY AND EU DATA PROTECTION

*Seminar II.*

**Key concepts of EU Data Protection law and its applicability (incl. territorial scope)**

*prof. dr. Gerrit-Jan Zwenne*

*November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022*



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## if I go to a pub one evening...

AG Bobek Opinion  
6 October 2021,  
C-245/20 X v AP

56. *If I go to a pub one evening, and I share with four of my friends around the table in a public place (thus unlikely to satisfy the private or household activity exception [...]) a rather unflattering remark about my neighbour that contains his personal data, which I just received by email (thus by automated means and/or is part of my filing system), do I become the controller of those data, and do all the (rather heavy) obligations of the GDPR suddenly become applicable to me? Since my neighbour never provided consent to that processing (disclosure by transmission), and since gossip is unlikely ever to feature amongst the legitimate grounds listed in Article 6 of the GDPR, (30) I am bound to breach a number of provisions of the GDPR by that disclosure, including most rights of the data subject*



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## program

Today

next week

### context

- privacy and privacy law
- the need for harmonisation

### players

- data subject
- controller
- processor
- DPA and DPO

### playing field

- processing of personal data and filing system
- personal or household activities
- journalism
- the territorial scope

### rules of the game

- processing grounds
- purpose limitation
- storage and retention
- special categories of data



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## players

data subjects, controllers, processors, dpo's and dpa's, art. 29 WP

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## players

Art. 4 GDPR

### data subject ('individual')

- an identifiable person (ie a natural person) who can be identified, directly or indirectly

### controller

- controls the purposes and means of processing
- natural person, legal person, or government institution

### processor

- processes data for the controller, without being directly under its authority

### DPA (SA)

- authority overseeing the processing of personal data

### DPO

- data protecting officer



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## "controller"

Art. 4(7) GDPR

the natural or legal person, public authority, agency or any other body which alone or jointly with others **determines purposes and means of the processing** of personal data.

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## "processor"

Art. 4(8) GDPR

a natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body which processes personal data on behalf of the controller

*e.g. Infosys, WorkDay, Salesforce etc. But not an internal IT department!*

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The Working Party recognizes that the concrete application of the concepts of data controller and data processor is becoming **increasingly complex**. This is mostly due to the increasing complexity of the environment in which these concepts are used, and in particular due to a growing tendency, both in the private and in the public sector, towards **organisational differentiation**, in combination with the development of ICT and globalisation, in a way that may give rise to new and difficult issues and may sometimes result in a lower level of protection afforded to data subjects.

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who is in control..?

who determines  
retention terms?

who decides  
on DSAR's

who decides on  
outsourcing?

which party enters into contracts  
with the data subjects

who notifies a  
data breach?



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CJEU 5 June 2018, C-210/16,  
ECLI:EU:C:2018:388  
(Wirtschaftsakademie)

- *in view of the objectives of DP-law, the concept of 'controller' must be interpreted broadly*
- *Wirtschaftsakademie created a fanpage on Facebook and is considered a joint controller with Facebook, as they do have a part to play in the means and purposes of processing personal data.*
- *A key factor in this finding is that non-Facebook users could be brought to the Facebook fan-page of Wirtschaftsakademie, which may otherwise not have been within Facebook's sphere of influence*



CJEU 29 July 2019, C-40/17  
ECLI:EU:C:2019:629 (FashionID)

- *in view of the objectives of DP-law, the concept of 'controller' must be interpreted broadly*
- *Fashion ID can be considered to be a controller jointly with Facebook Ireland in respect of the operations involving the collection and disclosure by transmission to Facebook Ireland of the personal data at issue*
- *as Fashion ID and Facebook Ireland determine jointly the means and purposes of those operations.*

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- a Facebook user uploads photo's to her profile page or feed
- the tax authorities require that you submit your income details in an electronic form and via their online tax portal
- to discover and prevent health insurance fraud municipalities and insurers construct a fraud detection system: each participant uploads data ('signals') on possible fraudulent behaviour

Who are the data subjects? Who is (are) controller(s)?  
and/or processor(s)?

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- a provider of modular HR cloud solutions uses a third party to provide a tool that enables its customers (employers) to calculate the (max) compensation they can pay employees for travel expenses
- business information bureaus such as Experian or Dun & Bradstreet generate credit scores and scorecards of companies and individuals, which customers use to assess the solvency of these companies and individuals.
- Cambridge Analytica processed personal data of US citizens
- what other example can you think of?

Who are the data subjects? Who is (are) controller(s) and/or processor(s)?

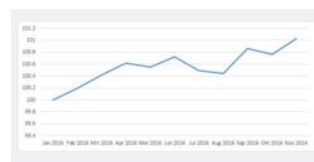
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*The Raet Job Index refers to the jobs of employees who are employed by their employer and are active that month. The index does not include FTEs but the number of persons employed by an employer. Paid trainees and holiday workers are included. Temporary agency workers, volunteers, freelancers and unpaid trainees are not included.*

*The figures are based on transactional data about the number of actually paid employees of Raet's customers. The figures are therefore not dependent on the accuracy and completeness of surveys or polls. The figures are based on more than 1 million employees and extrapolated to the size of the Dutch labour force.*

[translated with [www.DeepL.com](http://www.DeepL.com)]

raet



**0.3% up in November**

In November The Raet Jobs Index shows that the number of jobs of employees in the Netherlands increased in November 2016. The index stands at 101.0.

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## QUESTIONS

1. A company has a small ICT-department, consisting of five employees that provide ICT-support to other employees in the company. Does this ICT-department qualify as processor? Why (not)?

- A. Yes, because the five employees do process personal data on behalf of the company
- B. No, they are part of the organisation of the controller
- C. No, but the department could be a joint controller

*Question 8 preparation assignment questions*

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## QUESTIONS

2. What was the SWIFT-case about?

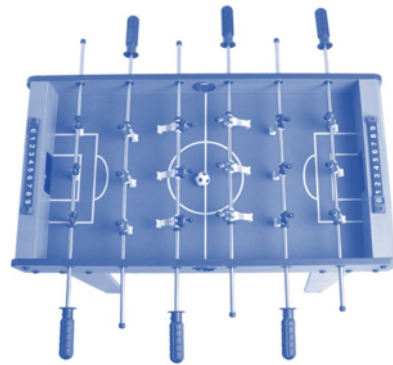
- A. About an enormous data breach at the EMEA-headquarters of car manufacturer Toyota. In essence, the case was about the territorial scope of EU DP-rules
- B. This was about unauthorised data processing by the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication, as a result of which SWIFT was deemed to be processor, acting on behalf of the banks
- C. This was about unauthorised data processing by the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication, as a result of which SWIFT was deemed to be controller for that processing

*Question 9 preparation assignment questions*

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## The playing field

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## "processing"

Art. 4(2) GDPR

any operation or set of operations,  
which is performed upon personal  
data or sets of personal data,  
whether or not by automated  
means

*electronically*

*such as collection, recording, organization,  
structuring, storage, adaptation or  
alteration, retrieval, consultation, use,  
disclosure by transmission, dissemination or  
otherwise making available, alignment or  
combination, erasure or destruction*

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# question

can you name an activity with respect to personal data that is *not* covered by the definition of 'processing of personal data'

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"personal data"

Art. 4(1) recital  
26 GDPR

any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ("data subject")

*an identifiable person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, unique identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social or gender identity of that person*

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## "anonymous data"

Art. 4(1) recital  
26 GDPR

information that does not relate to an identified or identifiable natural person

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## "pseudonymous data"

Art. 4(5) GDPR

*personal data that cannot be attributed to a specific data subject without the use of additional information*

*as long as such additional information is kept separately and subject to technical and organisational measures to ensure non-attribution*

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Guidelines 04/2020 on the use of location data and contact tracing tools in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak  
Adopted on 21 April 2020

Anonymisation refers to the use of a set of techniques in order to remove the ability to link the data with an identified or identifiable natural person against any “reasonable” effort. This “reasonability test” must take into account both objective aspects (time, technical means) and contextual elements that may vary case by case (rarity of a phenomenon including population density, nature and volume of data). If the data fails to pass this test, then it has not been anonymised and therefore remains in the scope of the GDPR.

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**Meet the Dutchman who cried foul on Europe's tracking technology**

As European governments rushed to embrace technology to fight the coronavirus, a plainspoken Dutchman emerged as a thorn in their side. Aleid Wolfsen's message: Don't pretend your solutions are privacy-friendly.

In a group that normally keeps disagreements quiet, Wolfsen stands out. A former politician and mayor of Utrecht who had no formal training in data protection when he took on his role in 2016, he has repeatedly been at odds with her watchdogs, most of whom do not have a political background.

The official in charge of Europe's grouping of privacy regulators was also keen to play down any disagreements. There is "no difference in the positions" of different privacy regulators and the "Dutch case was a specific case," Andrea Jelinek said, while a spokesperson for the group, the European Data Protection Board, added: "The legal concept of anonymization is not an absolute concept."

Europe's Data Protection Supervisor, who had OK'd the Commission's use of telecoms data to track the coronavirus, said: "There is a difference between the technical impossibility of doing something to the very end, and something which we would call an effective anonymization."

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info@companyname.com

social security number

@zwnne

ip-address  
MAC-address

cookies, device fingerprints

zip code, street and/or house nr.

070 515 3000

+31(0)6 2251 8330

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*“a dynamic IP address registered by an online media services provider when a person accesses a website that the provider makes accessible to the public constitutes personal data within the meaning of that provision, in relation to that provider, where the latter has **the legal means which enable it to identify the data subject** with additional data which the internet service provider has about that person”*

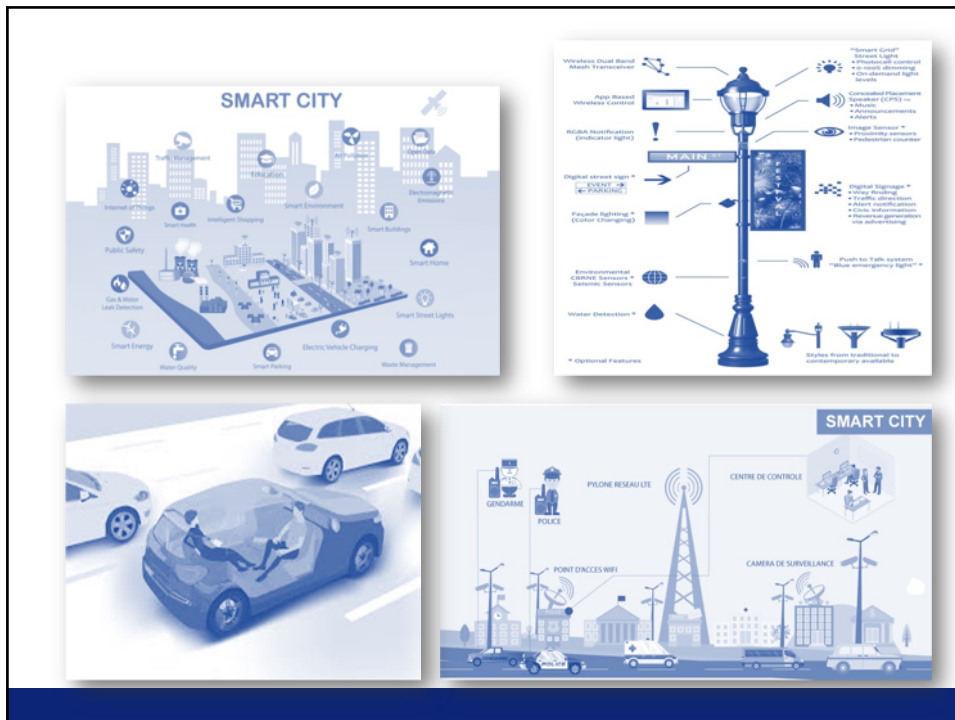
*CJEU 17 June 2021,  
C-597/19 (Mircom)*

*CJEU 19 October  
2016 C-582/14  
(Breyer)*



ISP	additional subscriber information required to identify the internet user
website	dynamic IP-address

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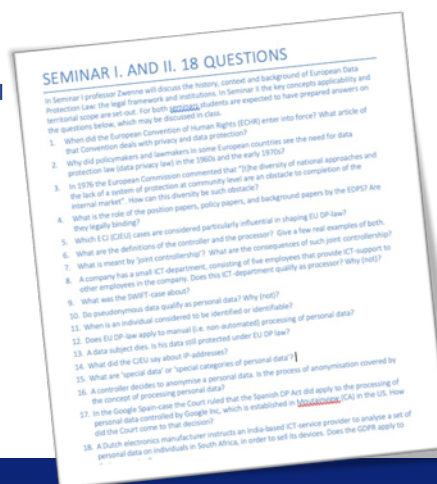
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## QUESTIONS

1. Do pseudonymous data qualify as personal data? Why (not)?

- A. No, because such data can no longer be attributed to a specific data subject without the use of additional information
- B. Yes, because such data could be attributed to a natural person by the use of additional information and consequently should be considered to be information on an identifiable natural person
- C. No, because such data is encrypted, implying that there are no means that are reasonably likely to be used to identify the natural person

Question 1a preparation assignment questions)



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## QUESTIONS

2. A data subject dies. Is his data still protected under EU DP law?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Sometimes

Question 13 preparation assignment questions



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## material scope

any structured set of personal data which form part of a filing system or are intended to form part of a filing system

processing of records of non-EU citizens, not in EU Member State, by non EU-based controller

processing of personal data wholly or partly by automated means

- sometimes also non-automated processing

exception

- activities outside scope of EU law
- Ch. 2 Title V of Treaty on EU
- prevention investigation detection or prosecution of criminal offences
- processing for purely personal or household activity

common security and defence

exception for journalistic, artistic, or literary ends  
Art. 85 GDPR & Art. 9 (cons. 37) 95/46/EC

when access to profile information extends beyond self selected contacts, such as when access to a profile is provided to all members within the SNS or the data is indexable by search engines, access goes beyond the personal or household sphere. [WJ/29 opinion on social networks, 2009]

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*This Regulation does not apply to the processing of personal data by a natural person in the course of a purely personal or household activity and thus with no connection to a professional or commercial activity. Personal or household activities could include **correspondence and the holding of addresses, or social networking** and online activity undertaken within the context of such activities. However, this Regulation applies to controllers or processors which provide the means for processing personal data for such personal or household activities.*



**Recital 18 GDPR**

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*the operation of a camera system, as a result of which a video recording of people is stored on a continuous recording device such as a hard disk drive, installed by an individual on his family home for the purposes of protecting the property, health and life of the home owners, but which also monitors **a public space**, does not amount to the processing of data in the course of a purely personal or household activity, for the purposes of that provision.*





**CJEU 11 December  
2014 C-212/13  
(Reynes)**



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the operation of a camera system, as a result of which a video recording of people is stored on a continuous recording device such as a hard disk drive, installed by an individual on his family home for the purposes of protecting the property, health and life of the home owners, but which also monitors *a public space*, does not amount to the processing of data in the course of a purely personal or household activity, for the purposes of that provision.





CJEU 11  
December 2014  
C-212/13

*What if the continuous recording device also monitors parts of another individuals space (e.g. a garden) ?*

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## territorial scope under the GDPR


1. *Who is the controller?*
2. *does the controller have an establishment in a Member State?*
3. *is processing taking place in the context of the activities of that establishment?*

first rule

- processing in the context of the activities of an establishment of a controller or a processor in a Member State

second rule (if no establishment in the EU)

- offering of goods or services to such data subjects in the union; or
- the monitoring of their behaviour as far as their behaviour takes place within the EU



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## territitorial scope (Google Spain)

1. who is the controller?
2. does the controller have an establishment in a Member State?
3. is processing taking place in the context of the activities of that establishment?

*(55) In the light of that objective of Directive 95/46 and of the wording of Article 4(1)(a), it must be held that the processing of personal data for the purposes of the service of a search engine such as Google Search, which is operated by an undertaking that has its seat in a third State but has an establishment in a Member State, is carried out 'in the context of the activities' of that establishment **if the latter is intended to promote and sell, in that Member State, advertising space offered by the search engine which serves to make the service offered by that engine profitable.***

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- Koninklijke Philips N.V., a Dutch multinational tech company headquartered in Amsterdam (NL), intends to sell MRI-scanners and LED-lights in China. For that purpose Philips requests the data science department of the University of Mumbay (India) to analyse personal data of board members of Chinese health clinics.
- Cambridge Analytica Ltd based in London (UK) processed personal data of US citizens.
- As of 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2020, the successor of Cambridge Analytica processes personal data of Dutch citizens, living in Canada.
- An internet advertising network uses cookies to obtain data from internet-users, inter alia in the Netherlands

**Is the GDPR applicable? Why (not)..?**

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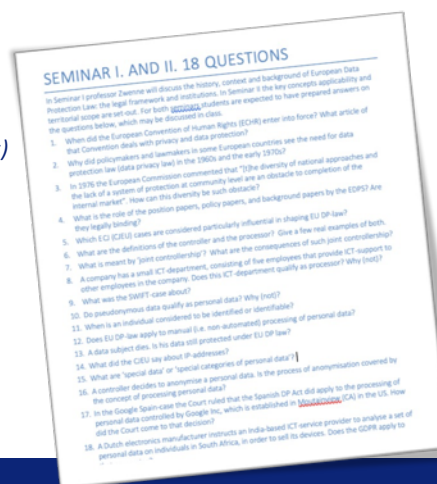
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## QUESTIONS

1. A controller decides to anonymise a personal data. Is the process of anonymisation covered by the concept of processing personal data?

- A. Yes, anonymisation is processing
- B. No, anonymisation is not processing
- C. It depends, anonymisation can be processing, but not necessarily

*Question 16 preparation assignment questions)*



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## QUESTIONS

2. A Dutch electronics manufacturer instructs an India-based ICT-service provider to analyse a set of personal data on individuals in South Africa, in order to sell its devices. Does the GDPR apply to that processing?

- A. No, because no goods or service are offered to data subjects in the EU and/or there is no monitoring of their behaviour (as far as their behaviour takes place within the Union)
- B. No, the individuals are not in the EU, nor are the residents or citizens of member states, and consequently they are not protected by the GDPR
- C. Yes, as the GDPR applies to the processing of personal data in the context of the activities of an establishment of a controller in the Union, regardless of whether the processing takes place in the Union or not.

*(Question 18 preparation assignment questions)*



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