

# Global Data Protection Day

by Copenhagen Compliance®

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**The Biggest GDPR Fines of 2021**

**Review of violations and fines levied in 2021**

- The most common violations
- Growing lack of consent and transparency.

# Agenda

- GDPR is designed to make non-compliance a costly mistake
  - €10 million or 2% of a firm's annual revenue
  - 4% of annual revenue from the preceding year, whatever is higher
- Review of violations and fines levied in 2021
- The most common violations
  - Growing lack of consent and transparency.
- The trend in 2022.



# Step 1: Obtain the buy-in



**Key** factor for success

**Fines + Reputation**



Board members  
Senior managers  
Chief compliance officer  
Chief risk officer  
Chief legal officer  
Chief information offices  
Chief security information officer

# The Progression of fines

## THE EVOLUTION OF GDPR FINES

Cumulative sum of GDPR fines over time  
(Jul 2018-Dec 2021)



# Step 2. Why is GDPR important?

## Fines!



**NEW**

**20M EUR up to  
4% global revenue  
in the last year**

Failure to implement core principles, infringement of personal rights and the transfer of personal data to countries or organisations without adequate protection

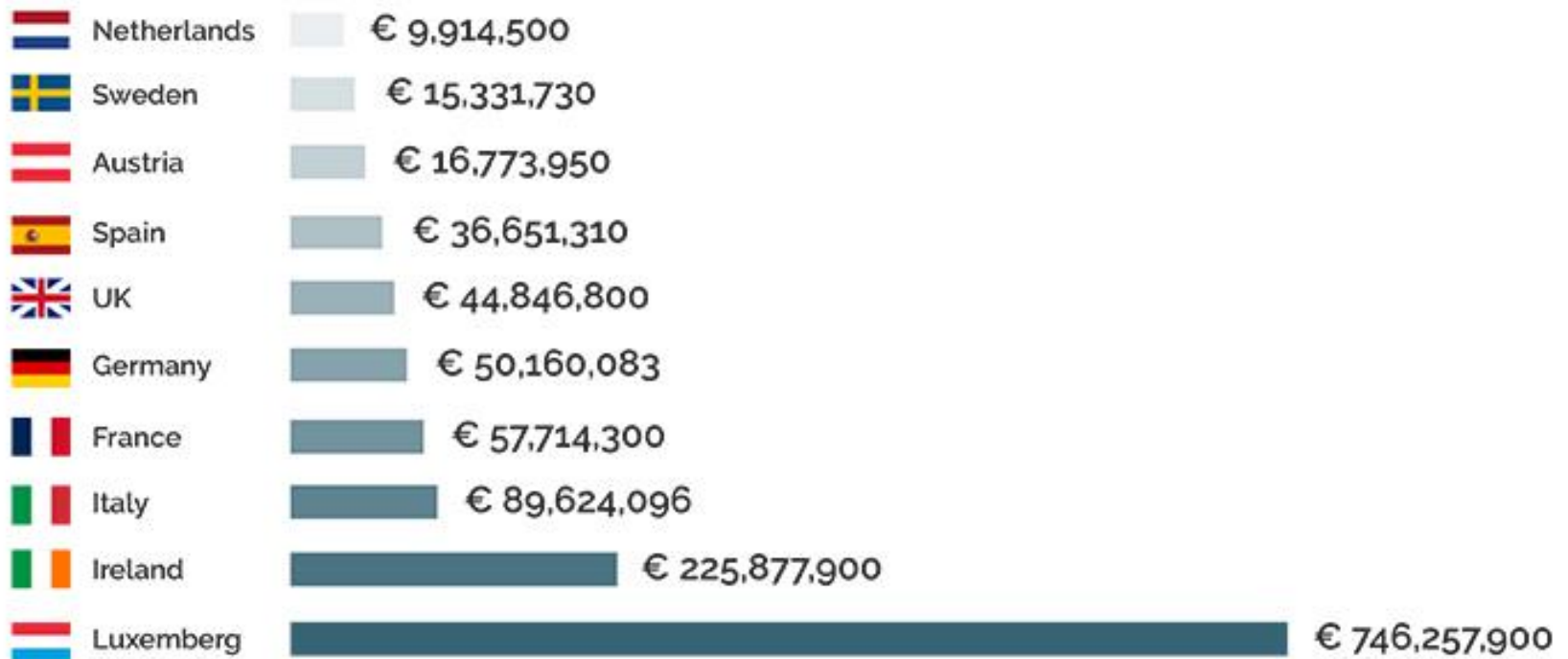
**10M EUR up to  
2% global revenue  
in the last year**

Failure to comply with technical and organisational requirements such as impact assessment, breach communication and certification

Reduced with appropriate technical and organisational measures

## Highest GDPR Fines by Country

Total sum of GDPR fines imposed by country as of December 2021





## The Most Common Violations

Cumulative GDPR fines by violation as of December 2021



Non-Compliance with  
general data processing  
principles

**784,694,744**



Insufficient fulfilment of  
information obligations

**234,966,595**



Insufficient legal basis  
for data processing

**192,414,588**



Insufficient technical and  
organisational measures to  
ensure information security

**69,733,969**



Insufficient fulfilment of  
data subjects rights

**16,351,325**

# Principles



**Processed lawfully,  
fairly and  
transparently**

**Processed in a manner  
that ensures  
appropriate security**



**Collected for specified,  
explicit and legitimate  
purposes**

**Accurate and, where  
necessary, kept up to  
date**



**Adequate, relevant  
and limited to what is  
necessary**

**Kept for no longer than  
is necessary**





## THE MOST COMMON VIOLATIONS

Cumulative GDPR fines by violation as of December 2021



# Privacy Information (data Subject)

## Consent

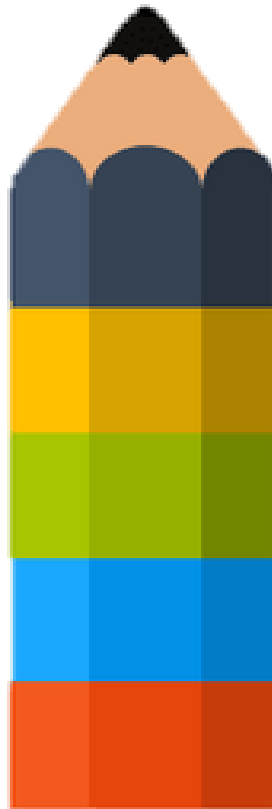
*Data subjects understand and explicitly or implicitly agree with the uses of personal information*

## Notice

*Data subjects receive a clear statement on the reason, retention period, access and the rights of personal information*

## Right to be forgotten

*Data subjects are allowed to erase personal information from data controllers and third parties*



## Anonymity

*Data subjects have the option of not identify themselves*

## Access and correction

*Data subjects access and correct personal information to ensure is accurate, complete and relevant*

## Choice

*Data subjects make an informed decision regarding the permits on personal information*

## Sensitivity

*Data subjects are more sensitive to personal data involving health, lifestyle, criminal records..*

## THE MOST COMMON VIOLATIONS

Cumulative GDPR fines by violation as of December 2021





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GDPR  
Principles

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the controller be able to demonstrate **accountability**

- ✎ Being able to demonstrate **best efforts** to comply with the GDPR principles
- ✎ Proactive approach to properly manage personal data and to address privacy risks by a **structured privacy management program**





## Proportionality

processing only if necessary, for the attainment of the stated purpose

- ✎ Personal data must be adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purposes
- ✎ By the data processor and controller
- ✎ Requires to use the less intrusive means of processing



**Insufficient fulfilment of  
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**234,966,595**

GDPR  
Principles

# Data Controller Obligations

- Ensure data is processed lawfully and in a transparent manner to the data subject.
- Ensure data collected and processed for specific purposes, and not in a manner incompatible with original purposes.
- Ensure collected data is accurate and up-to-date.
- Ensure you are able to demonstrate compliance.

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/data-protection-factsheet-sme-obligations\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/data-protection-factsheet-sme-obligations_en.pdf)

# GDPR Principles



Insufficient legal basis  
for data processing

**192,414,588**

# Legal Bases For Processing Personal Data



*If it is hard to obtain a valid consent, then another more appropriate legal basis should be used*  
Difficulties collecting consent = more appropriate legal basis should be used  
Consent is not appropriate = may be considered unfair and misleading

## THE MOST COMMON VIOLATIONS

Cumulative GDPR fines by violation as of December 2021





# GDPR Principles



**Insufficient fulfilment of  
data subjects rights**

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# Data Subject Rights

## Right to be informed

*Article 13, 14*  
*Recitals 60-62*

## Right of Access by the Data Subject

*Article 15*  
*Recitals 63 & 64*

## Right to Rectification

*Article 16, 19*

## Right to Erasure (RTBF)

*Article 17, 19*  
*Recitals 65 & 66*

## Right to Restrict Processing

*Article 18, 19*  
*Recital 67*

## Right to Data Portability

*Article 20*  
*Recital 68*

## Right to Object

*Article 21*  
*Recital 69 & 70*

## Automated Decision Making

*Article 22*  
*Recital 71 & 72*

## Right to Withdraw Consent

*Article 7*  
*Recital 32, 33, 41, 43*

# GDPR Principles



**Insufficient technical and organisational measures to ensure information security**

**69,733,969**

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- **GDPR Enforcement Tracker**

GDPR Enforcement Tracker is an overview of fines and penalties which data protection authorities within the EU have imposed under the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR, DSGVO).

All fines are made public, therefore the list is not complete, and does not include fines imposed under national / non-European laws, under non-data protection laws (e.g. competition laws / electronic communication laws) and under "old" pre-GDPR-laws.

[GDPR Enforcement Tracker - list of GDPR fines](#)



Kersi F. Porbunderwalla is the Secretary General of Copenhagen Compliance® and Managing Partner of E-Compliance Academy, Information Security Institute and EUGDPR Institute®. Kersi is a global consultant, teacher, instructor, researcher, commentator and practitioner on GDPR, Corporate Governance, Risk Management, Compliance and IT-security (GRC), Bribery, Fraud and anti-Corruption (BFC) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) issues. Kersi lectures at The Govt. Law College (Thrissur, India) Georgetown University (Washington) Cass Business School (London), Fordham University (New York) and Renmin Law School (Beijing). Kersi has conducted several hundred workshops, seminars and international speaking assignments on Regulatory Compliance, GDPR, GRC, CSR, and BFC issues.

