

# GDPR in Interreg

Interreg Knowledge Fair session report | March 2024

## Overview

The session on General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was the last session on the day and there were significantly less participants than expected.

## Methodology

The methodology of this session was to focus on errors committed by public authorities and some private companies within the field of GDPR and analyse the basis on which these authorities were fined. To prepare the case studies the webpage of the German GDPR watchdog, enforcementtracker.com, provided by CMS Law.Tax was used. All the cases were public, also published on the websites of national data protection authorities (DPAs). Space was left to allow participants to intervene, ask questions, both during the presentation and after.

## Key discussion points

Key discussion points focused on lack of knowledge, insufficient organisational measures and technical fails to ensure personal data security.

In addition the session focused on the crucial aspects of data sharing, unnecessary data collection, unlawful processing of data.

One of the topics discussed was the conformity of IT tools that programmes normally use (Mailchimp, Zoom) and in some Member State are considered as not fully GDPR compliant or fully illegal (e.g. use of Google Analytics in some EU countries).

In some cases the personal data is processed on servers located outside of EU (lack of data border) and in the case of American companies, the US Cloud Act states that all information on servers in the US must be accessible to US intelligence agencies. In addition, the same act enables US intelligence agencies legally require any American company to allow full access to stored data.

## Regulations and articles of particular significance

General Data Protection Regulation in general  
National data protection laws

## Conclusions, plans for followed up



The follow up is the creation of GDPR for Interreg community, where we will share GDPR information. We will also continue organise one annual basic GDPR webinar where newcomers will be able to know the principles of personal data protection.

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