

About the GDPR

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is not intended to prevent the processing of personal data, but to ensure that it is done fairly and without adversely affecting the rights of the individual.

Personal data means data (whether stored electronically or on paper) relating to a living individual who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data (or from that data and other information).

Processing is any activity that involves use of personal data. It includes obtaining, recording or holding the data, organising, amending, retrieving, using, disclosing, erasing or destroying it. Processing also includes transferring personal data to third parties.

Sensitive personal data includes personal data about a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic, biometric, physical or mental health condition, sexual orientation or sexual life. It can also include data about criminal offences or convictions. Sensitive personal data can only be processed under strict conditions.

Anyone processing personal data, must ensure that data is:

1. processed fairly, lawfully and in a transparent manner.
2. collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and any further processing is completed for a compatible purpose.
3. adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for the intended purposes.
4. accurate, and where necessary, kept up to date.
5. kept no longer than necessary for the intended purposes.
6. processed in line with the individual's rights and in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.
7. not transferred to people or organisations situated in countries without adequate protection and without firstly having advised the individual.

More information on this new legislation can be found on the site of the Belgian data protection agency. For example, a discussion of the rights that Data Subjects gain under GDPR can be found [here](#). Please note that the site is available in Dutch and French as well.

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