

Armenia

Personal Data Protection Issues Are Regulated by New Law: Armenia Minister of Justice

Armenia has adopted a new law on the protection of personal data. The new law sets out the rights and liabilities of both data developers and the data subjects.

[Press Article](#)

Germany

“Berlin Group” Adopts Working Paper on Location Tracking Technology

At its 58th meeting, the “Berlin Group”, an International Working Group on Data Protection in Telecommunications founded in 1983 and chaired by the Berlin Commissioner for Data Protection, has adopted a working paper dealing with location tracking from communications of mobile devices. The Working Group, *inter alia*, recommends organisations which consider the use of location tracking technology to determine its legality, for example, by means of a Privacy Impact Assessment or instruments such as codes of conduct, notification, or anonymisation.

[Working Papers](#)

Higher Regional Court of Frankfurt: Opting Out is Sufficient for Consent to Cookies

Drawing on the European Cookie Directive and the German Tele Media Act, the Higher Regional Court of Frankfurt has ruled that the possibility of opting out meets the consent requirement relating to cookies. According to the Court, it is not necessary to place all information required into one declaration for the consent requirement to be met; instead, it is sufficient to link the information. Moreover, the identity of any third persons that have access to the cookies once consent has been provided does not need to be included in the declaration. Higher judicial level clarification is awaited for full legal certainty on this long discussed topic.

[Judgement](#) (in German)

Hong Kong

Privacy Commissioner Calls for Personal Data Protection as Complaints Hit Record High

The number of complaints received by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data has reached a record high, increasing by 16% between 2014 and 2015. As a result, businesses have been urged to take steps to ensure the proper handling and protection of personal data.

[Press Release](#)

UK

ICO Launches New Data Protection Self-Assessment Tool for SMEs

The ICO has launched a self-assessment tool that will help small and medium sized organisations (SMEs) to assess their compliance with the *Data Protection Act*. The toolkit provides handy links to relevant guidance and will generate a rating based on responses.

[Article](#)

US

Post-Safe Harbor: Associations Write Open Letter to EU and the US

In an open letter, four big associations from the European Union and the United States have appealed to Barack Obama, Jean-Claude Juncker and Donald Tusk for a comprehensive solution to the legal problem of transatlantic data transfers after the European Court of Justice dismissal of the Safe Harbor agreement. Representatives of BUSINESSEUROPE, DIGITALEUROPE, the US Chamber of Commerce and the Information Technology Industry Council expressed concern that, currently, alternative mechanisms such as model contract clauses and binding corporate rules are in jeopardy. They plead for an immediate solution in order to avoid enormous consequences for innumerable companies and users. The solution should be guided by three objectives: concluding negotiations, providing for a transition period for corporate compliance as well as for a legally durable framework.

[Letter](#)

Contacts

Mark Gleeson

Partner, London

T +44 207 655 1465

E mark.gleeson@squirepb.com

Annette Demmel

Partner, Berlin

T +49 30 7261 68108

E annette.demmel@squirepb.com