

US/EU

US/EU Privacy Shield Text Released

The US and EU released on 29 February 2016 the core documents comprising the US/EU Privacy Shield.

[Privacy Shield Package Released; EU Determination of "Adequacy" Next](#)

[European Commission Press Release](#)

President Obama Signs Judicial Redress Act

On 24 February, President Obama signed the Judicial Redress Act. It will come into force on 24 May 2016. It allows citizens of foreign "covered countries" the same rights in relation to misuse of their personal data by government agencies as US citizens. "Covered countries" are those designated by the US Attorney General as having an agreement with the US for privacy protections for data shared for crime prevention/detection purposes, and for the transfer of data for commercial purposes, and which do not materially impede US national security interests. It is anticipated that the EU/US Privacy Shield will be an important part of ensuring that citizens of EU countries get the benefit of this legislation.

[Judicial Redress Act \(PDF\)](#)

France

Update of the Data Protection Act: Medical Research

The Chapter on "Open Data" of the French law on modernization of the health system (January 2016) has updated the sections of the French Data Protection Act that relate to medical research. In particular, the chapter on clinical trials (formerly Chapter IX) and the chapter on "evaluation of medical or prevention practices" (formerly Chapter X) have merged into a single chapter IX, harmonizing and simplifying the legal requirements for medical research.

[Data Protection Act](#) (in French)

Germany

Voßhoff: Big Data Can Go Hand in Hand With Data Economy and Purpose Limitation

The German Data Protection Commissioner, Andrea Voßhoff, has stressed how important it is to not only take into account, but also to proactively include data protection in the fields of Big Data and Industry 4.0. The General Data Protection Regulation should not be seen as the end of innovation, but as an incentive for the digital economy in Europe. Voßhoff expressed hope that companies will start to consider instruments of privacy compliance as providing a competitive advantage in the industry.

[BfDI Press Release](#) (in German)

Higher Labor Court: Browsing History May be Assessed Without Employee Consent

The Higher Labor Court of Berlin-Brandenburg (*Landesarbeitsgericht*) has ruled that an employer may assess the browsing history of an official computer used by an employee without the latter's consent in order to find reasons for termination. The employer had dismissed the employee on extraordinary grounds after having found out that he had used his work computer for private purposes for approximately five days in a period of 30 working days. The Court has permitted an appeal to the Federal Labor Court.

[Judgment](#) (in German)

UK

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) Outlines Their Action Against Nuisance Calls

Over the last week the ICO has made three announcements about nuisance calls and the work that the ICO is doing to help combat cold calling. The first sets out the details of the £80,000 fine imposed by the ICO against a Manchester firm which received over 1,000 complaints for cold calling people registered with the Telephone Preference Service. The second, entitled, "Crackdown collaboration and court action: how we're working to stop nuisance calls", explains the approaches used by the ICO to shut down cold callers, and their relationship with regulators such as Ofcom and the government's Claims Management Regulator. The third, "Intel, info and investigation: Seven ways we track who's behind nuisance calls", outlines seven ways in which the ICO uses intelligence, information and investigation to find out who is behind nuisance messages.

[Firm fined for cold calling people registered with the TPS](#)

[Crackdown, collaboration and court action: how we're working to stop nuisance calls](#)

[Intel, info and investigation: Seven ways we track who's behind nuisance calls](#)

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