

France

CNIL Receives Complaints in Relation to Political Robo-Calls

In the context of the elections currently taking place in France, the French data protection authority (the CNIL) has received a [significant number of complaints](#) in relation to unsolicited political communications by means of automated calling machines.

In reaction to this, the CNIL has published a reminder of the applicable rules:

- In order to contact individuals for political purposes by way of automated calling machines, prior consent must be given (opt-in system)
- The consent should be given for a specific time slot in which the calls occur
- Certain mandatory information should be provided in the pre-recorded messages as required under data protection law, in particular information on the right to object to these calls

National Health Data System is Launched

The [National Health Data System](#) (the SNDS, i.e. the Système National des Données de Santé) was launched on 10 April 2017. The SNDS is an integrated health database merging together data from several health databases such as, for example, data on healthcare consumption from statutory health insurance or data from long-term care institutions.

The SNDS was created by the 2016 Health Reform Law and several decrees were published to detail the conditions of access to the database. Permanent access is granted to a number of public organisations which require frequent use of health data, including some research bodies. Access for other public and private organisations will still require approval from the CNIL.

UK

ICO Reports on GDPR Fab-Lab

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has reported on its involvement with a so-called "[Fab-Lab on the General Data Protection Regulation](#)" (GDPR) organised by the Article 29 Working Party (WP29). The Fab-Lab was designed to gather the views of stakeholders to help shape the guidance, which the WP29 and national data protection authorities, such as the ICO, provide on the GDPR. The ICO is lead rapporteur for the WP29's guidance on profiling and data breaches. In relation to profiling, the ICO stressed the need for the guidance to "take into account the varied situations of businesses in different sectors". In relation to data breaches, the ICO highlighted stakeholders' confusion around when organisations are required to report data breaches, what information should be included in a report and the process after a breach is reported as key issues, which the guidance will seek to clarify.

DCMS Publishes Cybersecurity Breaches Survey

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has published the results of a [survey of UK businesses on cybersecurity breaches](#). The headline figures from the survey indicate that 46% of all businesses identified at least one cybersecurity breach or attack in the last year, with that figure rising to 66% among medium-sized firms and 68% among large firms. The average cost of such breaches is £1,570, with medium-sized firms incurring costs of £3,070 on average and large firms incurring much higher average costs of £19,600. Businesses generally appear to recognise that cybersecurity is an important issue, with 74% of respondents to the survey stating that cybersecurity is a high priority for their senior management and a mere 7% indicating that the issue is very low priority. The DCMS has concluded that, amongst other things, businesses would benefit from consulting government guidance on cybersecurity and having strong technical controls and governance measures in place.

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