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Presse release

Are you already on the right track? Deadline for controllers ends in six months

As of November 25, 2017, there will only be six months left until the new European data protection law, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), becomes effective. Therefore, the Bavarian Data Protection Authority for the Private Sector (BayLDA) offers an online-test for controllers that allows a data protection journey across the European Union in a playful way. With it, companies can see how far they are on their way to be compliant with legal data protection requirements.

The General Data Protection Regulation in the EU

On May 25, 2016, the GDPR came into force. Even though this regulation will take effect only after a transitional period of two years, anyone who is interested in data protection or has data protection responsibilities already had the chance to become aware of the requirements of the new European data protection law.

The GDPR is directly applicable in all member states of the EU and aims to create a uniform level of data protection in the 28 member states. In parts, it contains major changes compared to the previous legal situation in the different countries and empowers the data protection authorities (DPAs) to impose fines of up to EUR 20 million for relevant infringements.

Current implementation status in Bavaria

On May 25, 2018, it will be the time: The GDPR becomes applicable after the two-year transitional period – also to Bavarian companies. At the "half time" of this transitional period on May 25, 2017, the BayLDA launched its first major awareness campaign and sent a [GDPR-questionnaire](#) to numerous companies in Bavaria. The aim of this project was to signal the companies which requirements the GDPR has and can be criteria for audits of the DPAs from May 2018 onwards.

The response to this action by the BayLDA was consistently positive. However, as a result it had to be determined that the implementation status of the new legal requirements in data protection law at Bavarian companies was far from a full-compliant way.

Time is running – online-test for self-assessment can be useful

Only little time left: On November 25, 2017, three-quarters of the two-year implementation period has expired. Companies and other responsible persons have to get familiar with the requirements at the latest now to achieve a compliant implementation in time. Otherwise, fines threatened by data protection violations.

The BayLDA, which is currently flooded by requests of companies to the GDPR, is launching another awareness project: An online tool with the topic „[Road to GDPR – Self-Assessment](#)“ (currently available in English and German) can be used as a playful position determination to see at which point you are on the long way to properly implement the data protection requirements. Due to the number of EU member states, there are 28 questions with three possible answers for each question. Everyone who has interest can participate and go on the "journey through data protection Europe" and identify which answers apply to my own organization. However, it is not a knowledge quiz for correct understanding of the GDPR, but a support for responsible controllers to recognize where still data protection hot spots exist.



As a result, everyone who participates receives a detailed analysis of the chosen answers and a description of how we believe the requirements should be implemented.

As with our previous half time project, it can be expected that data protection audits by DPAs from May 2018 will target areas of these issues.

You can start your journey through European data protection law from today under the following link:

www.lda.bayern.de/gdpr

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