8 Must-Know Data Protection Laws Around the World

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

Focus: Protects EU citizens' privacy and personal data; applies to organizations worldwide.

- Where it's required: All organizations processing EU citizens' data
- Why it's required: Strengthens individual privacy rights and mandates data protection.
- Applicable to: Any business, public authority, or entity monitoring EU residents.

CALIFORNIA CONSUMER PRIVACY ACT (CCPA)

Focus: CCPA grants California residents rights over their personal data and requires businesses to disclose data collection practices.

- · Where it is required: Businesses that collect or sell personal data of California residents.
- Why it is required: Empowers individuals with greater control over their personal data.
- Where it is applicable: All businesses operating in California or dealing with California residents' data.

INDIA'S DPDP (DIGITAL PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION) ACT

Focus: India's data protection law focusing on privacy rights and data protection for citizens.

- Where it's required: Organizations processing personal data of Indian citizens.
- Why it's required: Protects personal data and ensures responsible data handling practices.
- Applicable to: Businesses operating in India or processing data of Indian citizens.

SAUDI ARABIA'S PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION LAW (PDPL)

Focus: Regulates the collection and handling of personal data in Saudi Arabia to ensure privacy.

- Where it's required: Organizations processing data of Saudi citizens or operating in Saudi Arabia.
 - Why it's required: Protects personal privacy and aligns with global data protection standards.
 - Applicable to: Public and private entities in Saudi Arabia and organizations offering services to Saudi citizens.

SINGAPORE'S PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION ACT (PDPA)

Focus: Governs the collection, use, and disclosure of personal data in Singapore.

- Where it's required: Organizations in Singapore or those handling Singapore residents' data.
- Why it's required: Enhances privacy and sets clear guidelines for personal data handling.
- Applicable to: E-commerce, healthcare, and finance sectors in Singapore.

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA)

Focus: HIPAA sets standards for securing sensitive health information and ensuring patient privacy within the U.S. healthcare system.

- Where it is required: Healthcare providers, insurance companies, and their business associates in the U.S.
- Why it is required: Ensures the confidentiality, integrity, and security of health information.
- Where it is applicable: Healthcare institutions, insurers, and anyone handling PHI (Protected Health Information).

GLBA (GRAMM-LEACH-BLILEY ACT)

Focus: Protects consumers' financial information within financial institutions.

- · Where it's required: U.S. financial institutions, including banks, insurers, and investment firms.
- Why it's required: Ensures data privacy and prevents unauthorized sharing of financial data.
- Applicable to: Financial services, including mortgage, investment, and insurance firms.

FISMA (FEDERAL INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGEMENT ACT)

Focus: Mandates federal agencies to secure information systems and sensitive data

- Where it's required: U.S. federal agencies and contractors handling sensitive government data.
- Why it's required: Protects national security and government data systems from cyber threats.
- Applicable to: U.S. government and contractors handling federal data.

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