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GDPR & Payroll Implications

Angelito Sciberras
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Exercise

1. Answer all the questions in the short questionnaire sent via email.
2. If during the online lecture you need to change the answer tick the new answer in column 2.
3. Correct answers will be given at the end of the online lecture.

This exercise is for your information and own assessment only.



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Today's Lecture

- Why has data become so much in demand?
- Why GDPR?
- Personal Data in Payroll processing
- Processing Payroll Data under data privacy legislation
- Documentation



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*The intention of GDPR is to provide a **common** set of rules across the EU that can meet the **changing data protection landscape** of today's world and give the **adequate protection** to individuals - known as "data subjects".*



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 A portrait of Prof. Shoshana Zuboff, a woman with curly brown hair and glasses, wearing a white shirt and a grey vest.

*"[Social Media] sell **certainty**"*
*"You have to have **great predictions**"*
*You need a lot of **data**"*

*Prof. Shoshana Zuboff
 Professor Emeritus. Harvard Business School*



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“The world’s most valuable resource is no longer oil, but data”

- The Economist, May 2017



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Data

What comes to mind when I say House of Cards?...

Actor...

City...

Production House...

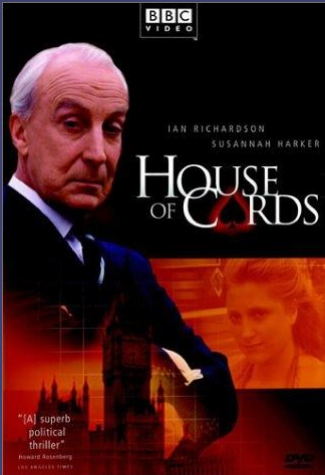
Year...



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Data



VS



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Data

- Committed to 26 episodes
- @ \$3.8million per episode
- Without watching a single episode

NETFLIX

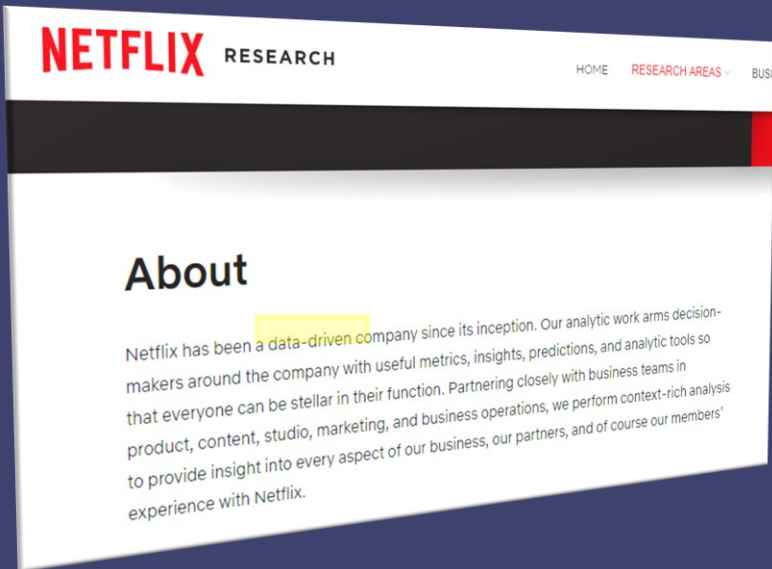
HOW?



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Data



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Personal Data



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Personal Data



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Personal Data

1

In 2014 a Facebook quiz invited users to find out their personality type

2

The app collected the data of those taking the quiz, but also recorded the public data of their friends

3

About 305,000 people installed the app, but it gathered information on up to 87 million people, according to Facebook

4

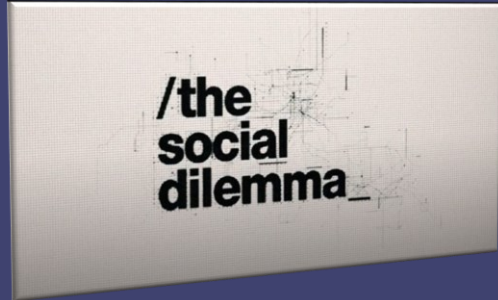
It is claimed at least some of the data was sold to Cambridge Analytica (CA) which used it to psychologically profile voters in the US



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Personal Data



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“If you are not paying for the product, then you are the product”

*Tristan Harris
Former Design Ethicist, Google*



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Why GDPR?

HSBC fined by data protection commissioner for investigating employee's bank accounts
Wednesday, 14 August 2019, 18:30

Central Bank served with a reprimand by Information and Data Protection Commissioner
Friday, 21 February 2020, 11:42

Massive Lands Authority security flaw dumps personal data online
Friday, November 23, 2018, 17:46

BA hacked: 380,000 card payments 'compromised' in breach
The airline says hackers took data over a period of 16 days before being...

BOV goes dark after hackers go after €13m
Bank of Valletta says clients' funds are safe



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What is the GDPR?

The intention of GDPR is to provide a common set of rules across the EU that can meet the changing data projection landscape of today's world and give the adequate protection to individuals - known as 'data subjects'.

It repealed Directive 95/46/EC

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Do we need to bother with this law ?

Yes.

There are hefty penalties - up to €20 million or 4% of turnover

Various criminal offences for anyone who knowingly or recklessly acquires, discloses or retains personal data without the consent of the data controller (the employer).



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How will it affect organizations ?

The law has an impact on all the areas of business not just Payroll.

Needless to say data of employees is affected.

Employers process a lot of personal data about employees for different reasons.



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Processing

Means any operation or set of operations which is performed on personal data or on sets of personal data,

- whether or not by automated means,
- such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction;



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Your turn...

Give some examples of why an employer processes personal data.



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Some examples...

- For payroll
- For benefits
- For insurance
- For background checks
- For training
- For legal reasons
- For disciplinary matters
- For performance reviews



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Your turn...

Give some examples of personal data an employer processes.



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Some examples...

- Contact Details
- Financial
- Union Membership
- Health
- CCTV
- Files notes
- Tax Number
- Criminal?



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Personal Data

- **any information** relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (**'DATA SUBJECT'**);
- an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, **in particular** by reference to an identifier **such as** a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person;



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Special Categories of Data

- racial or ethnic origin,
- political opinions,
- religious or philosophical beliefs,
- **trade union membership**,
- the processing of genetic data, **biometric data**
- data concerning **health**
- data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation



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Special Categories of Data

[B] Criminal Convictions & Offences



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Data Protection Act (Cap. 440)

The implications in the employment context

Identity Cards

Criminal History

Fines & Penalties

Damages - including Moral Damages



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Processing of Special Categories

Only allowed to process in specific situations

1. **Explicit consent** from employee
2. Data made **public** by employee - social media
3. **Rights and obligations** under employment law - H&S



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Processing of Special Categories

4. Establish, exercise to defend **legal claims**
5. Protect **vital interests** of employee or another person - only applicable when employee can't give consent
6. **Assessment** of the person's working capacity



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Exercise

Identify (a) personal data, (b) sensitive data and (c) out of scope

- Ms R. Borg
- 21 Law
- admin@21Law.com
- +356 2100 0001
- Police conduct certificate
- High blood pressure

The information/data above is fictitious and is being used for training purposes only



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Controller & Processor

‘Controller’ means the natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body which, alone or jointly with others, determines the purposes and means of the processing of personal data;

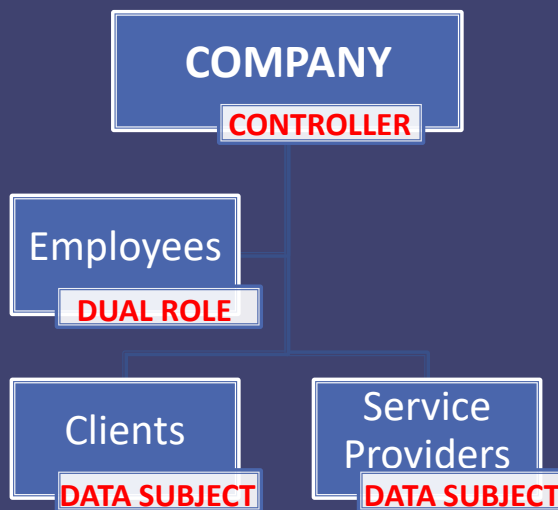
‘Processor’ means a natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body which processes personal data on behalf of the controller (sub-contractor)



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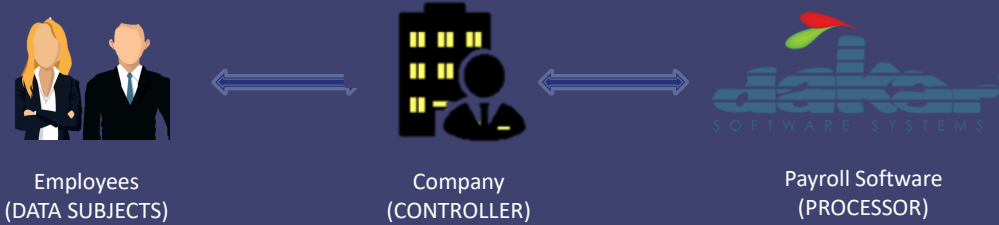
Controller & Processor



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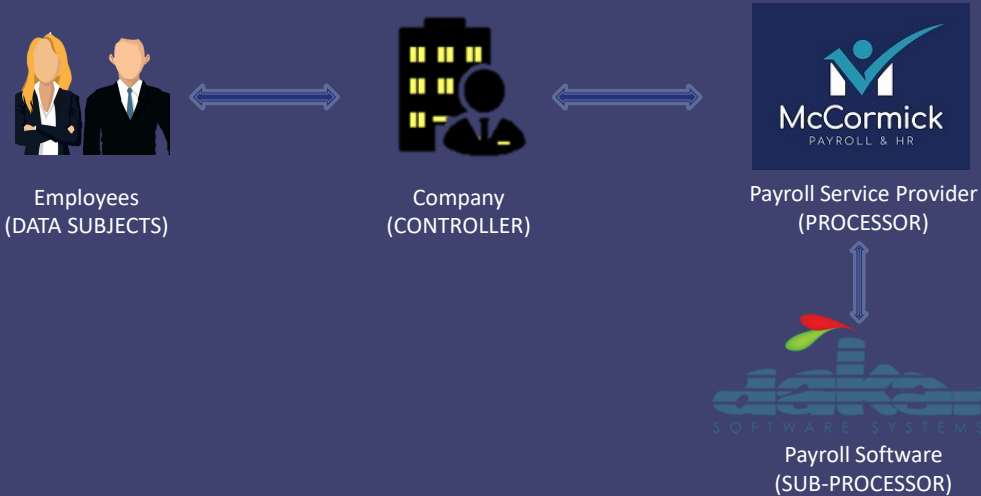
Controller & Processor



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Controller & Processor



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Data Processing Agreement

Content

- the subject matter of the processing;
- the duration of the processing;
- the nature and purpose of the processing;
- the type of personal data involved;
- the categories of data subject;
- the controller's obligations and rights.



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Data Processing Agreement

- processing only on the controller's documented instructions;
- the duty of confidence;
- appropriate security measures;
- using sub-processors;
- data subjects' rights;
- assisting the controller;
- end-of-contract provisions; and
- audits and inspections.



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Principles

1	lawful, fair and transparent
2	specific, explicit and legitimate purpose
3	adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary
4	accurate & up to date
5	storage limitation
6	integrity and confidentiality

Accountable



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How to comply

Employers now also have a duty to show compliance with these principles.

Best way to show compliance is to have;

- detailed DP policy (Privacy Standard);
- detailed information to employees;
- good internal processes; and
- data processing agreement/s



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How to comply



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Legal Grounds

Processing is lawful if based on one of the following legal basis



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The problem with Consent

Imbalance of power between employer and employee.

You cannot just insert a clause in the contract of employment - an employee would have not much option but to accept.



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The problem with Consent

PWC Business Solutions fined **€150,000**

- i. has unlawfully processed the personal data of its employees contrary to the provisions of Article 5(1)(a) indent (a) of the GDPR since it used an inappropriate legal basis.
- ii. has processed the personal data of its employees in an unfair and non-transparent manner contrary to the provisions of Article 5(1)(a) indent (b) and (c) of the GDPR giving them the false impression that it was processing their data under the legal basis of consent pursuant to Article 6(1)(a) of the GDPR, while in reality it was processing their data under a different legal basis about which the employees had never been informed.
- iii. although it was responsible in its capacity as the controller, it was not able to demonstrate compliance with Article 5(1) of the GDPR, and that it violated the principle of accountability set out in Article 5(2) of the GDPR by transferring the burden of proof of compliance to the data subjects.



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Relying on consent

Name circumstances when we have to rely on consent...



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1 Right to information

2 Right of access

3 Right to rectify

4 Right to be forgotten

5 Right to restrict

6 Automated processing

7 Right to object

8 Data portability



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Breaches of security

Can you name examples of data breach incidents except for hacking?



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Breaches of security

- loss or theft of hard copy notes, USB drives, computers or mobile devices
- sending an email with personal data (eg. pay slip) to the wrong person
- a bulk email using 'to' or 'cc', but where 'bcc' (blind carbon-copy) should have been used
- a disgruntled employee copying a list of contacts for their personal use
- a break-in at the office where personnel files are kept in unlocked storage



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Breaches of security

Data subject to be informed without undue delay

IDPC to be notified within 72 hours of breach

Clear internal process should be issued so that everyone knows in which situation a breach needs to be notified and who has responsibility to make those decisions.



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Payroll Checklist



- Step 1 - Raise awareness
- Step 2 - Data audit
- Step 3 - Reasons that particular data is obtained
- Step 4 - Legal basis you will rely on
- Step 5 - Review/update employment contracts and policies
- Step 6 - Review/update your internal processes
- Step 7 - Review/update your external contracts and processes
- Step 8 - Data protection compliance responsibility
- Step 9 - Training
- Step 10 - Keep compliant



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No.	Question	Answer	Answer
1	The new General Data Protection Regulations came/come in force on:	D	May 25th 2018
2	The GDPR applies to Natural Persons. A Natural Person is:	A	A living individual
3	Which of the following constitutes processing:	ALL	
4	The Material Scope of the GDPR includes:	B	Personal data processed wholly or partly by automated means
5	GDPR applies to payroll service providers	B	Providing payroll services to EU citizens irrespective of where it takes place
6	Data breaches must be notified to the Data Protection authorities:	C	Within 72 hours



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No.	Question	Answer	Answer
7	Which two (2) of the following are considered to be sensitive personal data	A C	Sick leave certificate Trade union membership
8	Employee's payroll data can be processed freely if the employee gives consent:	D	False
9	Employees will be able to ask for the data (machine readable) kept by the employer about them:	B	to hand that data to a prospective new employer
10	Upon termination an employee asks for his payroll data to destroyed:	C	Data not destroyed because of legitimate grounds and legal obligations
11	As a third party payroll service provider...	C	I have to seek approval in writing from the client to use the payroll software of my choice



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