

beyond cybersecurity

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EDITOR'S NOTE

If you work in information security and are not living under a rock, you would know that General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) goes into force in the European Union on May 25, 2018.

Four years in the making, this initiative endeavors to harmonize data protection legislation across the European Economic Area (EEA) and give individuals better control over their personal data.

With the GDPR upon us, the stakes are higher than ever. Organizations can ill afford to procrastinate on GDPR compliance. Our cover story written by Chris Roberts discusses how, when, and why you should hire that interim CISO, who can safeguard the business and manage risk during GDPR transition.

Our Insight section interprets how GDPR can be a great opportunity for information technology businesses in India, as they look to enhance their security posture. In our Buzz section, we discuss how well different economies are prepared for GDPR, the stakes for C-level executives, and the global impacts we can expect from the regulation.

We also interview Juan Carlos Lopez Ruggiero, an advisor on GDPR, who busts a few myths regarding the GDPR and discusses its implications on the European economy. There are a host of other informative features that look at cybersecurity from an all-encompassing perspective.

Tell us what you think of this issue. If you have any suggestions, comments, or queries, please reach us at editorial@cisomag.com.

Jay Bavisi Editor-in-Chief

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It's time for General Data Protection Regulation

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BUZZ

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t's not enough to just connect people. We have to make sure that those connections are positive. It's not enough to just give people a voice. We need to make sure that people aren't using it to harm other people or to spread misinformation. And it's not enough to just give people control over their information. We need to make sure that the developers they share it with protect their information, too," said the man who created a platform that started revolutions in countries; helped people find their missing loved ones; transformed vacations, achievements, and celebrations into memorable collages; let people share their opinions; and finally, most recently, let some organization use this kaleidoscope of personal data for manipulation.. Mark Zuckerberg has admitted his grave error, but the harm is already done.

While the United States is debating the issue of data privacy, the EU's GDPR will go into effect on May 25, 2018. The General Data Protection Regulation is intended to strengthen the European (and Britain) citizen's control over the privacy of their online data while adding to the accountability of all businesses, especially online.

Replacing 1995 EU Data Protection Directive and UK's Data Protection Act 1998, the GDPR is expected to reinforce the rights of citizens over their personal data in terms of accessing the information being shared or filing complaints over data abuse. The entire premise of the law is to ensure that any data collected is being utilized for the purpose disclosed to its users at the time of collection.

Simply put, standard "terms and conditions" phraseology or having users accept data access requests is no longer sufficient. Companies now need to fully inform their users about the usage of the information they are sharing with you. Failure to meet the GDPR guidelines comes with stiff penalties that apply to international organizations whether they are the data controllers or data processors.

According to a by PwC that included 300 C-suite executives from US, UK, and Japanese companies with subsidiaries in Europe, the US lead the preparation poll with 22 percent companies claiming to have the finished GDPR set-up. In contrast, only eight percent of the companies surveyed in UK self reported that they were up to snuff. Japan was only at two percent, although they plan to draw level in the coming days with significant investment of funds.

With the GDPR deadline looming, expenditures on GDPR preparation are also on the rise. More than 85 percent companies report spending of more than \$1 million, while 40 percent have spent nearly \$10 million.

In an interview with CISO MAG. Ardi Kolah. Executive Fellow and Director of the GDPR Transition Programme at Henley Business School, explains the implications of GDPR on international organizations operating within

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