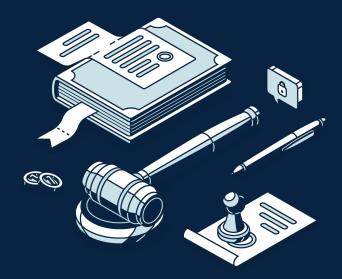


KSA takes on personal data protection

Key similarities and differences comparing to GDPR you should know about



KSA Data Protection Landscape

The Saudi Arabia Personal Data Protection Law ("PDPL") has entered into force the 14th of September 2023, implemented by Royal Decree M/19 approving Resolution No. 98.

PDPL

Other acts that may regulate personal data protection

Implementing Regulations

Regulations on Personal Data Transfers The Implementing Regulations and the Regulations on Personal Data Transfers also entered into force the 14th of September 2023 and complement the provisions of the PDPL.

KSA' Data protection sources

Key Concepts & Issues

	Definitions and concepts	Data Breach	Privacy Policy	Privacy Assessments	DPO	Transfer
Major similarities: GDPR v. PDPL	Similarly understood definitions of Data, Processing, Processor, Controller, Transfer, Data Subject. Uses the same concepts as RoPA, DPO, family use exception.	 72 hours to notify DPA about a breach The controller must provide DPA with details of the breach (e.g., description, risks identified, actions / measures taken); The controller must notify the data subjects without undue delay if certain conditions are met. 	 Should specify: Legal basis Purpose of collection and Information about the Data Subject rights and how to exercise them Recipients Consequences of not providing the data by the data subject 	Should be carried out if certain conditions are met. Both mandate to do an Assessment if the processing re. processing data on large scale or monitoring data subjects	Provide certain conditions which — if satisfied — oblige controllers to appoint a DPO.	Similar transfer mechanisms as: adequacy decisions; standard contract clauses; BCRs. Transfer Impact Assessment as a required component of the process.
Major differences under PDPL	PDPL also introduces some specific definitions, such as: 1) Credit Data 2) Health Data 3) Health Services 4) Publishing.		 Also, it should specify Personal Data to be collected, which data is optional and which mandatory to achieve the purpose, the means used for Collection, Processing, storage and Destruction of Personal Data. 	Provides broader scope of situations, where Privacy Impact Assessment is needed. It is necessary where there is processing of Sensitive Data or collecting, comparing, or linking two or more sets of Personal Data obtained from different sources takes place.		Consent does not create a basis for the transfer.

Legal Bases

		Consent	Contract compliance	Legal Interest of DS obligation		Public-related bases	Legitimate Interest of DC	
Major similarities: GDPR v. PDPL		 Freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous Explicit for sensitive data or in case of automated individual decisionmaking Withdrawal at any time 	One of the parties to the contract must be the data subject				 Processing must be necessary Basis cannot be used to process Sensitive Data Processing must be without prejudice to the rights and interests of the data subject 	
Major differences	PDPL	1) Explicit also for processing of Credit Data	 Processing must "implement" a contract Processing must be done after concluding a contract (i.e., "in implementation of a previous agreement"). 	Processing is done "pursuant to another law"	 Processing serves "Actual" interest of the data subject – broader scope than GDPR But only if communicating with the data subject is impossible or difficult 	 No "public interest" purpose Processing done only by a (1) Public Entity for (2) security purposes or (3) to satisfy judicial decisions 	 Does not cover interest of a third party – it must be the interest of the controller Cannot be used for direct marketing (consent is the only basis to be used for direct marketing) 	
	GDPR	Consent should be also explicit if it is a basis for a data transfer outside EEA	 Processing is necessary for the performance of a contract and/or Processing is carried out at the request of the data prior to entering into a contract; 	Processing must be "necessary for compliance with legal obligation"	Processing serves "Vital" interest of the data subject (for e.g., protecting the data subjects' life).	Processing must be (1) necessary to carry out a task in the public interest or (2) in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller	 Covers explicitly not only interest of the controller but also of a third party Allowed to be used for direct marketing 	

Data Subject Rights

		Right to Be Informed	Access	Rectification	Portability	Erasure/Destr uction	Objection	Restriction	Complain	Withdrawal
Applicability	GDPR	~	/	/	~	~	~	~	~	~
Applic	PDPL	~	~	~	~	/	?	*	~	~
Comments re. PDPL		Like GDPR, scope is broader if the source of data is not the data subject directly – the controller must inform about the source and categories of data processed.			A right to export data. The part about transmitting data to another controller is skipped. Data subjects may request hard copies if feasible. No "basis" limitations as under GDPR.		There is no explicit / direct right to object data processing.	*Not explicitly referred to as a separate right under PDPL – applicable, where data is incomplete or inaccurate.	Similar to GDPR.	The controller must implement measures to make consent withdrawal possible. Withdrawing consent should be similar to or easier than obtaining one.

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