

SDPA issues Guidance on Compliance with GDPR by Public Bodies

The SDPA has published two guidance documents describing the set of measures which the Public Administrations shall implement by 25 May 2018, the same date that the GDPR will be enforced. The SDPA wants to guide these institutions on the practical implications of the GDPR, facilitating its compliance.

These two guidelines are:

- "The impact of the GDPR on the activities of the public bodies/entities".
- "The Data Protection Officer (DPO) in the public bodies".

The first one addresses the most important requirements that shall be implemented once the GDPR is enforced, some of which are:

- Provide citizens with more extensive information than is currently offered, in a concise, transparent and clear language;
- Establish simple mechanisms for citizens to exercise their rights;
- Carry out risk analysis of all processing data operations and review the established security measures;
- Establish a processing record;
- Establish mechanisms to quickly identify data security breaches and to react to them;
- Establish a register of activities and appoint a Data Protection Officer.

On the other hand, the second document ("The Data Protection Officer in the Public Administrations") focuses on the need to appoint public authority DPOs before 25 May 2018.

The Regulation of the Data Protection Officer established by the GDPR is valid for both private entities and public authorities and bodies, although there are some aspects that are different for the public sector.

Finally, the document outlines the roles and functions of DPOs, which are summarised in:

- Informing and advising the data controller and processor of their obligations under the GDPR.
- Overseeing the compliance with the provisions of the GDPR.