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GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION: ONE YEAR ON

On 25 May 2019, the General Data Protection Regulation (“**GDPR**”) celebrated its first year of entry into application. The GDPR is a single set of rules with a common EU approach to the protection of personal data, directly applicable in the Member States. The objective of these rules was to reinforce trust by putting individuals back in control of their personal data and at the same time guaranteeing the free flow of personal data between EU Member States. The protection of personal data is a fundamental right in the EU.

Since 25 May 2018, nearly all Member States have adapted their national laws in the light of the GDPR. The national Data Protection Authorities are in charge of enforcing the new rules and are better coordinating their actions thanks to the new cooperation mechanisms and the European Data Protection Board. They are issuing guidelines on key aspects of the GDPR to support the implementation of the new rules.

On the occasion of the GDPR’s first anniversary, the European Commission took a closer look at awareness, compliance and enforcement of the GDPR rules and released the following documents in this regard:

- **Eurobarometer on data protection** (available [here](#)), containing the first results of a special Eurobarometer on data protection, collecting the views of over 27,000 people across the EU. The full Eurobarometer results will be released at an anniversary event on 13 June, where the Commission will take stock of one year of application of the GDPR.
- **GDPR in numbers** (available [here](#)), containing information such as the level of awareness of the rules, the number of data breach notifications and the fines issued under the GDPR by Data Protection Authorities.


As foreseen by the GDPR, the Commission will report on the application of the new rules in 2020.

We selected this topic because of the general relevance of the GDPR in the EU, including for ADDE and its members.

We hope this information is useful. You should not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or require further information.

Kind regards,

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