

SMEDATA Newsletter

Issue 3/ June 2020

About the Project

The SMEDATA project was developed to promote the effective application of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) through awareness, multiplying training and sustainable capacity building for SMEs and their associations, including their legal advisors. The project aims at ensuring sector specific and sustainable knowledge and implementation of GDPR through self-assessment and awareness tools and through assisting the understanding and compliance with GDPR.

To reach this ambitious goal, the SMEDATA partners strive to achieve the following underlying objectives:

- Preparation for the effective application of the GDPR through awareness, multiplying training and sustainable capacity building for SMEs and their associations, including their legal advisors;

- Ensuring sector - specific and sustainable knowledge and implementation of GDPR through self-assessment and awareness tool;

- Assisting the understanding and compliance with GDPR through the development of an innovative software tool.

Among the major planned activities for achieving those objectives are:

- (i) Organization of numerous awareness-raising and training events in Bulgaria and Italy;
- (ii) Elaboration of a self-assessment and awareness tool 'translating' GDPR rules;
- (iii) Development of mobile application 'GDPR in Your Pocket';
- (iv) Deployment of a large-scale dissemination campaign.

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Project Update Project Achievements



The last challenging months have been very active for SMEDATA Project. The teams in Bulgaria and Italy have been involved in some of the Project major events.

The Final Version of “GDPR in Your Pocket” Mobile App was released on the Personal Data Protection Day

On January 28, Europe and many other countries in the world celebrate the Personal Data Protection Day, which marks the 39th anniversary of the entry into force of the Council of Europe Convention 108/1981 on the Protection of Individuals in the automatic processing of their personal data.

In this occasion, the Commission for personal data protection of Republic of Bulgaria (CPDP) presented the final version of the mobile application “GDPR in your pocket”, developed under the international SMEDATA project. The presentation was made at the new public reception for data controllers and citizens, located in the Commission’s building. A detailed program of events organized by the CPDP to mark the Personal Data Protection Day is published on its [website](#).

The application aims to introduce the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to citizens and small and medium-sized enterprises in an easy-to-use and easy-to-understand way, and to give them practical knowledge and advice on their rights and obligations under the EU data protection law. The latest version of the software can be freely downloaded from the Google Play and App Store.

Since the beta release of the app in September 2019 so far, there has been considerable interest – the app has been downloaded by over 1000 users. It was also demonstrated in the framework of a series of training seminars organized throughout the country, as well as in front of participants at the international conference held on 29 November 2019 in Sofia.

The application can be freely downloaded by using the following links:

- [Google Play Store](#)
- [Apple App Store](#)



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The “GDPR in Your Pocket” Pocket” Mobile App was awarded in BAIT Awards for 2019

The “GDPR in Your Pocket” mobile app created under the SMEDATA project was honored in the “Public Administration” category at the annual awards of the Bulgarian Association of Information Technologies (BAIT). The event was held on 25 February 2020 in Sofia under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria Rumen Radev. The idea of the awards is to pay tribute to all the individuals, institutions and organizations that have been contributing to the information and communication technologies development over the past year.

The mobile application award was received from the chairman of the Commission for Personal Data Protection (CPDP). CPDP was a key contributor to the creation of the tool’s content.

“GDPR in your pocket” is an innovative application, one of the first...

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Recent in the area:

The European Commission published a report reviewing and evaluating the General Data Protection Regulation

On June 24th 2020, just over two years after its entry into application, the European Commission published an evaluation report on the GDPR. [The report on the review and evaluation of the GDPR.](#)

EDPB publishes new register containing One-Stop-Shop decisions

The EDPB has published a new register containing decisions taken by national supervisory authorities following the One-Stop-Shop cooperation procedure (Art. 60 GDPR) on its website.

Under the GDPR, Supervisory Authorities have a duty to cooperate on cases with a cross-border component to ensure a consistent application of the regulation - the so-called one-stop-shop (OSS) mechanism. The register is accessible [here](#).

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...in the field, providing citizens and small businesses practical knowledge and advice on their personal data protection rights and obligations.



During his speech Mr Ventsislav Karadjov, the chairman of the Commission for Personal Data Protection, emphasized that the application is one of the few software solutions in Bulgaria, that meets the requirements for data protection by design. This is the future of every software solution, that could find its place in the market.

Recent in the area:

14 misunderstandings with regard to biometric identification and authentication

Joint paper of the Spanish data protection authority, Agencia Española de Protección de Datos (AEPD), and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) on 14 misunderstandings with regard to biometric identification and authentication. The document is available [here](#).

Thirty-second EDPB Plenary Session

During its 32nd plenary session, the EDPB adopted a statement on the interoperability of contact tracing apps, as well as a statement on the opening of borders and data protection rights.

Adopted documents: [here](#).

The World Economic Forum: Four lessons the COVID-19 crisis can teach us about data-driven storytelling

The coronavirus pandemic has exposed deep structural problems that go far beyond conventional ideas of public health... ([more](#))

CURRENT FOCUS

The work of the SMEDATA team is currently focused on two major areas: preparation of the second round of training events as well as elaboration of Self-assessment and awareness tool for GDPR compliance.

“Training of Trainers” Data Protection Seminars

The second round of raising awareness and training events within the SMEDATA Project includes the organization and conducting of 4 Training of trainers’ events.

The training events will be 4 two-day multiplying training seminars for representatives of business and professional organisations. Two of the training events will take place in Bulgaria and two - in Italy.

Training materials relevant to the topic and expertise of the participants will be elaborated, including lecture kits, presentation materials, information on practical issues and case studies, etc.

A detailed schedule for the organisation of the seminars will soon be published on the webpage of the SMEDATA project.

International Conference for SMEs

The second SMEDATA conference will be devoted to the implementation of the new EU data protection legislation within enterprises and is scheduled in the end of the project. Participants will be mainly representatives of SMEs and business associations in addition to SMEs with cross-border activities.

Partners will invite international data protection experts, representatives of DPAs of other EU Member States, foreign DPOs to participate in both forums and to share their experience and best practices with regard to compliance with the GDPR rules.

The conference is planned to be organised and conducted in Rome.

Self-assessment and Awareness Tool for GDPR Compliance

The SMEDATA Project is envisaged to develop a very efficient self-assessment and awareness tool which can be applied by SMEs in their everyday activities, including when new services, products, processes or technologies are being introduced. The tool will be ‘translating’ GDPR rules in the context of SMEs business.

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PROJECT TIMELINE NEXT STEPS

Over the coming months the SMEDATA project will complete the following activities:

July 2020 - November 2020

- Conducting 4 'Training of trainers' events in Bulgaria and Italy;
- Elaboration of Self-assessment and awareness tool for GDPR compliance;
- Organization of international conference for SMEs and their associations.

Contacts:

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