

Global Table of data privacy laws (as at 30 July 2011)

*Compiled by Graham Greenleaf, Asia-Pacific Editor**

Published in (112) *Privacy Laws & Business International Report*, September 2011

See accompanying analysis and explanation in Greenleaf, G '[Global data privacy laws: 40 years of acceleration](#)' (2011) *Privacy Laws & Business International Report*, Issue 112, 11-17, September 2011 <http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1946700>

Jurisdiction	Key Act	From ¹	Latest	Region	EU ²	CoE ³	Other Int. ⁴
Albania	Act on the Protection of Personal Data	1999	1999	Europe	[I]	M; P	
Andorra	Law on the protection of personal data	2003	2003	Europe	A	M; P	
Angola	Lei da Protecção de Dados Pessoais	2011	2011	Africa			
Argentina	Personal Data Protection Act	2000	2000	Latin Am	A		
Australia	Privacy Act 1988	2001	2001	Australasia			APEC; OECD
Austria	Datenschutzgesetz	1978	2009	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Azerbaijan	Law on data, data processing and data protection	1998	1998	Europe		M	
Bahamas	Data Protection Act	2003	2003	Caribbean			
Belgium	Law on Privacy Protection in relation to the Processing of Personal Data	1992	1998	Europe	M	M	OECD
Benin	Loi sur la Protection des données personnelles	2009	2009	Africa			ECOWAS
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Law on the protection of personal data	2001	2001	Europe	[I]	M; P	
Bulgaria	Law for Protection of Personal Data	2002	2007	Europe	M	M; P	
Burkina Faso	Law on Protection of Personal Information	2004	2004	Africa			ECOWAS
Canada	Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act	2002	2002	North Am	A		APEC; OECD

* Thanks to the Stewart Dresner and Laura Linkomies (Privacy Laws & Business), Marie Georges and Magda Cocco for their assistance in locating legislation. Some of the resources which have been valuable in the research for this article are as follows: Council of Europe website, for ratifications of the Convention and the Protocol; EU website for legislation of member states <http://ec.europa.eu/justice/policies/privacy/law/implementation_en.htm>; EU website for adequacy decisions <http://ec.europa.eu/justice/policies/privacy/thridcountries/index_en.htm>; Privacy Laws & Business website <www.privacylaws.com>; Christopher Millard 'Privacy Laws & Business European Data Protection Laws Chart' Privacy Laws & Business Newsletter, May 1997; dataprotection.eu website <<http://www.dataprotection.eu/>>; Morrison & Foerster 'Privacy Library' <<http://www.mofo.com/privacylibrary/>>; Linklaters 'Data Protected' website for clients; BNA website. All errors and omissions remain my own.

¹ **Date columns:** 'From' = date original law enacted; 'Latest' = year of last significant amendment known

² **European Union column:** M = country is an EU member state; A = country's protection of personal data has been held 'adequate' by the EU; [A] = Favourable Article 29 Working Party opinion on adequacy, but no final decision announced; EEA = country is a member of the European Economic Area; [I] = Adequacy finding is in practice irrelevant due to country acceding to both Council of Europe Convention 108 and Additional Protocol

³ **Council of Europe column:** M = country is a member state of the Council of Europe and has ratified the Convention; M* = United Kingdom has ratified Convention on behalf of sub-jurisdiction; P = country has also ratified the optional protocol; S = country has signed but not ratified Convention

⁴ **Other international commitments column:** APEC = 'economy' is a member of APEC; OECD = country is a member of OECD; ECOWAS = country is a member of Economic Community of West African States

Cape Verde	Loi N° 133/V/2201 du 22 janvier 2001	2001	2001	Africa			ECOWAS
Chile	Privacy Law	1999	1999	Latin Am			APEC; OECD
Colombia	Data Protection Law	2008	2008	Latin Am			
Croatia	Act on Personal Data Protection	2003	2003	Europe	[I]	M; P	
Cyprus	The Processing of Personal Data (Protection of the Individual) Law	2001	2003	Europe	M	M; P	
Czech Republic	Personal Data Protection Act	1992	2000	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Denmark	Act on Processing of Personal Data	1978	2000	Europe	M	M	OECD
Estonia	Data Protection Act	2003	2003	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Faroe Islands	Act on processing of personal data	2010	2010	Europe	A		
Finland	Personal Data Act	1987	1999	Europe	M	M	OECD
France	Law relating to the protection of individuals against the processing of personal data	1978	2004	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
FYROM (Macedonia)	Law on Personal Data Protection	2005	2005	Europe	[I]	M; P	
Germany	Federal Data Protection Act	1977	2001	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Gibraltar	Data Protection Act	2004	2004	Europe			
Greece	Law on the Protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data	1997	1997	Europe	M	M	OECD
Guernsey	Data Protection (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law	1986	2001	Europe	A	M*	
Hong Kong SAR	Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance	1995	1995	Asia			APEC
Hungary	Law on the protection of personal data and the disclosure of public information	1992	1992	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Iceland	Law on the Protection and Processing of Personal Data	1989	2000	Europe	EEA	M	OECD
India	Rules under s43A (2008 Amendt), Information Technology Act 2000	2011	2011	Asia			
Ireland	Data Protection Act	1988	2003	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Isle of Man	Data Protection Act	1986	2002	Europe	A	M*	
Israel	Privacy Protection Act 1981	1981	1981	M.East/N.Af	A		OECD
Italy	Consolidation Act regarding the Protection of Personal Data	1996	2003	Europe	M	M	OECD
Japan	Act on the Protection of Personal Information	2003	2003	Asia			APEC; OECD
Jersey	Data Protection (Jersey) Law	1987	2005	Europe	A	M*	
Kyrgyz Republic	Law on Personal Data	2008	2008	Central Asia			
Latvia	Law on Protection of Personal Data of Natural Persons	2000	2002	Europe	M	M; P	
Liechtenstein	Gesetz über die Abänderung des Datenschutzgesetzes (2002)	2002	2008	Europe	EEA	M; P	
Lithuania	Law on Legal Protection of Personal Data	1996	2003	Europe	M	M; P	
Luxembourg	Data Protection Law	1979	2002	Europe	M	M; P	OECD

Macao SAR	Personal Data Protection Act	2007	2007	Asia			
Malaysia	Personal Data Protection Act	2010	2010	Asia			APEC
Malta	Data Protection Act	2001	2001	Europe	M	M	
Mauritius	Data Protection Act	2004	2004	Africa			
Mexico	Federal Law on the Protection of Personal Data Held by Private Parties	2010	2010	Latin Am			APEC; OECD
Moldova	Law on Personal Data Protection	2007	2007	Europe	[I]	M; P	
Monaco	Act controlling personal data processing (2001)	1993	1993	Europe	[I]	M; P	
Montenegro	Law on Personal Data Protection	2008	2008	Europe			
Morocco	Data Protection Act	2009	2009	M.East/N.Af			
Netherlands	Personal Data Protection Act	1988	2000	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
New Zealand	Privacy Act 1993	1993	2009	Australasia	[A]		APEC; OECD
Norway	Personal Data Act	1978	2000	Europe	EEA	M	OECD
Peru	Law on Protection of Personal Data	2011	2011	Latin Am			APEC; US FTA
Poland	Act on the Protection of Personal Data	1997	2004	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Portugal	Lei da protecçao de dados pessoais	1991	1998	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Romania	Law on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data	2001	2005	Europe	M	M; P	
Russia	Federal Law Regarding Personal Data	2011	2011	Europe	S	M	APEC
San Marino	Law regulating the Computerized Collection of Personal Data	1983	1995	Europe			
Senegal	Act on the Protection of Personal Data	2007	2007	Africa			ECOWAS
Serbia	Law on Personal Data Protection	2008	2008	Europe	[I]	M; P	
Slovakia	Act on the Protection of Personal Data	1992	2005	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Slovenia	Personal Data Protection Act	1999	2004	Europe	M	M	OECD
South Korea	Data Protection Act	2001	2011	Asia			APEC; OECD
Spain	Ley Orgánica de Protección de Datos de Carácter Personal	1992	1999	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Sweden	Personal Data Act	1973	1998	Europe	M	M; P	OECD
Switzerland	Data Protection Act	1992	1992	Europe	A	M; P	OECD
Taiwan	Personal Data Protection Act	1995	2010	Asia			APEC
Tunisia	Law on the protection of personal data	2004	2004	N.Af/M.East			
Ukraine	Law on Personal Data Protection	2011	2011	Europe	[I]	M; P	
United Kingdom	Data Protection Act 1998	1984	1998	Europe	M	M	OECD
Uruguay	Law on the Protection of Personal Data	2008	2008	Latin Am	[A]		