

GDPR – four months in...and now?

Tim Maiorino
Consumer Identity World Seattle
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- Horror stories of how everyone would sue everyone and how DPAs would start enforcement activities right on 25th May against businesses by coming in and auditing for data protection non-compliance were spread everywhere
- Large number of small businesses, blogs and non-profit associations shut down their online presences out of fear of fines
- Politicians noticed that this GDPR panic had a negative impact on the economic atmosphere
- On 24th May, the Minister of Inner Affairs Horst Seehofer addressed data protection authorities and asked them to act with good judgement when evaluating complaints and the related businesses
- Intense increase in awareness and related queries leading to significant increase in workload for all those involved in data protection, but so far no significant fines have been imposed (at least not to the public knowledge)

- Staff shortage and massive workload for supervisory authorities
 - From 25th May until mid of August 1.020 complaints and 1.453 general requests of data subjects (mostly referring to social networks, surveillance)
 - 6.281 complaints filed with the Information Commissioner’s Office in UK between May 25 and July 3 (2.417 complaints during the same period in 2017)
 - Data breach notifications by companies
 - More complaints in June than usually in one year
- Consequence: Regulatory authorities concentrate on their core business
 - Focus on those affected by data processing



Data privacy law: Loss of credibility due to enforcement deficit?

“Maintaining momentum”

“In the lead up to GDPR, organisations were gearing up by bringing in new talent and technology resources to get compliant in time. Many focused on the looming 25th May deadline but, far from being an end date, this was the starting point for new technology systems and business processes. Maintaining this momentum will be key to ensuring ongoing compliance.”

Any questions?

Thank you
for your attention!