MERCURY

Individuals' Rights to Privacy and Data Protection

28 December 2026 – 1 January 2027
Vienna (Austria)



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Individuals' Rights to Privacy and Data Protection

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Introduction:

In the modern digital age, the protection of privacy and personal data has become one of the top legal and ethical priorities for both institutions and individuals. Data protection laws are undergoing continuous developments that impose precise obligations on those who collect, process, or store individuals' data.

This training course aims to enable participants to comprehensively understand the legal and regulatory aspects related to "Individuals' Rights to Privacy and Data Protection." It also highlights the procedures that ensure compliance with local and international data protection standards.

The Individuals' Rights to Privacy and Data Protection course focuses on equipping participants with practical knowledge on how to handle sensitive data legally and securely. It also addresses ways to manage risks associated with potential privacy leaks or violations. It seeks to prepare professionals capable of building an institutional culture based on respecting digital rights and user privacy.

Targeted Groups:

The Individuals' Rights to Privacy and Data Protection training targets professionals and groups seeking to acquire knowledge and skills, including:

- IT department employees.
- Staff in compliance and governance departments.
- HR employees handling personal data.
- Data Protection Officers in organizations.
- Legal professionals and legal advisors.
- Professionals in digital marketing and analytics.
- Information security officers.
- Database managers.
- Digital systems development officers.
- Researchers in the digital privacy field.
- New employees in data-driven institutions.
- Entrepreneurs and tech startup owners.

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Targeted Competencies:

Through the Individuals' Rights to Privacy and Data Protection program, participants will acquire the following competencies:

- Legal analysis skills for personal data.
- Ability to develop privacy protection policies.
- Management of regulatory compliance in the field of data.
- Differentiating between safe and unsafe data practices.
- Drafting legal mechanisms to protect individuals' digital rights.
- Risk management associated with data leaks.
- Preparing documentation reports for institutional compliance.
- Technical assessment skills for systems and privacy protection.
- In-depth knowledge of the roles of controllers and processors.
- Application of digital governance controls.
- Integration of privacy requirements in the system life cycle.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this Individuals' Rights to Privacy and Data Protection course, participants will be able to:

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- Recognize the fundamental concepts related to privacy and data protection.
- Analyze local and international legal frameworks on personal data protection.
- Interpret the ethical and professional principles of managing personal information.
- Assess organizational compliance with data protection regulations.
- Apply best practices in collecting, storing, and processing personal data.
- Design privacy policies in line with legal frameworks.
- Use risk assessment tools related to privacy violations.
- Prepare compliance reports for regulatory authorities.
- Differentiate between personal, sensitive, and anonymized data.
- Draft response procedures for emergency data breaches.
- Develop communication skills with stakeholders regarding privacy protection.
- Enhance employee awareness of privacy culture and digital responsibility.
- Apply access control measures in data management systems.
- Interpret the duties of data processors and controllers under contracts.
- Monitor and document operations that affect user privacy.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Introduction to Privacy and Personal Data Protection:

- Definition of privacy and its importance in the digital environment.
- The Difference Between Privacy and Data Protection
- Types of personal and sensitive data.
- Main stages in the data lifecycle.
- The concept of prior consent from individuals.
- Fundamentals of transparency and accountability.
- Key stakeholders in data protection controller and processor.
- The Importance of Privacy in Fostering Institutional Trust.
- The relationship between cybersecurity and privacy protection.

Unit 2: Legal and Regulatory Frameworks for Individuals' Data Protection:

- Overview of local laws e.g., data protection laws in the region.
- Principles of the EU General Data Protection Regulation GDPR.
- Comparison between local and international legislations.
- Individuals' rights under modern legislation.
- Obligations of institutions, controllers, and processors.
- Legal and administrative penalties for non-compliance.
- Concept of privacy by design and by default.
- Documentation requirements and records of processing activities.
- Role of regulatory authorities in law enforcement.

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Unit 3: Legal and Security Handling of Data:

- Methodologies for classifying personal data.
- Developing clear and published privacy policies.
- Preparing consent forms and legal notices.
- Data Protection in Contracts and Processing Agreements.
- Data encryption and security tools during transfer and storage.
- Access control to sensitive information.
- Privacy Impact Assessment PIA.
- Incident response mechanisms.
- Training employees on safe data handling.

Unit 4: Individuals' Rights, Complaints, and Redress Mechanisms:

- Right to access personal data.
- Right to rectification, erasure, and portability.
- Mechanisms for objecting to data processing.
- Managing individuals' requests regarding their data.
- Establishing clear complaint channels.
- Legal timeframes for responding to requests.
- Transparency of procedures and documentation.
- Rights of Children and Persons with Disabilities.
- The Role of Institutions in Respecting Digital Rights.

Unit 5: Data Governance and Institutional Responsibility:

- Building a data governance framework within institutions.
- Defining the responsibilities of the Data Protection Officer DPO.
- Integrating privacy into digital transformation strategies.
- Engaging senior management in data protection.
- Incorporating data protection into institutional quality systems.
- Preparing periodic compliance review reports.
- Conducting external audits to verify the integrity of the system.
- Monitoring legislative and technological updates.
- Developing an organizational culture that respects privacy.

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Course Summary and Recommendations:

The course on Individuals' Rights to Privacy and Data Protection highlights the legal and ethical dimensions of protecting individuals' data and their rights to privacy. Institutions must integrate data protection practices into all their systems and internal procedures. Adhering to these principles represents a strategic step toward building user trust and enhancing compliance. The course recommends updating internal policies regularly and providing continuous employee training.