Global Data and Cyber Handbook - EU

Key Definitions

| Contents |
| --- |
| To generate table of contents, right-click here and select **Update Field.** |

# Personal data

*Last review date: January 2025*

"Personal data" means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person. An "identifiable person" is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, identification number, location data, online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.

# Sensitive/special personal data (including personal data subject to additional protections/ restrictions/breach notification obligations)

*Last review date: January 2025*

Sensitive data includes:

☒   personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin
☒   personal data revealing political opinions
☒   personal data revealing religious or philosophical belief
☒   personal data revealing trade / professional union or association membership
☒   genetic data
☒   biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person or biometric templates
☒   data concerning health/medical information
☒   data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation
☒   government identity card or number information
☒   personal data regarding an individual's criminal convictions or record
☒   other

For some Member States a broader scope of sensitive/special personal data may apply.

# Controller vs Processor

*Last review date: January 2025*

**Do the privacy laws distinguish between controllers/owners and processors/agents? Whereby:**

the controller/owner is a natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body which, alone or jointly with others, determines the purposes and means of the processing of personal data

the processor/agent is natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body which processes personal data on behalf of the controller

**Yes**

Copyright © 2025 Baker & McKenzie. All rights reserved. **Ownership:** This documentation and content (Content) is a proprietary resource owned exclusively by Baker McKenzie (meaning Baker & McKenzie International and its member firms). The Content is protected under international copyright conventions. Use of this Content does not of itself create a contractual relationship, nor any attorney/client relationship, between Baker McKenzie and any person. **Non-reliance and exclusion:** All Content is for informational purposes only and may not reflect the most current legal and regulatory developments. All summaries of the laws, regulations and practice are subject to change. The Content is not offered as legal or professional advice for any specific matter. It is not intended to be a substitute for reference to (and compliance with) the detailed provisions of applicable laws, rules, regulations or forms. Legal advice should always be sought before taking any action or refraining from taking any action based on any Content. Baker McKenzie and the editors and the contributing authors do not guarantee the accuracy of the Content and expressly disclaim any and all liability to any person in respect of the consequences of anything done or permitted to be done or omitted to be done wholly or partly in reliance upon the whole or any part of the Content. The Content may contain links to external websites and external websites may link to the Content. Baker McKenzie is not responsible for the content or operation of any such external sites and disclaims all liability, howsoever occurring, in respect of the content or operation of any such external websites. **Attorney Advertising:** This Content may qualify as “Attorney Advertising” requiring notice in some jurisdictions. To the extent that this Content may qualify as Attorney Advertising, PRIOR RESULTS DO NOT GUARANTEE A SIMILAR OUTCOME. **Reproduction:** Reproduction of reasonable portions of the Content is permitted provided that (i) such reproductions are made available free of charge and for non-commercial purposes, (ii) such reproductions are properly attributed to Baker McKenzie, (iii) the portion of the Content being reproduced is not altered or made available in a manner that modifies the Content or presents the Content being reproduced in a false light and (iv) notice is made to the disclaimers included on the Content. The permission to re-copy does not allow for incorporation of any substantial portion of the Content in any work or publication, whether in hard copy, electronic or any other form or for commercial purposes.