the dpia

GLOBAL PRIVACY NEWS
FROM THE DPO CENTRE

The DPIA is an assessment of the impact of the most significant and important-to-know data protection issues from around the globe. It's not the full story, just a quick 3-minute read, collated and condensed to keep you updated with the latest news in our ever-evolving industry.

Data retention strategies for GDPR compliance

North American businesses subject to the EU or UK GDPR must have clear data retention policies in place, but getting it right is often complex, especially with overlapping regulatory expectations, legacy systems, and varying operational needs. In our latest blog, we offer practical tips on building compliant retention schedules, data minimisation, and avoiding the risks of keeping personal data for too long.

Whether you're updating your policies or starting from scratch, this guide helps ensure your data retention practices meet GDPR standards while supporting operational efficiency.

Read our blog

CANADA & UNITED STATES

OPC annual report highlights rise in data breach reports

On 5 June 2025, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC) published its 2024-2025 annual report. It highlights notable trends in the widespread use of AI, the surge in data breach-related harms, the online safety of young people, and the need for international collaboration.

However, the most striking finding is the dramatic rise in data breach reporting under the Privacy Act: 615 reports (up from 561 last year) affecting 309,865 individuals, compared to

138,434 in the previous period. Major causes include mishandled information, cybersecurity incidents, security vulnerabilities, and unauthorised access.

Breaches under the private-sector PIPEDA Act held steady at 686 reports but impacted approximately 20 million Canadian accounts – a level the OPC called “concerningly high”.

Read our **blog** for practical tips on preventing data breaches.

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27 US States sue 23andMe over sale of genetic data without consent

On 9 June 2025, 27 US states and the District of Columbia filed a lawsuit to block 23andMe’s attempts to sell personal genetic data without customers' explicit consent. The action argues that DNA profiles, health traits, and medical records are too sensitive to be sold like ordinary assets and that each individual's permission is required before any transfer.

23andMe filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in March 2025 and has since received two major bids during the auction process: $256 million from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals and $305 million from former CEO and co-founder, Anne Wojcicki. 23andMe maintains that its privacy policy permits the sale, provided any buyer agrees to uphold existing protections.

The court will now decide whether the company can transfer customer data under bankruptcy rules or if it must first obtain valid consent. Consumer advocates warn the ruling could set a critical precedent for genetic privacy in the US.

Read the lawsuit

NY State Senate passes RAISE Act

On 12 June 2025, the New York State Senate passed the Responsible AI Safety and Education (RAISE) Act. The Act aims to prevent frontier AI models from contributing to catastrophic risks or harmful misuse by introducing new obligations for the largest AI companies – those that have trained AI models using more than $100M worth of computational resources.
The Act requires in-scope organisations to:

- Develop and publish a safety plan, security protocols, and risk assessments
- Report serious incidents, such as model theft or dangerous behaviour

The legislation also grants the New York Attorney General authority to impose civil penalties of up to $10 million for a first violation and up to $30 million for subsequent non-compliance. If enacted, the RAISE Act would establish one of the first state-level AI safety frameworks in the United States.

Read the RAISE Act

UNITED KINGDOM

Public wary of AI in recruitment, says new ICO report

A new report from the UK Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) reveals public concern around the use of automated decision-making (ADM) in recruitment. The research found that most people are uncomfortable with AI being used to make hiring decisions without human involvement. While respondents recognised the potential for increased efficiency, many expressed fears about bias, lack of transparency, and the inability to challenge outcomes. The ICO noted that trust in ADM is particularly low when it comes to final hiring decisions, with a clear preference for human oversight throughout the recruitment process.

These findings carry important implications for organisations using, or planning to use, AI in their hiring practices. Employers must ensure transparency, fairness, and meaningful human involvement in automated decisions.

To learn how to implement AI responsibly without losing the essential human touch, watch our on-demand webinar, Smart hiring or backfiring: Employing AI in recruitment.

EUROPEAN UNION

European Commission opens consultation on high-risk AI systems

On 6 June 2025, the European Commission launched a 6-week consultation on implementing the EU AI Act rules for high-risk artificial intelligence systems. It aims to gather targeted stakeholder views on:

- Which AI system categories should be classified as high-risk
- Obligations these systems should meet, such as risk management, transparency, documentation and human oversight

- Lines of responsibility, clarifying the roles of developers, deployers, importers, and distributors in ensuring compliance

The consultation will help define which AI systems are considered high-risk and guide future Commission guidance on managing risks, ensuring human oversight, handling data, and keeping proper records.

The consultation remains open until 18 July 2025.

Take part in the consultation

EDPB finalises guidance on data transfers to third-country authorities

On 4 June 2025, the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) published its final *Guidelines 02/2024 on Article 48 GDPR*, clarifying when organisations can lawfully respond to data access requests from authorities outside the EU.

The guidelines confirm that such transfers require both a valid legal basis under Article 6 of the GDPR and a permitted transfer mechanism, such as an adequacy decision or Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs). Foreign requests alone are not sufficient unless backed by an international agreement or specific exemption.

The EDPB also provides guidance for more complex scenarios, including indirect transfers via parent companies or processors. The final version updates the draft following public consultation.

Read the Guidelines

INTERNATIONAL

South Korea's PIPC issues new CCTV guidance

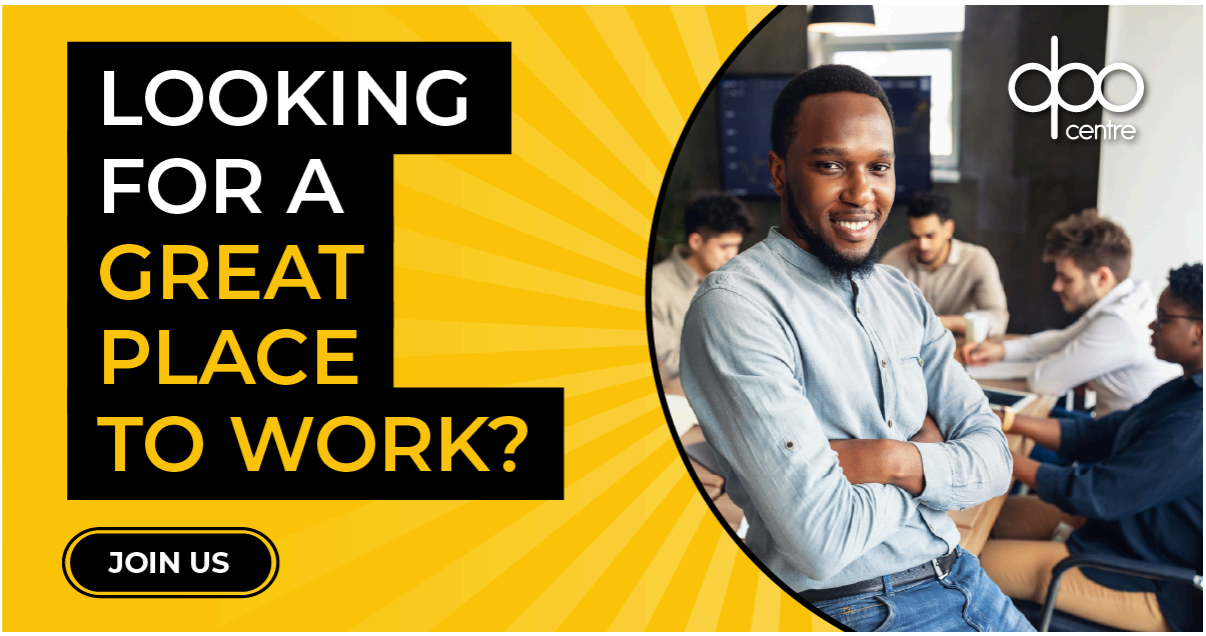
On 12 June 2025, South Korea's Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) released guidance for the use of CCTV in both public and private settings. The guidance follows hundreds of complaints related to the lack of signage indicating CCTV use and requests to view footage.

The PIPC highlighted three key rules for CCTV use:

- CCTV is prohibited in private spaces where there is a risk of invasion of privacy, such as bathrooms and changing rooms
- Clear signage must be displayed, alerting individuals to surveillance
- Data controllers must respond to data subject requests to view CCTV footage within 10 days

These rules aim to balance legitimate safety and security needs with strong privacy protections, ensuring compliance with the Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA). Organisations using surveillance systems in South Korea should review their CCTV setups, update policies, and conduct privacy impact assessments where required.

Read the PIPC's CCTV guidance



We are recruiting!

To support our ongoing requirement to continuously grow our remarkable and extraordinary **#ONETEAM**, we are seeking candidates for the following positions:

- **Data Privacy Officers (Canada)**
- **Data Protection Officers (United Kingdom/The Netherlands/EU)**
- **Data Protection Officers - Life Sciences (United Kingdom/Europe/Canada)**
- **Data Protection Support Officers (United Kingdom)**

If you are looking for a new and exciting challenge, **apply today!**

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