

## GDPR ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT AN EXEMPLARY CASE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

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### **Abstract:**

The European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which has become applicable in May 2018, obliges companies and thus Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to reassess their data privacy procedures in particular the processing of personal data. As the new law unfolds an extraterritorial scope, HEIs located outside the European Union (EU) also need to examine whether they are affected, and, if so, take the necessary measures. There is a lack of discussion and approaches in the current literature as to how HEIs can comply with the GDPR regulations. The aim of this study is therefore to analyse current scientific publications and reports mainly from practitioners in order to deliver two results: Firstly, the current recommendations and requirements in the context of GDPR are consolidated, and, secondly, an instrument has been developed to help HEIs raise their GDPR awareness. The instrument was built by applying the design science guidelines and consists on a whole of 44 controls that yield a total score. The resulting value can serve as an indicator of a HEI's accordance with the GDPR regulations. In addition, the compiled controls can be used as a management instrument to assess the measures taken and to continuously promote compliance with GDPR.

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