

Brazilian Context

Electronic means of payment industry supports Bill that discusses storage of consumer data by providers

Representatives of the electronic means of payment industry have supported the new version of Bill No. 786/2019, which discusses the storage of consumer data by service providers and product suppliers...

Under the original terms of the Bill, if the data subject consented to the storage, this authorization would be valid for a period of twelve (12) months, with the possibility of re-activation at any time...

During the Commission's debate, the representatives argued that Brazilian General Data Protection Law (LGPD) already sufficiently provides for consumer security and that there is already strong regulation about these transactions by Brazilian Central Bank...

Brazilian National Data Protection Authority creates its Governance Committee

At the beginning of July, Ordinance No. 15/2021 of Brazilian National Data Protection Authority (ANPD) was published in Brazilian Official Gazette, establishing its Governance, Risks and Controls Committee (Governance Committee).

Under the terms of Article 1, Committee will be composed of the Chief Executive Officer and the Directors of ANPD, who may appoint their substitutes to act in cases of absence or impediment.

The Ordinance also states that it will be the Committee's responsibility to define institutional strategies and strategic guidelines on public governance, risk management, transparency and integrity, planning, internal control mechanisms, and efficient administrative management.

Article 3 of the Ordinance establishes as competences of Governance Committee the orientation of the high administration in the implementation and maintenance of processes, structures and mechanisms adequate to the incorporation of the principles and guidelines of governance...

Ultimately, the final articles of Ordinance state that the Committee will meet monthly and that a quorum of two-thirds of the representatives is required, which will take place with the simple majority and the President's casting vote.

Urgency regime for Brazilian artificial intelligence Bill has been approved

The Brazilian Chamber of Deputies has approved the urgency regime for Bill 211/2020, which provides principles, rights and duties for the use of artificial intelligence in Brazil.

Different figures related to the use of artificial intelligence are also discussed, such as artificial intelligence agents, which include development agents, responsible for planning and implementing the artificial intelligence system, and operation agents, responsible for monitoring and operating the system.

The Bill also establishes the rights of interested parties - all those involved in or affected, directly or indirectly, by artificial intelligence systems - specifically the right to access from the institution responsible for the artificial intelligence system; access to clear and adequate information about the criteria and procedures used by the artificial intelligence system that adversely affect them and access to complete information about the use of their sensitive data...

It is worth mentioning that the use of artificial intelligence is directly related to automated decisions, which, according to the LGPD, guarantee the right of the data subject to review the decisions that affect their rights and interests (art. 20, LGPD).

Cyber Incident Management Federal Network has been established

Decree No. 10.748/2021 was published in the Brazilian Federal Official Gazette on July 19. It regulates the establishment and operation of the Cyber Incident Management Federal Network (NICIBR), based on the provisions of the National Information Security Policy (Decree No. 9.637 of December 16, 2018)...

The objectives of the Network encompass dissemination of measures for prevention, processing, and response to cyber incidents; sharing of information on cyber threats and vulnerabilities; dissemination of information on cyberattacks; promotion of cooperation among regulators and participants in the promotion of speed in the response to cyber incidents.

Decree No. 10.748/2021 establishes several definitions related to the composition of the Network, of which we highlight: team of prevention, processing and response to cyber incidents, person in charge of providing services related to cybersecurity for the Federal Government...

Concerning its composition, the Network will be composed by the Institutional Security Cabinet of the Presidency of the Republic, by the bodies and legal entities that carry out the activities of the Federal Government, by the public companies and government controlled companies and their subsidiaries - optimal participation.

Finally, Decree No. 10.748/2021, effective as of the date of its publication, provides a series of obligations that must be met by the Brazilian Federal Government, as well as specific obligations to regulatory agencies, the Central Bank of Brazil and of the National Nuclear Energy Commission.

Guidelines

Guidelines on the application of administrative fines

With the effective date of the administrative sanctions provisions of the Brazilian Data Protection Law (LGPD) in August this year, we recall some of the principles and criteria brought forward by the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) in its guideline on the application and framing of administrative fines...

According to EDPB, the imposition of fines must be guided by criteria such as the nature, gravity and consistency in the levels of data protection in European countries, the characteristics of the data controller, the nature of the breach, the nature of the data, the nature of the damage caused, the degree of responsibility of the processing agents to adopt technical and organizational measures...

The EDPB also clarifies some criteria for the application of the fine, which encompasses the nature, gravity and duration of the breach; the occurrence of intentional or negligent conduct; the nature of the damage caused; the degree of responsibility of the processing agents to adopt technical and organizational measures...

The principles and criteria aforementioned may also be taken into account in the application of future sanctions, including fines, by the Brazilian National Data Protection Authority (ANPD) arising from any violations of the provisions and obligations established by the LGPD.

Proposal for a regulation on markets in crypto-assets in light of data protection

The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) issued, at the end of June, its opinion on the Proposal for a Regulation on Markets in Crypto-assets. The proposal, in sum, sets out transparency requirements for the issuance and admission of crypto-assets...

In light of the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), EDPS highlighted the need of reflection about the impact of data protection on the issuance and admission of crypto-assets. The proposal, in sum, sets out transparency requirements for the issuance and admission of crypto-assets...

Moreover, EDPS emphasizes the need of providing privacy notices to data subjects and addresses the most appropriate legal bases for processing personal data raised from the issuance and admission of crypto-assets - the performance of a contract and the preliminary proceedings related to a contract to which the data subject is party and the compliance with legal or regulatory obligation by the controller.

In a parallel with the Brazilian Data Protection Law (LGPD), crypto-assets' issuers, if responsible for decisions regarding the processing of personal data, would also be framed as data controllers and would have duties related to compliance with the provisions of the LGPD, especially concerning the transparency about the processing activity performed with personal data from crypto-assets' purchasers.

Normative Developments

Japanese Amended Act on the Protection of Personal Information

Published last year, the Amended Act on the Protection of Personal Information (APPI), which updates a series of provisions regarding security incidents reporting data leakage episodes and administrative sanctions will come fully into effect in April 2022.

Moreover, the Amended Act also includes the introduction of a new concept of "quasi-personal information" to notify the Japanese data protection authority and data subjects about security incidents not only in the event of data leakage, but also in incidents involving sensitive personal data, capable of resulting in economic risks...

With regard to the international transfer of data, the Amended Act introduces new rules for its realization, of which we highlight the provision of information about the transfer to the data subjects who have consented to the transfer of their data. It is worth mentioning that, under Japanese law, international transfer may only occur with the consent of the data subject, except in specific situations where the consent is exempted.

Furthermore, the Amendment also increases the scope of some concepts, such as personal data (or personal information), that, from now, will include pseudonymized data, i.e., data without the ability to be associated, directly or indirectly, with an individual, except by means of the use of additional information stored separately by the controller in a secure and accessible environment.

Colorado Privacy Act (CPA) has been published as the third comprehensive personal data protection legislation across USA

Colorado is the third American state to publish a comprehensive legislation regulating personal data protection at the local level. In August this year, the "California Consumer Privacy Act" (CCPA) and Virginia, with the "Virginia Consumer Data Protection Act" (VCDPA).

With the Colorado Privacy Act (CPA), the state brings forth references from other American privacy legislations, but also has its own specificities, such as the inclusion of the concept of "data subject", restricting it to the consumer public and explicitly excluding from this protection individuals present in a commercial or employment relationship...

In addition to the general rights of access, deletion, correction and portability of data, the CPA includes as distinctive feature the power given to data subjects to actively consent. Thus, the "consent" is established as "a clear affirmative act" (i.e., not a presumed act), the rendering of the specific, free, informed, and unequivocal agreement of the data subject to the processing of their personal data. It is clear, therefore, that the rule adopted in the CPA is directly aligned with the notion of consent as an "open-in" activity provided by the individual.

From a practical perspective, the CPA will come into force on July 1, 2023 (unlike the CCPA and the VCDPA, which will come into force on January 1, 2023). At which point the processing agents will be legally liable for the improper processing of personal data in light of this legislation. Once the Act goes into effect, the CPA will be enforceable by district attorneys and state attorneys general, which may incur in civil penalties of up to US\$ 2,000 per violation (limited to US\$ 50,000) whenever concerned to a series of related violations.

The European Commission regulates the international personal data flow between the United Kingdom and the European Union

In light of the post-BREXIT European context, on June 28, the European Commission decided that the United Kingdom offers an equivalent standard of personal data protection to that of the European Union.

Given that the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) establishes specific hypothesis in which the international transfer of personal data may take place (among which there is the transfer to countries with an "adequate level of protection for personal data"), the European Commission's conclusion enables the personal data flow without the need for specific additional guarantees whenever it takes place between the European Union and the United Kingdom.

The ruling in analysis was made as a result of two decisions from the Commission regarding the UK's data protection adequacy: one based on the GDPR (the ruling in analysis) and another based on the Law Enforcement Directive (LED). In this context, the Commission has concluded that the UK data protection system is still grounded on the rules that were applicable to it before BREXIT, thus incorporating the principles, rights and obligations set forth in the GDPR and in the Law Enforcement Directive.

Consequently, the aforementioned decisions also facilitate the implementation of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement, which provides for the exchange of personal data for specific aspects, such as in judicial matter cooperation.

It should be noted, however, that the European Commission has included specific safeguards to its ruling in the face of potential future disagreements. In this regard, a "sunset clause" has been put in place under the Commission's decisions, thus limiting the temporal scope regarding the understanding of the UK's adequacy level to a period of four years (being a reassessment required after this period). In addition, during these four years, the Commission will continue to monitor the UK's legislative compatibility with European data protection standards and may intervene at any time should the UK deviates from the level of protection currently in place.

Judicial Branch

Brazilian Supreme Federal Court addresses the lawfulness of court data disclosures on non-official websites

The Brazilian Federal Supreme Court (STF) acknowledged the general principle of Extreme Intimacy (Art. 5º, VIII, of the Brazilian Constitution (Matter 1.141), which regulates civil liabilities over the disclosure, on websites, of court information published by the official Judiciary bodies that are not subject to a lawsuit.

The appeal refers to a lawsuit filed in the State of Rio Grande do Sul. The plaintiff requested the disclosure of information on a legal proceeding filed by the plaintiff on a website other than the website of the Judiciary could jeopardize the plaintiff in future lawsuits. In addition, the plaintiff alleged that the information could not have been disclosed without authorization, as set forth in Resolution No. 129/2011 of the Superior Court of Justice, which determines that Regional Labor Courts limit the access to plaintiff data to prevent the creation of "black lists".

Requests for blocking the plaintiff's personal and professional data from the Internet and the payment, by the defendants, of an indemnity for pain and suffering were installed for security reasons. By retaining these services, businesses obtained personal data, including names, CPF numbers (Natural Persons Register), addresses, age, gender, purchase power and socioeconomic class of all individuals listed in credit protection records.

The 2º Civil Court of Brasília ordered Serasa to discontinue the sale of personal data through these services. According to the decision, despite of the public disclosure of the data by owners, in which case the data owner's authorization is not required, the data owner's basic rights must be protected and, "in view of the current legal scenario," protecting the data is required in compliance with the principles and other provisions set forth in the LGPD.

The decision is subject to appeal.

Second Civil Court of the City of Osasco, State of São Paulo: data leakage does not imply presumed moral damages

The 2º Civil Court of the City of Osasco, State of São Paulo, in record No. 1025226-11.2020.8.26.0105, determined that possible indemnities payable to owners of data is dependent on effective proof of damages.

The Plaintiff, a member of the Personal Data Protection Institute (PRODAPE), reported to have received information submitted by this Institute to a credit rating agency, in violation of the National Data Protection Act (LGPD), under a data leakage episode and, in view of the confidentiality of personal data, the Plaintiff filed the lawsuit against the company and requested, among other claims, the payment for pain and suffering in the amount of R\$10,000.00 (ten thousand reais). The Plaintiff alleged psychological trauma by virtue of this leak, which forced the Plaintiff to double care regarding false bill payments, in addition to being subjected to telemarketing e-mails and messages.

According to the decision, considering that the Plaintiff was unable to prove having received such e-mails, messages and calls, in addition to the fact that, getting telemarketing communications is commonplace, the request for indemnity was denied.

Furthermore, in the sentence it was determined that the claim requesting Eletropaul, currently ENEL, to provide the names of public and private entities that received such information, should be directly addressed to the National Data Protection Authority (ANPD).

The Plaintiff appealed, which decision by the Court of the State of São Paulo is currently pending.

Justice Court of São Paulo: data leakage and direct liability

The 9th Private Law Court of the State of São Paulo (STJ) decided that company should indemnify consumer in R\$ 2.000.00 (two thousand reais), based on the allegation of unlawful disclosure of personal data by the respective website. The Court applied the LGPD and reconsidered the original decision.

After stopping on the company's website, the consumer would have been advised by a third party via WhatsApp that their personal data was available on the Internet. In order to resolve the issue, the consumer asked the company to cease the disclosure of their personal data. In turn, the company took days to respond and resolve the consumer's request after the fact.

Differently from the story above, this time the TJSP determined that personal data leaks, although for a short period, would imply payment for pain and suffering. The legal basis is that personal data leaks go beyond a mere nuisance and violates the consumer's expectation that their personal information be protected during online shopping. Accordingly, the decision determined that the company was to be held directly responsible for any possible failure in the company's electronic systems.

According to the decision, article 44 of the LGPD provides for the attribution of responsibility for possible failures of data security systems. Therefore, the Court determined that "the security failure on the company's sales website is inherent to the risk of the business itself, characterized by an unexpected event under the responsibility of the provider."

The payment of R\$ 2.000,00 (two thousand reais) was calculated based on the amount paid for the on-line purchases, on the extent of the damages against the consumer and according to the parties' economic capacity. Thus far, the term for appeal by the company has not elapsed.

Although, the Court determined that the company's direct liability, the LGPD does not clearly establish civil liabilities applicable to the handling of data, with the understanding prevailing that liability is indirect, and depends on the evidence of damage, negligence or violation by the company when handling the data.

Fulfilling requests from owners of personal data, Justice Court of Santa Catarina launches application

Since 2018, the Santa Catarina State Judiciary (TJSC) is working to implement the General Data Protection Law (LGPD).

Although the identification of the personal data owners is not mentioned in any article of the LGPD, the TJSC determined that this is an essential security requirement in response to the data owners' requests.

Accordingly, the Court determined that, in requests submitted by e-mail, telephone or electronic form, users should confirm the personal data owner's mother's name. In addition, in partnership with other organizations dedicated to the study and enforcement of the LGPD, the TJSC developed an application, called "LGPD-USU", providing layered authentication of personal data owners, similarly to internet banking applications.

Using blockchain resources, the application - available to all mobile phone systems - provides different levels of access according to the relevance of the data and can operate through low data rate internet connections.

The expectation is that this application will serve as a model to other courts and organizations in Brazil.

Consumer Protection

PROCON-SP and the consumer guidance center

Due to the increase in mobile phone theft and unlawful access to the internet banking applications, the Bureau of Consumer Protection of São Paulo (PROCON-SP) has already created a consumer guidance center.

Previously, PROCON-SP had previously notified ten banks and three financial industry associations to provide clarifications on the operation of data security, blocking and exclusion devices used remotely and requested information on the tracking of financial transactions provided to clients.

Companies operating in the banking and mobile telephone industries have until July 30 to provide details on the measures undertaken when identifying or receiving reports of possible security breaches. In addition, these companies will be required to describe the receipt, handling and storage of personal data provided by data owners, as well as the period of storage and the security policies specifically implemented to address PIX transactions.

In addition, smartphone manufacturers were notified to provide clarifications on the security of their devices. These manufacturers are required to inform the users' information, as well as the charges applied for the use of profiles around their ideas, opinions and convictions that is beyond the control of the processing agents, besides putting at risk their fundamental rights provided in Portuguese Constitution. Thus, handling and storage of personal data provided by data owners, as well as the period of storage and the security provisions used to ensure that the information is not disclosed to any person data. It is also reported that the information shared were sensitive personal data, since they contained opinions and religious, political, and philosophical convictions, which required a more careful and responsible processing by the Municipality, as determined by GDPR and Portuguese Constitution, according to Authority.

Authority also considered that the sending of personal data by event promoters tends to potentiate illegally the creation of profiles around their ideas, opinions and convictions that is beyond the control of the processing agents, besides putting at risk their fundamental rights provided in Portuguese Constitution. Thus, handling and storage of personal data provided by data owners, as well as the period of storage and the security provisions used to ensure that the information is not disclosed to any person data.

In turn, Portuguese National Data Protection Authority (CNPD) understood, after due instruction, that the Municipality of Lisbon, by sharing personal data through communications between the services of the Municipality and with other bodies, violated the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Portuguese Authority found that the Municipality acted unlawfully and violated the principle of necessity, since GDPR only allows the sharing of information regarding the object, date, time, place, and direction of the communication, without the transmission of any personal data. It is also reported that the information shared were sensitive personal data, since they contained opinions and religious, political, and philosophical convictions, which required a more careful and responsible processing by the Municipality, as determined by GDPR and Portuguese Constitution, according to Authority.

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A deadline is opened for the submission of a defense by the Municipality of Lisbon so that a final decision may be issued by Authority.

Icelandic Data Protection Authority fines ice cream store managing company for improper monitoring of its employees

On June 29, the Icelandic Data Protection Authority fined the company "Happsi ehf", manager of ice cream parlors, a total of ISK 5,000,000 (approximately US\$ 13,000) for violation of the Icelandic Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the course of their usual monitoring of its employees with surveillance cameras.

As identified by the Authority, Happsi adopted security cameras in different locations of its company (including the employees' locker rooms), and did not inform them of such monitoring activities through contractual means or even with signs in the environment regarding the collection of data. In this regard, even though the cameras do not monitor where employees are, the Authority pointed out irregularities as to the scope and of this monitoring tool place.

Regarding the scope, the Authority understood that it would not be acceptable for the employees' locker rooms to be subject to surveillance by means of cameras. The Authority also concluded that the personal data collected through this system was not processed in a and adequate and adequate to meet the purposes that justified its collection. As an aggravating factor for the fine, the Authority also determined that the data subjects who receive specific protection under data protection regulations.

As a result, the company was forced (i) to stop the monitoring security cameras of employees who do not work during online shopping, and (ii) to implement procedures that would guarantee the employees' access to the necessary information about this operation.

With a similar rationale, the Brazilian General Data Protection Law (LGPD) sets forth a general principle the need to pursue transparency with the data subjects of the processed data regarding not only the existence of processing activities, but also their data, but also clear, precise, and easily accessible information about such activities. In addition, the LGPD also establishes the principle of necessity as a guide for an evaluation of what is the smallest amount of data necessary for the processing activity, taking into account the nature of the processing activity.

In this regard, aligned with such a magnitude, the Brazilian Superior Labor Court defined in 2020 the lawfulness of monitoring employees from security cameras, as long as this process is limited to the work environment (i.e., what is necessary to avoid abuses that might violate the privacy of employees as with spy cameras or cameras in bathrooms and locker rooms), also establishing the need to ensure proper transparency with the monitored data subjects (with signs about the monitoring activities, for example).

European national data protection authorities act against two municipalities for violating the General Data Protection Regulation

The first case is connected with the sharing of sensitive personal data, such as information concerning health and other confidential information, by the Municipality of Oslo, Norway, with other municipalities, called "Innryt". When considering the processing a serious violation, the Norwegian National Data Protection Authority fined Municipality of Oslo forty thousand euros.

The document in question was a subpoena, sent by the Oslo's municipal attorney to City Council of Oslo, Norwegian Authority highlighted that the document was not marked as "prohibited from public access", so it was not filed in the internal section, but sent for publication, remaining available to the public for about five hours, before being removed.

In turn, Portuguese National Data Protection Authority (CNPD) understood, after due instruction, that the Municipality of Lisbon, by sharing personal data through communications between the services of the Municipality and with other bodies, violated the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Portuguese Authority found that the Municipality acted unlawfully and violated the principle of necessity, since GDPR only allows the sharing of information regarding the object, date, time, place, and direction of the communication, without the transmission of any personal data. It is also reported that the information shared were sensitive personal data, since they contained opinions and religious, political, and philosophical convictions, which required a more careful and responsible processing by the Municipality, as determined by GDPR and Portuguese Constitution, according to Authority.

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International Guidelines

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