

Chambers



GLOBAL PRACTICE GUIDE

Definitive global law guides offering
comparative analysis from top-ranked lawyers

Data Protection & Privacy

Portugal

Morais Leitão, Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva & Associados

[chambers.com](https://www.chambers.com)

2020

PORTUGAL

Law and Practice

Contributed by:

*Helena Tapp Barroso and Tiago Félix da Costa
Morais Leitão, Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva &
Associados see p.16*



Contents

1. Basic National Regime	p.3	4. International Considerations	p.13
1.1 Laws	p.3	4.1 Restrictions on International Data Issues	p.13
1.2 Regulators	p.3	4.2 Mechanisms That Apply to International Data Transfers	p.13
1.3 Administration and Enforcement Process	p.3	4.3 Government Notifications and Approvals	p.13
1.4 Multilateral and Subnational Issues	p.3	4.4 Data Localisation Requirements	p.13
1.5 Major NGOs and Self-Regulatory Organisations	p.4	4.5 Sharing Technical Details	p.13
1.6 System Characteristics	p.4	4.6 Limitations and Considerations	p.13
1.7 Key Developments	p.4	4.7 “Blocking” Statutes	p.14
1.8 Significant Pending Changes, Hot Topics and Issues	p.4		
2. Fundamental Laws	p.4	5. Emerging Digital and Technology Issues	p.14
2.1 Omnibus Laws and General Requirements	p.4	5.1 Addressing Current Issues in Law	p.14
2.2 Sectoral and Special Issues	p.8	5.2 “Digital Governance” or Fair Data Practice Review Boards	p.15
2.3 Online Marketing	p.11	5.3 Significant Privacy and Data Protection Regulatory Enforcement or Litigation.	p.15
2.4 Workplace Privacy	p.11	5.4 Due Diligence	p.15
2.5 Enforcement and Litigation	p.12	5.5 Public Disclosure	p.15
		5.6 Other Significant Issues	p.15
3. Law Enforcement and National Security Access and Surveillance	p.12		
3.1 Laws and Standards for Access to Data for Serious Crimes	p.12		
3.2 Laws and Standards for Access to Data for National Security Purposes	p.12		
3.3 Invoking a Foreign Government	p.13		
3.4 Key Privacy Issues, Conflicts and Public Debates	p.13		

1. Basic National Regime

1.1 Laws

Portugal has had national constitutional privacy provisions for over four decades and Article 35 of the Portuguese Constitution continues to set forth the main principles and guarantees relevant to personal data protection.

The Constitution guarantees all citizens rights of access to, and correction and update of, any computerised data relating to them; as well as full information rights on the purposes and intended uses of such data. The Constitution also contains reinforced provisions regarding sensitive data and establishes a general restriction towards third-party access to personal data. A general constitutional provision prohibiting the allocation of a single national number to any citizen is also upheld in Portugal.

Although Article 35 is focused on the use of information technology regarding data processing, the same Article also contains a rule stating that personal data kept in manual files must receive equivalent protection and guarantees.

Currently, the legal framework for personal data protection in Portugal is that resulting from the direct application of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (General Data Protection Regulation or GDPR), and from the Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August, which ensures the implementation of the GDPR in Portugal.

1.2 Regulators

The supervisory authority responsible for monitoring the application of the data protection rules and principles in Portugal is the *Comissão Nacional de Proteção de Dados*, better known as the CNPD. The CNPD holds broad powers of investigation, specifically, the power to request information, the power to perform data protection audits and the power to obtain access to the data controller's or data processor's facilities, including equipment and data processing means.

The CNPD's main duties and responsibilities are:

- to supervise and monitor compliance with the laws and regulations in the area of personal data protection;
- to issue prior opinion on any legal provisions and on legal instruments in preparation, in EU or international institutions, relating to the processing of personal data;
- to exercise investigative powers related to any personal data processing activities;
- to exercise powers of authority, particularly those ordering the blocking, erasure or destruction of data, or imposing a

temporary or permanent ban on the processing of personal data;

- to warn or publicly censure a data controller for failure to comply with legal provisions on data protection;
- to be engaged in legal proceedings, in cases of violation of the legislation applicable to personal data protection; and
- to report to the Public Prosecution Office any criminal offences arising out of its functions and to take any necessary and urgent measures to provide evidence.

CNPD's decisions are binding and are subject to complaint and appeal to the administrative courts.

1.3 Administration and Enforcement Process

Portugal's regulatory offence procedure is split into two phases:

- an administrative phase, where the supervisory authority investigates the relevant facts and ultimately decides whether or not to impose a penalty; and
- a judicial phase, where the respondent may challenge the supervisory authority's decision in court.

The Portuguese Regulatory Offence Act establishes that no penalty may be imposed without the defendant first having been heard regarding all the facts under investigation.

If the supervisory authority decides to impose a penalty, after hearing the defendant, this decision may be challenged in court.

Defendants in a regulatory offence procedure enjoy most due process rights granted in criminal procedure law, namely the presumption of innocence, the right to produce and present evidence, and the right to appeal against unfavourable decisions. However, in these procedures, the privilege against self-incrimination may be mitigated, since controllers and processors are obliged to co-operate with the CNPD, namely by supplying the authority with the documents required and the information requested in the investigation stage of the procedure.

1.4 Multilateral and Subnational Issues

Being an EU member state, all privacy regulation is either European legislation or local legislation based on European instruments.

The first specific data protection act in Portugal was issued in 1991 (Portuguese Law No 10/91), at a time when the constitutional guarantees and protection principles contained in Article 35 had already been in place for fifteen years. The provisions of this law were essentially based on the principles and provisions contained in the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with Regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data (Convention 108), adopted by the Council of Europe.

Among the relevant international instruments adopted in Portugal, Convention 108 (Council of Europe), the European Convention on Human Rights (Article 8); and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (Articles 7 and 8) deserve mention.

Specific laws or specific legal provisions regarding personal data protection should also be considered. Among these, Portuguese Law No 41/2004, of 18 August plays an important role, not only for electronic communications providers but also to all data controllers in respect of cookies, geolocation data and direct marketing.

1.5 Major NGOs and Self-Regulatory Organisations

Currently there are no relevant, active privacy and data protection NGOs in Portugal, although there are a few associations that are growing increasingly active with regard to issues around the appointment of data protection officers and privacy professionals.

1.6 System Characteristics

The Portuguese legal system follows the European model, since Portugal belongs to the European Union. Additionally, the Regulations issued by the European Union – such as the GDPR – are directly applicable in Portugal.

The legal regime for the protection of personal data in force in Portugal is highly developed and the CNPD is a very demanding authority.

1.7 Key Developments

The most important development in data protection in the last 12 months has been the approval of Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August, which ensures the implementation in Portugal of the GDPR, and the approval of Deliberation No 2019/494 from the CNPD, according to which a number of provisions of the Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August are manifestly incompatible with EU law (specifically the GDPR) and, for that reason, based on the principle of the primacy of EU law, CNPD has decided not to apply these provisions in future cases.

1.8 Significant Pending Changes, Hot Topics and Issues

Other significant changes on the horizon include the approval of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the respect for private life and the protection of personal data in electronic communications which will repeal Directive 2002/58/EC (Regulation on Privacy and Electronic Communications).

2. Fundamental Laws

2.1 Omnibus Laws and General Requirements

Data Protection Officers

Before the GDPR there were no specific local law requirements for the appointment of Privacy or Data Protection Officers. Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August contains specific rules for the designation of DPOs, for both the public and private sectors. As far as the public sector is concerned, the provisions define the entities that qualify as public authorities or bodies for the purposes of the requirement of appointing Data Protection Officers and provide rules on the appointment requirements and role.

As far as private entities are concerned, appointment is required in accordance with the GDPR (ie, in the case of controllers or processors whose core activities consist of processing operations which – by virtue of their nature, their scope and/or their purposes – require regular and systematic monitoring of data subjects on a large scale; or consist of processing, on a large scale, of special categories of data and/or data relating to criminal convictions and offences). Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August does not provide for other cases where the appointment of Privacy or Data Protection Officers would be required.

Even when not strictly legally required to do so, other private sector controllers or processors may choose to appoint a Data Protection Officer as encouraged by EU regulators.

Authorised Data Collection

Under the GDPR principles relating to processing of personal data, data controllers are under the obligation to process personal data lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject and personal data shall be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes.

Lawful bases of processing, in line with those provisions of the GDPR that are fully applicable in Portugal, include the following:

- the data subject's specific, free (and, therefore, potentially withdrawable at any time), unambiguous and informed consent (explicit consent for one or more specified purposes is additionally required for processing of sensitive data, when such processing is based on data subject consent);
- processing being required for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is party or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract;
- the legitimate interest of the data controller or a third party – typically, in the case of data processing performed by a private sector controller - except where such interests

are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data;

- processing required by public interest or, in the case of public authorities or bodies in the performance of their tasks, in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller;
- processing needed to comply with legal obligations imposed on the controller; and
- processing necessary to protect the vital interests of the data subject or another natural person.

When it comes to the processing of special categories of data – personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation – processing is only admitted under the processing prohibition exceptions in Article 9 (2) of the GDPR.

It should be noted that Article 61, paragraph 2 of Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August stipulates that if the expiry of consent is a reason for termination of a contract to which a data subject is party, the processing of personal data shall be lawful until the termination of the contract takes place. However, the CNPD understands that this provision is incompatible with Article 4 (11) and Article 6, paragraph 1, (a) and (b), of the GDPR and, for that reason, has decided not to apply this provision in future cases.

Privacy by Design or by Default

In line with the principles reinforced by the GDPR, it is understood that the protection of the rights and freedoms of data subjects, as regards the processing of their personal data, requires appropriate technical and organisational measures to be taken.

When developing and designing products and services that involve the processing of personal data – and when selecting and using solutions to support, develop and offer such products or services – controllers must take into account the right to data protection of potential clients, customers, employees and other affected data subjects in accordance with a principle of data protection by design.

Similarly, the concept and principle of data protection by default, as established in Article 25 of the GDPR, is also fully applicable in Portugal requiring that controllers implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure that, by default, only the personal data that is necessary for each specific purpose of the data-processing is processed. This applies to, among others: (i) the amount of personal data collected; (ii) the extent of its processing; and (iii) the period of its storage accessibility.

Privacy Impact Analyses

Processing operations that are likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of data subjects must be subject to prior assessment to be performed by the controller. Such an assessment, pursuant to the rules foreseen in Article 35 of the GDPR, aims at evaluating the origin, nature, particularity and severity of the risk to those rights and freedoms that the intended processing activity will represent and to allow the controller to determine which measures should be adopted to ensure the processing conforms with all principles relating to the processing including, among others, those of lawfulness, fairness, transparency, purpose limitation and minimisation and also to guarantee data accuracy, integrity and confidentiality.

With reference to Article 35 (4) and (6) of the GDPR, the CNPD has established a list of the kind of processing operations which are subject to the requirement for a data protection impact assessment (DPIA). As was the case with a large number of other EU supervisory authorities the draft lists prepared by the Portuguese supervisory authority (CNPD) was subject to the consistency mechanism, and the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) assessed that draft and issued an opinion prior to the list being finally approved and issued.

The list was published in CNPD's Regulation No 1/2018 of 16 October and aims at identifying processing operations likely to result in a high risk and which therefore require a DPIA.

In the case of Portugal, the operations that require a DPIA to be conducted prior to the start of the processing activities are the following:

- processing of information arising from the use of electronic devices which transmit, through communication networks, personal data relating to health;
- processing of special categories of personal data or personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences or data of a highly personal nature, where such data is not collected directly from the data subject and it is not possible or feasible to ensure compliance with the GDPR's information duties;
- processing of personal data which involves or consists of large-scale profiling;
- processing of personal data to trace the location or conduct of the respective data subjects (eg, workers, customers) that has the effect of evaluating or classifying them, except where the processing is indispensable for the provision of services specifically required by the data subjects;
- processing of special categories of personal data, personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences, or data of a highly personal nature where that processing is for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical

research purposes or statistical purposes, except for the processing of personal data regulated by law that provides adequate guarantees of the rights of the data subjects;

- processing of biometric data for the unambiguous identification of data subjects when they are vulnerable persons, except for processing regulated by law that has been preceded by an impact assessment on data protection;
- processing of genetic data of vulnerable persons, except for processing regulated by law which has been preceded by an impact assessment on data protection;
- processing of special categories of personal data or personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences or data of a highly personal nature with the use of new technologies or new use of existing technologies.

Privacy Policies

Although there is no strict provision determining that the controller must adopt internal or external privacy policies, these are, based on best practices, relevant measures for establishing compliance with the GDPR, specifically policies (and measures) that meet the principles of data protection by design and data protection by default.

Data Subject Access Rights

Data subjects are granted the right to access their personal data as provided for in the GDPR. Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August does not provide for any specific formalities for the data subjects to exercise this right.

The right of access comprises the data subjects' entitlement to obtain confirmation from the data controller as to whether or not personal data concerning the data subjects are being processed, and, that being the case, an entitlement to have access to the personal data, to all the information provided for in Article 15(1) (a) through to (h) and (2) of the GDPR and to obtain a copy of the personal data undergoing processing.

Data subjects are also entitled to require the correction or updating of inaccurate or outdated data from the controller.

Data subjects are entitled to object at any time to the processing of information relating to them:

- on justified grounds; or
- in any case, and free of charge, if information is meant for the purposes of direct marketing or any other form of research.

Additionally, data subjects are entitled to the right not to be subject to a decision that produces legal effects concerning them or significantly affecting them, and which is based solely on

automated processing of information intended to evaluate certain personal aspects of the data subjects.

Data subjects are also granted erasure rights and the right to restriction of processing, particularly when the data held by the controller does not comply with the provisions and principles set out for processing under the GDPR.

All other substantive rights granted to individuals by the GDPR fully apply, including the right to data portability within the limits foreseen in Article 20 of the GDPR.

Naturally, none of the above rights are unrestricted. They should be exercised under the conditions foreseen in Articles 15 to 22 of the GDPR.

Anonymisation, De-identification and Pseudonymisation

Anonymisation

Personal data is effectively anonymised if the person to whom the data relates is not or no longer identifiable. Please note that effective anonymisation requires taking into account possible new technologies which may enable re-identification of data which was once considered anonymous. As a result, anonymisation should be irreversible in the sense that one cannot identify an individual by coupling the anonymised data with any additional information.

Personal data which has been anonymised is no longer considered to be personal data as defined in the GDPR, and therefore the requirements under the applicable data protection legislation do not have to be observed for anonymised data.

De-identification

De-identification is the process used to prevent personal identifiers from being connected with information.

If the person to whom the data relates is no longer identifiable, the data is no longer considered to be personal data as defined in the GDPR, and therefore the requirements under the applicable data protection legislation do not have to be observed for the processing of the data.

If it is possible to identify the person to whom the data relates, the data is considered personal data as defined in the GDPR, and therefore the requirements under the applicable data protection legislation shall be observed for the processing of the data.

Pseudonymisation

According to the GDPR "pseudonymisation" means "the processing of personal data in such a manner that the personal data can no longer be attributed to a specific data subject without the

use of additional information, provided that such additional information is kept separately and is subject to technical and organisational measures to ensure that the personal data is not attributed to an identified or identifiable natural person”.

It should be noted that if the identifying elements of personal data are removed, but are kept separately and could be re-united with the remaining elements of the data, then it is possible to identify the data subjects and this data should be considered personal data. The requirements under the applicable data protection legislation shall, therefore, be observed for pseudonymised data.

Profiling

Pursuant to the GDPR, controllers can carry out profiling and automated decision-making as long as they can meet all the principles and have a lawful basis for the processing as set out below. Additional safeguards and restrictions apply in the case of solely automated decision-making, including profiling, which has a legal effect or similarly significantly affects the data subject.

With respect to “profiling” which does not have any legal effects or does not similarly significantly affect the data subject, the GDPR provides the following:

A data subject shall have the right to object, on grounds relating to his or her particular situation, at any time, to profiling concerning him or her which is necessary:

- for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller; or
- for purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party.

In such a situation, the controller shall no longer process the personal data unless the controller demonstrates compelling and legitimate grounds for the processing (which override the interests, rights and freedoms of the data subject) or for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims.

Where personal data is processed for direct marketing purposes, a data subject shall have the right to object at any time to the processing of personal data concerning him or her for that marketing, which includes profiling to the extent that it is related to such direct marketing.

In addition, according to CNPD’s Regulation No 1/2018 of 16 October the processing of personal data which involves or consists of large-scale profiling is likely to result in a high risk and requires a DPIA.

Automated Decision-Making

The GDPR contains a prohibition on decisions based solely on automated processing, including profiling, which have legal or other significant consequences for the data subject.

However, the GDPR stipulates that the prohibition on making solely automated decisions does not apply when the decision is:

- (i) necessary for the performance of, or entering into, a contract with the individual;
- (ii) based on the data subject’s explicit consent; or
- (iii) authorised by EU or member state law to which the controller is subject, and which also lays down suitable measures to safeguard the data subject’s rights and freedoms and legitimate interests.

In the cases referred to in points (i) and (ii), the data controller shall implement suitable measures to safeguard the data subject’s rights and freedoms and legitimate interests, at least the right to obtain human intervention on the part of the controller, to express his or her point of view and to contest the decision.

Online Monitoring or Tracking

When personal data is processed in this context the requirements of the GDPR must be fulfilled. Special attention should be given to the rules regarding the principle of purpose limitation, the legal basis for the processing and retention periods. According to the GDPR, personal data can only be kept while it is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data was collected and the controller shall establish retention periods of personal data which comply with this rule.

Moreover, Article 5 (1) of Portuguese Law No 41/2004 of 18 August requires the collection of informed consent before information in the user’s (or subscriber’s) terminal device is stored or accessed, which includes the usage of cookies. However, Article 5 (2) of Portuguese Law No 41/2004 of 18 August stipulates that consent to technical storage or access to such information is not required if it is: (i) used for the sole purpose of carrying out the transmission of a communication over an electronic communications network; or (ii) strictly necessary for the provider to provide an information society service explicitly requested by the subscriber or user.

Finally, according to CNPD’s Regulation No 1/2018 of 16 October, the processing of personal data to trace the location or conduct of the respective data subjects (eg, workers or customers) that has the effect of evaluating or classifying them, except where the processing is indispensable for the provision of services specifically required by the data subjects, is likely to result in a high risk and requires a DPIA.

Big Data Analysis, AI and Algorithms

When personal data is processed in this context the requirements of the GDPR must be fulfilled. Special attention should be given to the rules regarding the principle of purpose limitation, the legal basis for the processing and retention periods. According to the GDPR, personal data can only be kept while it is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data was collected and the controller shall establish retention periods of personal data which comply with this rule.

Additionally, as mentioned above, personal data which has been anonymised is no longer considered to be personal data as defined in the GDPR. Therefore, the requirements under the GDPR do not have to be observed if personal data is anonymised.

The Concept of “Injury” or “Harm”

Damages suffered by data subjects, as a result of an act or omission purportedly of the controller, in breach of the GDPR provisions or other legal provisions for the protection of personal data, will trigger an entitlement to compensation for damage claimable through the courts. Compensation for serious injury to feelings may be also claimed.

However, punitive damages – ie, the possibility for a court, in a civil liability action, to order the payment of compensation in an amount of money exceeding the amount of the damages suffered as a result of the unlawful conduct – have a very limited scope of application in Portugal.

Additionally, it should be noted that the right to claim monetary damages and compensation are exercisable through the judicial system and not directly enforced by the supervisory authority.

2.2 Sectoral and Special Issues

In Portugal, the special categories of data (sensitive data) are those set forth in Article 9 (1) of the GDPR (personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation).

As referred to above, the GDPR states the general rule that the processing of such special categories of data is prohibited with the exception, only, of the processing of such data on the grounds laid out in, or as required in the cases foreseen by, Article 9 (2) of the GDPR.

Exceptions include, among others:

- explicit consent given by the data subject to the processing of that personal data for one or more specified purposes, except where the law provides that the processing prohibition may not be lifted by the data subject;
- processing necessary for compliance with obligations or to exercise rights under employment and social security and social protection laws, as set out in the law or a collective agreement pursuant to the law providing for appropriate safeguards for the rights and freedoms of data subjects;
- protection of the vital interests of the data subject or another natural person where the data subject is physically or legally incapable of giving consent;
- processing required for the establishment, exercise or defence of a legal claim or whenever courts are acting in their judicial capacity;
- processing necessary for reasons of substantial public interest on the basis of legal provisions law which are proportionate, respect the essence of the right to data protection and provide for suitable and specific measures to safeguard the rights and interests of the data subjects;
- processing required for preventative or occupational medicine, medical diagnosis, provision of health or social care or treatment or management of health or social care systems and services on the basis of the law or pursuant to a contract with a health professional; and
- requirements resulting from archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes on the basis of legal provisions.

Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August did not include further conditions with regard to the processing of genetic data, biometric data or data concerning health under the provision contained in Article 9 (4), with the exception of employee biometric data whose processing is admitted for access control and working hours control.

Financial Data

MiFID II Directive (Directive 2014/65/EU on markets in financial instruments) has been implemented in Portugal and this involves an increase in record keeping regarding financial transactions, including requirements on financial intermediaries to keep a record of market orders and information exchanged with the investors which involves relevant personal financial data processing, and abiding with high level of security requirements regarding the electronic processing of data as well as reinforced requirements regarding the integrity and confidentiality of the data recorded.

Health Data

Under the GDPR the processing data concerning health (as is the case of other special categories of data) is only admitted under the specific exception grounds foreseen in Article 9 (2).

In addition, the Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August contains specific provisions for processing health and genetic data, which include that:

- the access to health and genetic data being governed by the need-to-know principle;
- in the cases provided for in Article 9, paragraph 2, (h) and (i), of the GDPR, the processing of health and genetic data shall be carried out by a professional bound to secrecy or by another person bound by a duty of confidentiality, and appropriate information security measures shall be guaranteed;
- access to health and genetic data shall be made exclusively through electronic means, unless it is technically impossible or the data subject expressly indicates otherwise;
- the disclosure or subsequent transmission of health and genetic data is prohibited;
- the data subject shall be notified of any access to his or her health or genetic data, and the controller shall ensure the availability of this traceability and notification mechanism; and
- the members of corporate bodies, workers and service providers of the controller, the DPO, students and researchers in the area of health and genetics, and all health professionals who have access to health and genetic data are obliged to a duty of confidentiality.

Communications Data

The processing of data in the context of electronic communication service providers and services (telecoms sector) is subject to specific legislation. Currently the regulation is contained in Portuguese Law No 41/2004 of 18 August.

Additionally, Portuguese Law No 32/2008 of 17 July on the retention and transfer of traffic and location data for the purposes of the investigation, detection and prosecution of serious crime by competent authorities, implemented Directive 2006/24/EC, on the retention of data generated or processed in connection with the provision of publicly available electronic communications services or public communications networks.

Content of Electronic Communications

Under the Portuguese Criminal Procedure Code, the interception and recording of telephone, electronic or other kinds of conversations and communications can only be performed by the competent authorities, with a reasoned order from a judge and at the request of the Public Prosecutor, regarding crimes expressly foreseen for this purpose and if there is reason to

believe that these measures are indispensable for the discovery of the truth or that the evidence would otherwise be impossible or very difficult to obtain.

Children's Data

Children receive some specific protection as far as their personal data processing is concerned. Notably, specific requirements apply to language used to provide any information and communication on data processing addressed to a child, which is required to be written in language sufficiently clear and plain that a child can easily understand.

Under the Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August, when consent is the basis for child data processing in relation to the offer of information society services directly to a child, the consent of the holder of parental responsibility is not required where the child is at least 13 years old.

In 2016 the CNPD issued guidelines on the availability of student (and other data subjects) personal data on the school internet pages and, in 2018, additional guidelines were issued on the same subject matter regarding university and equivalent institutions.

Employment Data

Portuguese Law No 7/2009 of 12 February (Portuguese Labour Code) establishes, in Articles 16 to 22, norms on data processing in the workplace, namely, norms pertaining to the processing of an employee's biometric data, the demand for medical exams as a condition for employment and the use of remote surveillance methods.

Additionally, Article 28 of the Portuguese Data Protection Law regulates the processing of personal data in the employment context.

Internet, Streaming and Video Issues

Article 5 (1) of the Portuguese Law No 41/2004 of 18 August requires the collection of informed consent before information in the user's (or subscriber's) terminal device is stored or accessed, which include the usage of cookies. However, Article 5 (2) of the Portuguese Law No 41/2004 of 18 August stipulates that consent to technical storage or access to such information is not required if it is: (i) used for the sole purpose of carrying out the transmission of a communication over an electronic communications network; or (ii) strictly necessary for the provider to provide an information society service explicitly requested by the subscriber or user.

Data Subject Rights

According to the GDPR data subjects have the following rights:

- right of access;

- right to rectification;
- right to erasure;
- right to restriction of processing;
- right to data portability;
- right to object;
- right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing;
- right to withdraw consent; and
- right to lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority.

Special attention should be given to the right of data subjects to be informed. According to this right the controller shall provide the data subjects with a set of information on the processing of their personal data, which includes, but is not limited to: (i) the purposes of the processing for which the personal data is intended; (ii) the legal basis for the processing; (iii) the recipients or categories of recipients of the personal data; and (iv) the period for which the personal data will be stored.

Right to be Forgotten

According to the GDPR, the data subject has the right to obtain from the controller the erasure of personal data concerning him or her, without undue delay and the controller has the obligation to erase personal data without undue delay where one of the following grounds applies:

- the personal data is no longer necessary in relation to the purposes for which they were collected or otherwise processed;
- the data subject withdraws the consent on which the processing is based and there is no other legal ground for the processing;
- the data subject objects to the processing of personal data concerning him or her and there are no overriding legitimate grounds for the processing, or the data subject objects to the processing of his or her personal data for direct marketing purposes;
- the personal data has been unlawfully processed;
- the personal data must be erased for compliance with a legal obligation in EU or member state law to which the controller is subject; or
- the personal data has been collected in relation to the offer of social services.

The right of erasure does not apply where the processing of personal data is necessary for the following purposes:

- for exercising the right of freedom of expression and information;
- for compliance with a legal obligation which requires processing by EU or member state law to which the controller is subject or for the performance of a task carried out in the

public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller;

- for reasons of public interest in the area of public health;
- for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes in so far as the right of erasure is likely to render impossible or seriously impair the achievement of the objectives of that processing; or
- for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims.

Data Access and Portability

According to GDPR the data subject has the right to receive personal data concerning him or her, which he or she has provided to the controller, in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format.

The data subject also has the right to transmit the personal data concerning him or her to another controller without hindrance from the controller to which the personal data had originally been provided, where:

- the processing is based on consent or on a contract to which the data subject is party; and
- the processing is carried out by automated means.

In this case, the data subject has the right to have the personal data transmitted directly from one controller to another, where technically feasible.

Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August contains a provision on portability that underlines that the data subject's right to data portability only includes data that has been provided by the data subject to the controller, a wording that may be interpreted in accordance with the understanding contained in Article 29 Working Party Guidelines on Portability to include data indirectly "provided" by the data subject through use of a service or device.

Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August also states that whenever possible portability should be operated in an open format. In the case of the public service bodies it provides that whenever data interoperability is not technically possible the data should be provided to the data subject in an open digital format in accordance with the National Regulation on Digital Interoperability (approved and published by the Government in January 2018).

Right of Rectification

Data subjects have the right to obtain from the controller, without undue delay, the rectification of their personal data. Taking into account the purposes of the processing, data subjects have

the right to have incomplete personal data completed, including by means of providing a supplementary statement.

2.3 Online Marketing

Portuguese Law No 41/2004 of 18 August contains specific provisions on unsolicited communications for marketing purposes.

Unsolicited electronic commercial communication aimed at data subjects (natural persons) is limited to cases where prior consent has been provided, except where the controller has obtained the electronic contact of its customers, in the context of the sale of products or services, in which case that controller may address the data subject with direct marketing on products or services marketed by the controller and similar to those previously provided. This possibility is, however, subject to the controller having provided the data subject with the prior possibility of opting out from unsolicited communications, in an easy and free of charge manner, and of providing an easy opt-out on the occasion of each marketing message that is sent.

Under the guarantees granted by the GDPR (particularly Article 21 (2) and (3)), where personal data is processed for direct marketing purposes, the data subject shall have the right to object at any time to such processing, including to object to profiling to the extent that it is related to such direct marketing and where the data subject objects to processing for direct marketing purposes, the controller may no longer process his or her data for direct marketing purposes.

Once the current proposal for an e-Privacy Regulation is finally approved, enters into force and replaces the existing e-Privacy Directive, Portugal, as an EU member state, will be subject to its direct application.

2.4 Workplace Privacy

The Portuguese Labour Code contains, in Articles 16 to 22, provisions on employee privacy, including provisions on monitoring and surveillance.

As a rule, the use of surveillance equipment by the employer to control employee performance is excluded. Closed-circuit TV in office premises is lawful only where it aims to protect the safety of persons and goods or when the nature of the activity so requires.

Employees are granted privacy and confidentiality guarantees regarding personal correspondence and messages even when using work email addresses.

Employers are limited in their ability to request information on a candidate's or employee's private life, except for information that is strictly necessary or relevant to assess their aptitude/abili-

ties for the job. In such cases, the specific reasons for requiring the information must be provided in writing by the employer. The same rules apply to information on health or pregnancy and in this case the information must be provided to a doctor who will merely inform the employer on the person's aptitude for the job.

In addition, Article 28 of Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August regulates to the processing of personal data in the employment context, foreseeing that:

- an employer could process the personal data of its employees for the purposes and within the limits defined in the Portuguese Labour Code and the respective complementary legislation or other employment legislation;
- recorded images and other personal data gathered through the use of video systems or other technological means of remote surveillance, in accordance with Article 20 of the Portuguese Labour Code, can only be used in the context of criminal proceedings – however, these images and personal data can also be used for the purpose of establishing disciplinary responsibility, provided this is limited to criminal proceedings; and
- an employer shall only process its employees' biometric data for the purposes of attendance control and access control to the employer premises.

Employers may rule the terms for use of means of communication provided through company IT, but employees are entitled to keep their private use confidential, including the content of personal emails and internet access. Admissible use of the means of communication provided through company IT should form part of an internal regulation (policy). The CNPD issued guidelines in 2013 for such purposes.

Before implementing any monitoring system, the employer must inform its employees about the conditions under which the IT and communication equipment made available at the workplace may be used for private purposes and on the monitoring schemes and personal data processing resulting from that monitoring. Generic monitoring methodologies must be adopted avoiding the individual consultation of personal data.

The document includes quite detailed and specific guidelines for phone use and for the use of email and internet access.

However, it should be noted that these guidelines were issued before the GDPR entered into force and Portuguese case law is not unanimous on the rules applicable in this context.

Consultation with employee work councils is required for certain types of data-processing, particularly for the processing of

employee biometric data and the use of closed-circuit TV in office premises.

The CNPD also published a resolution (in 2009) setting forth the conditions according to which whistle-blowing programmes are admissible. Under this resolution the CNPD's understanding is that the purpose of whistle-blowing (and the purpose of the data-processing resulting from whistle-blowing hotlines) must be limited to the internal control of reports of misconduct intended to prevent or repress internal irregularities in the fields of accounting, internal accounting controls, auditing matters, the fight against corruption, and banking and financial crimes.

In general, Portuguese labour law does not establish an obligation to inform work councils about the implementation of this kind of scheme in the company. However, if the company intends to provide binding rules to all employees, the whistle-blower scheme will typically be laid-out in an internal company regulation and this type of instrument is subject to prior consultation with the employee representative structures (works council or union representatives).

2.5 Enforcement and Litigation

Any offence, be it regulatory or criminal, must be defined by law; and its elements, including culpability, must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in order for any penalty to be applied.

Regulatory offences are investigated by the CNPD, which also has the power to convict, although CNPD's convictions may be subjected to judicial review.

Criminal offences are investigated by the Public Prosecutor's Office but only a court may convict a defendant.

Under the GDPR, enforcement penalties for data privacy or data protection violations may reach EUR20 million or up to 4% of a company's total worldwide annual turnover in the preceding financial year, whichever is higher.

Criminal offences related to data protection are currently punished with fines or prison terms that range from six months to four years.

On 11 October 2018, the CNPD imposed a EUR400,000 penalty on a public hospital in the greater Lisbon area, for irregularities in the access to patients' medical records. This case is notable for having the first penalty imposed under the new GDPR framework, for having a public entity as a defendant and for dealing with a special category of personal data, specifically medical records.

Legal standards for private litigation, regarding alleged data privacy and data protection violations, for now, are the same as any other civil case regarding personal rights.

Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August contains rules shifting the burden of proof from the plaintiff to the data controller and data processor.

Portuguese Civil Procedure Law allows for class action lawsuits for the protection of consumer interests, which may include consumers' right to privacy and personal data protection.

3. Law Enforcement and National Security Access and Surveillance

3.1 Laws and Standards for Access to Data for Serious Crimes

Law enforcement access to data for serious crimes is covered by the Criminal Procedure Code and the Portuguese Cybercrime Law. Public prosecutors may unilaterally authorise the search and seizure of stored computer data, except for data covered by professional privilege, in which case access to those systems must be ordered by an investigating judge.

Portuguese Law No 32/2008 of 17 July establishes the legal framework for the collection of metadata by law enforcement. The collection of metadata must be authorised by an investigating judge and must be indispensable for the investigation of crimes at hand.

3.2 Laws and Standards for Access to Data for National Security Purposes

Portuguese Organic Law No 4/2017 of 25 August establishes the legal framework for the collection of metadata by intelligence services.

The collection of metadata must be authorised by a special section of the Supreme Court and must be proportionate to the ends for which that data is collected.

However, it should be noted that the Portuguese Constitutional Court has declared the unconstitutionality of:

- the rule set out in Article 3 of the Portuguese Organic Law No 4/2017 of 25 August, in so far as it allows information officers of the Security Intelligence Service (SIS) and the Strategic Intelligence and Defence Service (SIED) access to source data and equipment location data, when they do not support a concrete communication, for the purpose of producing information necessary to safeguard national defence and internal security; and

- the rule set out in Article 4 of the Portuguese Organic Law No 4/2017 of 25 August.

3.3 Invoking a Foreign Government

Access to data by foreign governments must be done through the Judicial Police and comply with the principles of international co-operation established in the Cybercrime Law, without prejudice to any applicable international conventions.

Portugal does not participate in a Cloud Act agreement with the USA.

3.4 Key Privacy Issues, Conflicts and Public Debates

Cases such as “Football Leaks” and “Luanda Leaks” have generated considerable public controversy about the legality of evidence obtained in violation of the privacy of individuals.

4. International Considerations

4.1 Restrictions on International Data Issues

According to the GDPR, the transfer of personal data to another European Union member state and to European Economic Area (EEA) member countries is not restricted. However, transfer outside these territories is restricted and shall take place only if:

- the European Commission has decided that the country in question ensures an adequate level of protection for personal data;
- the controller or processor has provided appropriate safeguards (eg, standard contractual binding clauses), and on the condition that enforceable data subjects rights and effective legal remedies for data subjects are available; or
- in the absence of an adequacy decision from the European Commission and of appropriate safeguards, and on an exceptional basis, if:
 - (a) the data subject has explicitly consented to the proposed transfer, after having been informed of the possible risks of such transfers for the data subject due to the absence of an adequacy decision and appropriate safeguards;
 - (b) the transfer is necessary for the performance of a contract between the data subject and the controller or the implementation of pre-contractual measures taken at the data subject's request and the transfer of personal data is occasional;
 - (c) the transfer is necessary for the conclusion or performance of a contract concluded in the interest of the data subject between the controller and another natural or legal person;

- (d) the transfer is necessary for important reasons of public interest;
- (e) the transfer is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims;
- (f) the transfer is necessary in order to protect the vital interests of the data subject or of other persons, where the data subject is physically or legally incapable of giving consent; or
- (g) the transfer is made from a register which according to EU or member state law is intended to provide information to the public and which is open to consultation either by the public in general or by any person who can demonstrate a legitimate interest, but only to the extent that the conditions laid down by EU or member state law for consultation are fulfilled in the particular case.

4.2 Mechanisms That Apply to International Data Transfers

International data transfers may be made under contracts that follow the standard form model clauses approved by the European Commission, although currently approved standard clauses are yet to be adopted and updated to the GDPR.

Prior to the GDPR, the CNPD was amongst the supervisory authorities that rejected the “Binding Corporate Rules” as a mechanism for data transfers but this is now allowed under Article 47 of the GDPR.

Transfer to the US may be done under the EU-US Privacy Shield.

4.3 Government Notifications and Approvals

There are no prior government notifications or approvals required to transfer data internationally in Portugal.

4.4 Data Localisation Requirements

Portuguese law does not provide for any requirement for data to be maintained in-country.

4.5 Sharing Technical Details

Article 27 (1) (o) of the Portuguese Law No 5/2004, of 10 February (Electronic Communications Law) requires electronic communications services providers to install, and make available to the authorities, communications interception systems, as well as decryption methods whenever encryption services are offered.

4.6 Limitations and Considerations

Article 48 of the GDPR establishes that judicial and administrative decisions, which require the transfer or disclosure of personal data, may only be recognised or enforced if they are

based on an international agreement, without prejudice to other grounds for transfer found in Chapter V of the GDPR.

4.7 “Blocking” Statutes

The issue does not arise in the Portuguese jurisdiction.

5. Emerging Digital and Technology Issues

5.1 Addressing Current Issues in Law

The provisions of Article 22 of the GDPR on automated individual decision-making (including profiling) fully apply in Portugal.

Therefore, the right not to be subject to decision based solely on automated processing, which produces legal effects concerning the data subject or similarly significantly affects the latter is granted to all data subjects and such automated decision-making processing is restricted to cases where the decision:

- is necessary for entering into, or for performing a contract between the data subject and the controller;
- is authorised by law applicable to the controller and which lays down suitable measures to safeguard the data subject; or
- is based on the data subject’s explicit consent.

Additionally, the data subject has the right to object, on grounds relating to his or her particular situation, at any time to processing of personal data concerning him or her based on legitimate interest or on a public interest task, including profiling. When the subject objects to such processing, the controller must not continue with such processing unless it is able to demonstrate compelling legitimate grounds for the processing – which override the interests, rights and freedoms of the data subject – or for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims.

The use of employee biometric data for access control and control over employee working time was also addressed by CNPD in specific guidelines issued in 2004 although some of these have to be read in the light of the new legal framework and interpreted accordingly, particularly because a number of principles that, under the prior system, would have been considered by the CNPD to require prior notification of the authority for the processing of biometric data for controlling access and monitoring hours worked.

Portuguese Law No 58/2019 of 8 August contains a provision stating that the processing of employee biometric data is (only) admissible for the specific purposes of access control and monitoring hours worked.

Geolocation is another area in which the CNPD issued guidelines (in 2014) focused on the processing of employee personal data resulting from the use of geolocation devices. The CNPD’s understanding – which has found some support in court decisions – is that the use of GPS devices and the tracking they allow is equivalent to a distance surveillance system and their use – and the processing of data that results from their use – should be limited to purposes of safety protection or when the nature of the activity so requires.

The first relevant line drawn by the authority in the guidelines issued is that the employer shall not process data collected by geolocation (typically GPS) systems that reveal employee movements outside his or her working time. Within the limits of employee working time, the CNPD considers that the processing of such data to pursue purposes of efficiency, service quality, optimisation of company resources or protection of property is legitimate. Geolocation data shall not be used to control employee performance. The CNPD’s understanding is restrictive on the possibility of the employer using geolocation devices – and processing information thus collected – on smartphones and laptops attributed to the employees as opposed to the use of same devices in company vehicles. In the latter case, legitimate use and purposes are specifically indicated in the guidelines, regarding fleet management in the case of activities involving services rendered to clients outside company premises, for the protection of property against theft and activities involving transportation of dangerous substances or high value goods. Clear and transparent information must be provided by the employer to the data subject employees on the use of geolocation devices included in vehicles or equipment used by the employee when performing his or her role.

The Portuguese Civil Aviation Authority (ANAC) issued Regulation No 1093/2016, in December 2016, implementing specific provisions and rules on the use of drones in the Portuguese airspace.

Drone flights require prior authorisation by the ANAC except in cases where:

- the flight occurs in daylight;
- within a maximum altitude of 120 meters above the ground; and
- visual contact with the drone is kept at all times.

Night flights or flights over groups of more than 12 people requires specific prior authorisation.

There are a number of relevant restrictions applicable to drone flights in the areas surrounding airports or other aircraft, and

finances (of up to EUR250,000) may apply in case of breach of regulatory provisions.

This authorisation does not apply or refer to any data processing that occurs in connection with the use of drones (namely to the collection of photos or filming) and such processing is within the scope of data processing activities subject to the GDPR provisions.

5.2 “Digital Governance” or Fair Data Practice Review Boards

The issue does not arise in the Portuguese jurisdiction.

5.3 Significant Privacy and Data Protection Regulatory Enforcement or Litigation.

See 2.5 Enforcement and Litigation.

5.4 Due Diligence

The issue does not arise in the Portuguese jurisdiction.

5.5 Public Disclosure

The issue does not arise in the Portuguese jurisdiction.

5.6 Other Significant Issues

The issue does not arise in the Portuguese jurisdiction.

Morais Leitão, Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva & Associados has a cross-practice, dedicated and business-oriented data protection team comprising lawyers specialised in the field. The firm's primary office is based in Lisbon, with five other offices located in Porto, Funchal, Angola, Mozambique and Macau. The firm's practice covers a wide range of specialisms, includ-

ing corporate and M&A, gaming, litigation and arbitration, and TMT. It is the firm's belief that compliance with data protection standards should not be an obstacle to the development of clients' businesses and, therefore, it seeks to present solutions that are a true compromise between respect for those standards and the interests of its clients.

Authors



Helena Tapp Barroso is a partner and a member of both the employment and pensions team and the data protection team. She joined the firm in 2006 and became a non-equity partner in 2010.

Helena has wide experience in the areas of labour and employment (including dispute regulation and litigation activity) and she has acted extensively on data protection and privacy issues; providing legal assistance in drawing up personal data privacy and protection policies, data protection compliance, assessment and auditing programmes, data processing and data transfer agreements, including sector-specific issues for business areas such as insurance and insurance distribution, media, technology, banking and finance, retail and health – particularly in the GDPR context. Helena is a member of the Portuguese Bar Association (member of the Lisbon District Council from 1999 to 2001), lectures regularly for postgraduate studies in labour law and data protection studies at several law faculties, as well as regularly contributing to publications on these subjects. Helena is a Certified Information Privacy Professional/Europe (CIPP/E) (International Association of Privacy Professionals – IAPP, 2017).



Tiago Félix da Costa is a partner, co-coordinator of a criminal and compliance team and head of the data protection team. He joined the firm in 2007 and became a partner in 2015.

Having been a practitioner of law since 2004, Tiago has wide experience in the areas of criminal and misdemeanour litigation and civil, corporate and commercial litigation. Recently, Tiago has acted increasingly in the personal data protection sector, providing legal assistance on criminal and misdemeanour processes in this area and assisting several companies on the creation of policies and programmes of compliance in the personal data protection sector. Tiago is a member of the Portuguese Bar Association (admitted in 2004), regularly teaches postgraduates in different law faculties and has contributed to several publications relating to data protection law. Tiago holds certification from the Advanced Training Course on Data Protection Compliance in the EU (European Institute of Public Administration – EIPA, 2017).

Morais Leitão, Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva & Associados

Rua Castilho, 165
1070-050 Lisboa

Tel: +351 21 381 74 00
Fax: +351 21 381 74 99
Email: mlgtslisboa@mlgts.pt
Web: www.mlgts.pt

MORAIS LEITÃO
GALVÃO TELES, SOARES DA SILVA
& ASSOCIADOS

