

Emerging technologies, data protection, and cross-border implications in EU and GCC: Data Protection and Privacy of Citizens and Organisations

Introduction

This research book is designed to cover cutting edge legal issues resulting from emerging technologies in inherent use of data with cross-border regulatory implications between EU countries and GCC countries. There are many intersections and cross-border legal issues resulting from planned or actual regulations and obligations between EU and GCC countries that will be explored. Various topics are proposed in the following themes relevant to both regions related to Data Protection and Privacy of Citizens and Organisations.

Editors:

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Overview:

Relevant laws and policies include but are not limited to:

- Horizon Europe
- EC White Paper On Artificial Intelligence - A European approach to excellence and trust
- EP proposed Artificial Intelligence Act
- The General Data Protection Regulation
- European Council's Convention 108+
- Digital Services Act
- Digital Markets Act

Given the importance of both the EU and the GCC globally, this book is seeking to provide a comparative analysis of specific sectors and aspects that are of relevance for both entities related to data protection and privacy. The editors choose these emerging technology sectors given their importance to both the EU and the GCC within their regions but also globally. European and GCC institutions of are extreme importance for any integration process.

The successful European Union (EU) experiment has seen progressive developments in numerous sectors, leading to a harmonization of rules within the continent, the emergence of EU institutions and EU law. The progress has led to peace, prosperity and the advancement of human rights and environmental protections in the EU, which has impacted the planet given the importance of the EU as a global actor. These developments were used as a model elsewhere where nations were seeking to establish new institutions and applicable laws between countries. Moreover, nations had to understand EU laws and system given the need to trade with European countries as a block. Another region pursuing the creation of a model of integration similar to the EU, is the Gulf region that established the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). It is a regional intergovernmental political and economic union consisting of all Arab states of the Persian Gulf - Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (without Iraq). The GCC has represented its members with various international and intergovernmental institutions, has developed common rules such as on value added taxation and has pursued the concept of a common currency. The GCC is seeking to create further

integration between its member nations whilst giving consideration to individual requirements of the Council members.

Since a general comparison of the EU and the GCC would be overbroad for a single book, this book focuses on contributions that take a comparative, integrative, and cross-border approach when analysing emerging technologies that affect both the EU and the GCC. Cross-border regulation today is marked by the ubiquitous use of digital technology and its inherent collection, use, and transfer of user and institutional data, commonly referred to as big data. The ubiquity of digital technology and big data means that analysis of a number of areas not previously seen as technology centric, now requires an analysis of the application of regulations relating to technology and data. The book, therefore, aims to compare and examine the regulation of emerging technologies and data protection in both the EU and the GCC, which could hopefully lead to insights for further improvements and for potential integration, when necessary. An example is the application of the GDPR in airports in the GCC, and its implementation by FRONTEX into the procedures of these airports, requiring a comparative and integrative analysis of the data protection regulations of both the EU and specific GCC countries.

Further, since data and digital technology use extends beyond traditional national borders, cross-border regulation of emerging technology and data has become vital. Cross-border regulation around the globe, however, on its own can be a substantial topic. Limiting the scope to cross-border regulation of digital technology and data in both the EU and the GCC gives a proper scope and a comparative focus. Of particular interest is the application of data protection regulations, including cross-border data transfers and storage, in both the EU and the GCC. While there is some clarity as to the extra-territorial application of the GDPR, for example, extra-territorial application of data protection regulation of GCC states remain vague. Further, the GDPR's application in tangent with proposed regulation of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence remains unclear, requiring further analysis of the extra-territorial application of proposed EU regulation on artificial intelligence.

Of particular interest are areas that, while raising issue pertaining to emerging technologies and big data, remain important in the relation between the EU and the GCC. These area include the use of emerging technologies in Data Protection and Privacy of Citizens and Organisations. This emerging backdrop will require scholars to reconsider cross-border regulation.

Thematic areas include but are not limited to:

The editors are looking for contributions that address the abovementioned fields taking into consideration the interplay between the EU and GCC. We invite contributions addressing but not limited to the following topics:

Data Protection and Privacy of Citizens and Organisations

- Cross border applications and implications of EU and GCC data protection laws
- FRONTEX and MENA International Airport Data Collection Compliance with the GDPR
- GDPR Compliance for Businesses in the GCC
- Data Protection in the Cloud: GCC data stored on an EU cloud server
- Cross Border Data Sharing: Regulations in the EU and GCC
- An EU and GCC Framework for Cross Border Data Flow
- Cross-border Movement of Data and Digital Assets

- Concept of Data Privacy in the EU and GCC
- Learning from APEC: Cross-Border Digital Trade and Cross Border Privacy Rules (CBPR) Between the EU and the GCC
- Convention 108+
- Cross-Border AI Liability under the EC's Proposed Artificial Intelligence Act
- Social Scoring
- Mass Surveillance
- Domestic data protection law in GCC member countries

Venue and Dates

The Centre will host a research roundtable on this topic. Date to be confirmed.

Applications

Applications must be submitted via email to the attention of Organising Committee at the following address: imad.ibrahim@qu.edu.qa. Please include the following information:

- The author's name and affiliation;
- A 300-word abstract [Wordfile or PDF];
- The author's CV, including a list of relevant publications, if applicable;
- The author's contact details, including e-mail address and phone number;

Publication Opportunities

The organizers have publication plans for the presented papers. The precise format of publication will be discussed during the conference. Among the options already available at the time of the call for papers, the organizers envisage to publish a book with renowned publishers such as Routledge and Edward Elgar. Authors will be listed as affiliates of the CLD in addition to any other affiliations.

Organizing Committee

- Jon Truby (Dr. Truby; Director of the Centre for Law and Development and an Associate Professor of Law at the College of Law, Qatar University).
- Rafael Brown (Dr. Brown; Assistant Professor of Law, College of Law, Qatar University).
- Imad Antoine Ibrahim (Research Assistant, at the Centre for Law and Development (CLD), College of Law, Qatar University, Doha, Qatar).