

10 Tips for Global Compliance with Privacy and Data Protection Laws

By the IAPP Privacy Bar Section Advisory Board 2024

1. ASSESS THE SCALE OF COMPLIANCE

Assess how many markets are within scope to determine whether to adopt a global, country-by-country or hybrid approach to compliance.



6. DEVELOP A STRATEGY

Establish concise objectives and key results, key performance indicators, and standards based on an inventory of a company's operations, resources, risk tolerances and capabilities. Regularly review and update this strategy.



2. IDENTIFY TRUSTED SOURCES

Consult with privacy colleagues and internal teams on the ground. Engage local experts and regulatory bodies. Reach out to local contacts in law and industry to recommend legal counsel if/when needed.



7. AUDIT AUDACIOUSLY

Conduct regular audits to identify potential areas of noncompliance. Do not assume a privacy regulation will not apply to an organization if it does not have an immediate impact.

3. TRACK ONGOING DEVELOPMENTS

Utilize resources from the IAPP, LinkedIn, law firms, regulators' websites, newsletters/ mailing lists, seminars and conferences, setting aside time daily to keep up to date.



8. AVOID LEGAL SILOS

Break out of legal silos dominated by paperwork and legal requests to interface with technology, business, public relations, public policy and other teams.



4. MEASURE RISK

Use a risk-based approach that considers type, sensitivity and location of data, as well as impact on data subjects and regulators in the jurisdiction. Consider a client's reputation as well as its appetite for and exposure to risk.



9. DIFFERENTIATE PRIVACY AND CYBERSECURITY

While interrelated, the two areas of law are not the same and require different compliance strategies. Determine which jurisdictions focus more on data security and align with global or country-specific strategies.

5. FIND THE FOCUS

Focus on countries based on jurisdictional presence and likelihood of enforcement in addition to clients' immediate needs and specific industries.



10. PRACTICE CULTURAL HUMILITY

While no privacy team can be competent in every legal culture, they should appreciate that different legal cultures require different approaches to compliance.

