EU decision-making at a glance: How do EU laws get approved?

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This chart describes the main steps of the codecision procedure, the most common decision-making procedure among EU Institutions. For more details, please refer to official EU websites. An illustrative timeline of the EU General Data Protection Regulation process, additional resources and glossary can be found on the following page.

European Council and government of EU member states. Defines policy priorities of the EU. **European Commission** ☑ Helps deliver the EU's Presents the overall strategy. legislative drafts publicly and and almost exclusive power shares them to propose new legislation. formally with the Council of the EU **Key actors:** and Parliament. Commissioners and services. Other steps include: ☑ Roadmap and impact assessments. Stakeholder consultations. ☑ Internal review board.

Council of the EU

- ☐ Represents the 27 member states' governments.
- ☑ Examines the European Commission proposal; Member state representations negotiate amendments and reach a political agreement, or general approach, which will be the Council of the EU's position.

Key actors:

- ☑ Working Groups, including the Data Protection Working Party and the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society.
- ☑ Ambassadorial or ministerial level discussions, depending on the political sensitivities of the discussions.

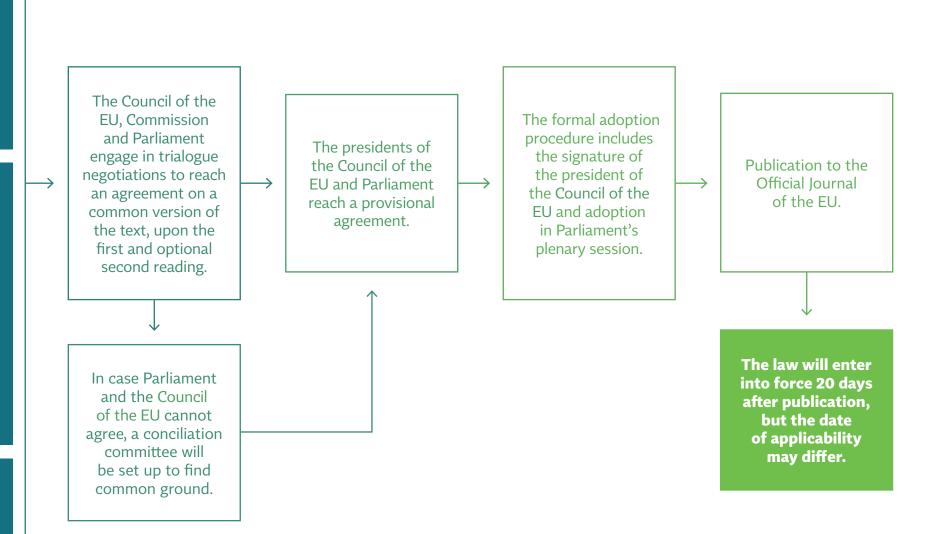
European Parliament

- ☑ Represents the EU people.

Key actors:

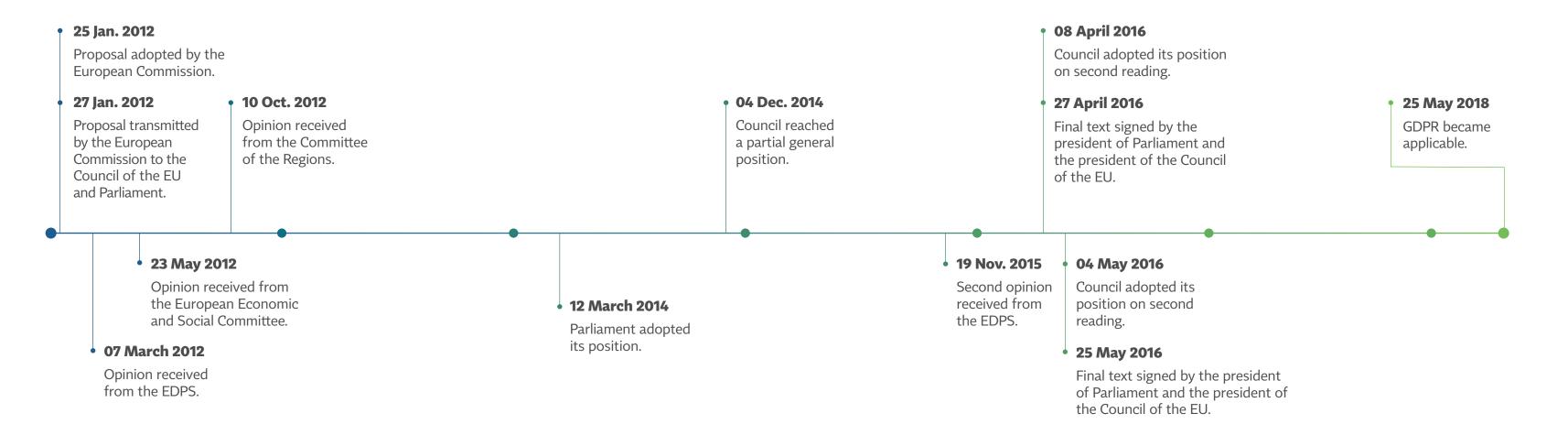
- ☑ Rapporteurs and shadow rapporteurs across political groups in the lead committee, e.g., the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs.
- Opinion committees.

Opinions (separate or joint) from the European Data Protection Supervisor, European Data Protection Board and other EU bodies, including the Committee of Regions, Economic and Social Committee, etc.



Timeline of the EU General Data Protection Regulation process

A more detailed timeline is available <u>here</u>.



Glossary

- Directive: Adopted at EU level but needs to be transposed into national law.
- ☑ Regulation: Directly applicable but may be complemented by secondary (technical) legislation.
- ☑ **General approach:** Political agreement is reached by member states at the European Council.
- Ordinary legislative procedure: Joint adoption of legislative acts by European Parliament and the Council of the European Union, in general following a proposal from the European Commission.
- ☑ **Trialogue:** Informal tripartite meetings on legislative proposals between representatives of Parliament, the European council and the European commission, in order to reach a provisional agreement on a legislative proposal.

Additional resources

- IAPP European Institutions Privacy Stakeholder Map
- ☑ Interinstitutional negotiations for the adoption of EU legislation
- European Strategy for Data Overview of New Regulations