Data Protection Impact Assessment

in a nutshell

What is it?

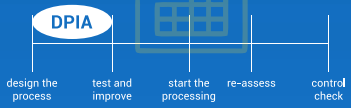
A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is a prior written assessment of the impact of the planned processing operations on the protection of personal data. DPIAs provide a structured way of thinking about the risks posed to the people whose data you process. DPIAs also help you to comply with the requirement of data protection by design.

Why is a DPIA needed?

- To understand and mitigate risks to people's rights
- To comply with a legal obligation (Art. 39 Regulation (EU) 2018/1725)

When to do a DPIA?

Start preparing it when designing a new processing operation. Then review and update it regularly.



Who gets involved?

- Top management (accountable)
- Business owner
- DPO
- IT department
- Processors

When is it mandatory?

A DPIA is mandatory for data processing operations presenting **high risks to data subjects** such as when two of the following criteria apply:

1. Systematic evaluation/profiling
2. Automated decision making
3. Systematic monitoring
4. Sensitive data processing
5. Large scale processing
6. Match/combine datasets with different purposes
7. Vulnerable data subjects
8. New technologies
9. Preventing people from exercising their rights or entering into a service/contract

What should a DPIA include?

- Description of the planned processing and its purposes
- Necessity and proportionality assessment
- Risk assessment to data subjects
- Measures to address the risks

If in doubt, do a DPIA!

For more information:

- EDPS video on DPIA
- EDPS Guidance Accountability on the ground part II
- EDPS decision on DPIA lists