

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [\[GDPR\] Birthdays and Age Requirement](#)

Omniscient - May 14, 2018, 9:32 pm

In an effort to make adjustments for the GDPR law compliance I have removed birthdays from profiles. I have manually set all users to hide their age and birth year. Going forward we're going to make continued adjustments but things like birthday celebrations will not be allowed.

Also GDPR requires consent age to be 16. Some countries can lower it to 13. I think for the purpose of HF we're going to disallow all accounts from anyone not at least 16. Currently we require you to be 13 so it's not a huge change to require 16 imho.

There will be a new ToS in place that members will have to agree to by May 25th.

TB12 - May 14, 2018, 9:37 pm

Damn that's a shame, but I understand it has to be done. Thanks for the update

?BowmanBot? - May 14, 2018, 9:37 pm

I am glad the changes are doable, so far.

Thanks for the update Omni!

Blazin - May 14, 2018, 9:43 pm

Do what you need to do to comply and keep HF afloat. We don't blame you one bit.

Omniscient - May 14, 2018, 9:43 pm

I got a list of policy changes I plan on implementing. Some users will like and some they won't. Already redid the cookie Help Doc today.

<https://hackforums.net/misc.php?action=help&hid=42>

Bluffer - May 14, 2018, 9:47 pm

Ugh I really hate this change even though I know it's necessary. :(

Damn governments censoring shit.

SIM-964740 - May 14, 2018, 11:03 pm

Holy shit this GDPR fuckry is annoying as.

lol - May 14, 2018, 11:13 pm

Oh ffs Governments, they can kiss my ass.

Omniscient - May 14, 2018, 11:28 pm

(May 14, 2018 11:03 PM)Deadpan Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Holy shit this GDPR fuckry is annoying as.

It's going to get worse over the next couple weeks as I make a lot of policy changes to adhere to this law for our compliance.

Mr.Magnificent - May 14, 2018, 11:31 pm

Every company/website needs to do this. Good to see that you're doing it on time.. hate to see you

get lawsuits.

Good job Omni!

Vitani - May 15, 2018, 1:24 am

If you ask me the most annoying thing about GDPR is that in order to be compliant, you may have to ask users for even more personal information such as passports.

Question, if you require someone to send you their passport in order to verify their age, what stops them from sending you someone else's passport?

Wouldn't you need to make members attach their real information to their account so you can verify if the information on the passport matches that of their account?

Nuworld - May 15, 2018, 1:38 am

I have been following this GDPR issue and some of it sounds very valid and warranted.

However I have a few questions.

Quote:Also GDPR requires consent age to be 16. Some countries can lower it to 13. I think for the purpose of HF we're going to disallow all accounts from anyone not at least 16. Currently we require you to be 13 so it's not a huge change to require 16 imho.

Does this apply to our current member base or only to future new members?

Meaning do current EU members on Hack Forums under the age of 16 risk their accounts being closed?

My next question:

Quote:There will be a new ToS in place that members will have to agree to by May 25th.

Seeing how the 25th is only 10 days away.

Will we receive an PM from you and or other staff member to reply to said new TOS?

Or will the announcement be made public and it would be the responsibility of all members to reply to the new Hack Forums TOS?

(May 15, 2018 01:24 AM)Vitani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If you ask me the most annoying thing about GDPR is that in order to be compliant, you may have to ask users for even more personal information such as passports.

Question, if you require someone to send you their passport in order to verify their age, what stops them from sending you someone else's passport?

Wouldn't you need to make members attach their real information to their account so you can verify if the information on the passport matches that of their account?

And yet a very good question indeed.

Who's to say that said passport is indeed the current HF user's passport?

This could very well come down to video validation and could take up time and resources of the staff.

Angel - May 15, 2018, 3:37 am

Thanks for the update boss, keep us updated ?

Omniscient - May 15, 2018, 8:40 am

Quote:If you ask me the most annoying thing about GDPR is that in order to be compliant, you may have to ask users for even more personal information such as passports.

And this is true. I've technically never had reason to request or require proof of identity before. Now, I'll have to have in-place a policy to do so which imho is more of a security risk to privacy than anything else.

Quote:Question, if you require someone to send you their passport in order to verify their age, what stops them from sending you someone elses passport?

Excellent question. Which is why I'm trying to create global policy that will not require me to confirm EU residency.

Quote:Does this apply to our current member base or only to future new members?

I will likely have to have all accounts accept a new ToS or else the account will be locked. The new policy will require you to update your Birthday if it's not accurate and accept that you're not in EU if you're currently under 16. If you by chance mark you are in EU and under 16 then your account will be closed instantly and permanently.

My guess is that I'll logout all members, then do a GDPR check with login and require acceptance of terms.

What's crazy is how I'll have to handle IP logging going forward. The practice of keeping logs is going to drastically change. I can think of a number of drastic choices I am forced to make for this.

Voxfames - May 15, 2018, 10:38 am

Personally I think this GDPR law is crap. I mean it has some good ideas in it but the implementation is horrid. I wish instead of complying big companies like Google, Amazon, Etc. would just say no instead we are blocking uk users from our sites so we dont have to worry about your stupid law.

Elitas - May 15, 2018, 11:04 am

(May 15, 2018 10:38 AM)Voxfames Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Personally I think this GDPR law is crap. I mean it has some good ideas in it but the implementation is horrid. I wish instead of complying big companies like Google, Amazon, Etc. would just say no instead we are blocking uk users from our sites so we dont have to worry about your stupid law.

Yeah, what a great idea. Big companies should just lose out on loads of their revenue because the UK government would care soo much lol..

Honestly, the UK may not even have to comply after Brexit, but maybe I'm wrong. Either way, there is a lot of pressure on governments to comply, so there's not a whole lot any major company could honestly ever do...

If they blocked countries for this it'd be funny but that would never happen because they're all about money, money & money.

Voxfames - May 15, 2018, 11:08 am

(May 15, 2018 11:04 AM)Elitas Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, what a great idea. Big companies should just lose out on loads of their revenue because the UK government would care soo much lol..

Honestly, the UK may not even have to comply after Brexit, but maybe I'm wrong. Either way, there is a lot of pressure on governments to comply, so there's not a whole lot any major company could honestly ever do...

If they blocked countries for this it'd be funny but that would never happen because they're all about

money, money & money.

While I agree they will never do this that's why I said wish it would happen. But just imagine if every company said yeah we aren't doing that we just won't allow your citizens to use our services. Pretty sure the citizens would riot that the government effectively blocked them from the internet.

Omniscient - May 15, 2018, 11:14 am

Quote: Honestly, the UK may not even have to comply after Brexit, but maybe I'm wrong.

The UK has an aggressive law called the DPA.

<https://www.gov.uk/data-protection>

StevesTrolls - May 15, 2018, 11:23 am

(May 15, 2018 11:14 AM) Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The UK has an aggressive law called the DPA.

<https://www.gov.uk/data-protection>

I'm fairly certain there are plans to adopt an adjusted version of GDPR once Brexit has occurred, which will supersede the DPA.

Biggy - May 15, 2018, 11:26 am

Gotta do what you gotta do in coordination with this law. At least it's nothing too major... yet.

Thanks for the update.

Raptor - May 15, 2018, 4:48 pm

(May 15, 2018 11:14 AM) Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The UK has an aggressive law called the DPA.

<https://www.gov.uk/data-protection>

They also haven't left the EU by the time the law became active so it applies to them anyway.

Neeeeeeeeeeel.- - May 16, 2018, 10:38 am

Does this law apply for EU citizens that live outside EU?

luke - May 16, 2018, 11:40 am

(May 16, 2018 10:38 AM) Neeeeeeeeeeel.- Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Does this law apply for EU citizens that live outside EU?

No, it does not.

Elitas - May 16, 2018, 11:43 am

Actually I would say that upping the age requirements to 16 is a huge difference in terms of HF. A large amount of the user base are pretty young. Not that it matters anyway as most of them would lie about their age, but let's say someone initially signed up saying they were 13 years old a few months ago, and now they are under 16 what will you do?

Because they are not of an age to be able to consent to their data being shared, and they never lied about their age, wouldn't you not be complying? Maybe you should find a way of forcing all users who have their birth date set at an age younger than 16 to either agree that they are actually over 16 or delete their account.

mrnapolean1 - May 16, 2018, 5:16 pm

I've been off and on HF for the last few days, can someone bring me up to speed?

So how exactly will GDPR law apply to American Users of HF?

Positive - May 17, 2018, 5:40 pm

GDPR stinks but I feel this new policy will keep a lot of birthday spam out of the lounge. I feel like

some members have had 3 birthdays this year.

CYB3RM4N - May 17, 2018, 5:46 pm

(May 16, 2018 05:16 PM)mrnapolean1 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Ive been off and on HF for the last few days, can someone bring me up to speed?

So how exactly will GDPR law apply to American Users of HF?

It will only affect members residing in the EU.

Vitani - May 18, 2018, 6:42 am

(May 17, 2018 05:40 PM)Positive Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) GDPR stinks but I feel this new policy will keep a lot of birthday spam out of the lounge. I feel like some members have had 3 birthdays this year.

I'd have the weekly birthday threads over the headache the GDPR law will give any day. We'll see how things will go though.

Xerotic - May 18, 2018, 8:21 am

(May 17, 2018 05:46 PM)CYB3RM4N Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It will only affect members residing in the EU.

No, it'll affect all users because HF is creating a global policy to adjust for the new laws. EU members may be required to verify certain data but that is still to be decided.

The law is for the EU, but any global business will have to alter their website to be compliant.

False King - May 18, 2018, 10:45 am

(May 15, 2018 08:40 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What's crazy is how I'll have to handle IP logging going forward. The practice of keeping logs is going to drastically change. I can think of a number of drastic choices I am forced to make for this.

Out of curiosity, why this? The last few weeks I've been the developer making our customer-facing website GDPR proof. We haven't had to change anything related to IP logging at all (according to our legal/product department).

Angelus - May 20, 2018, 5:12 pm

So, I'm 15 turning 16 in August, resident of US

Does this mean my account will be closed then?

It'd be a damn shame, if that is the case well rip then

I apologize if this is not the case I'm just a bit confused that is all

TB12 - May 20, 2018, 5:20 pm

(May 20, 2018 05:12 PM)?Angelus? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So, I'm 15 turning 16 in August, resident of US

Does this mean my account will be closed then?

It'd be a damn shame, if that is the case well rip then

I apologize if this is not the case I'm just a bit confused that is all

Look at what he said.

(May 15, 2018 08:40 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I will likely have to have all accounts accept a new ToS or else the account will be locked. The new policy will require you to update your Birthday if it's not accurate and accept that you're not in EU if you're currently under 16. If you by chance mark you are in EU and under 16 then your account will be closed instantly and permanently.

Only have to worry if you state you are in the EU. You will be fine because you are in the U.S.

Vitani's Mate - May 22, 2018, 6:31 am

I am guessing the people who signed up to HF before they are 16 will get an account ban til the right age?

Vitani - May 22, 2018, 7:11 am

(May 22, 2018 06:31 AM)Vitani's Mate. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I am guessing the people who signed up to HF before they are 16 will get an account ban til the right age?

Their account will be closed permanently. After they turn 16 they will probably be allowed to join again, but don't quote me on that as it's speculation.

SkullTraill - May 22, 2018, 10:50 am

So I can't make a thread on my own about my own birthday?

(May 22, 2018 07:11 AM)Vitani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Their account will be closed permanently. After they turn 16 they will probably be allowed to join again, but don't quote me on that as it's speculation.

Jesus fuck let me change my fake 12 year old DoB then

Vitani - May 22, 2018, 11:12 am

(May 22, 2018 10:50 AM)SkullTraill Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Jesus fuck let me change my fake 12 year old DoB then

We all knew you were older though, considering your join date ;)

Omniscient - May 22, 2018, 1:22 pm

Quote:So, I'm 15 turning 16 in August, resident of US

You're fine.

Vitani's Mate - May 23, 2018, 12:02 am

(May 22, 2018 07:11 AM)Vitani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Their account will be closed permanently. After they turn 16 they will probably be allowed to join again, but don't quote me on that as it's speculation.

Well thank god I am WELL over the age. lol

SIM-403479 - May 24, 2018, 3:09 pm

This comes in to play tomorrow.

Constant emails received today.

FamousHater - May 24, 2018, 3:16 pm

wonder what omni is doing as ive yet to see any emails from hackforums.

Chris.fussner - May 24, 2018, 3:32 pm

The changes im sure are for the best Omni!

Pronouncer - May 24, 2018, 3:34 pm

The cahnge to 16 seems like a good change to be honest. Will take away some of the scammers hopefully.

Omniscient - May 24, 2018, 3:49 pm

I'm still working on policy and implementation with Xerotic coding some plugins. We definitely won't be 100% ready by tomorrow but we're working on it.

SIM-574702 - May 24, 2018, 3:57 pm

(May 24, 2018 03:49 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm still working on policy and implementation

with Xerotic coding some plugins. We definitely won't be 100% ready by tomorrow but we're working on it.

GDPR started almost 2 hours ago. Are you risking any legal problems ?

Omniscient - May 24, 2018, 4:27 pm

(May 24, 2018 03:57 PM)matemistic Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) GDPR started almost 2 hours ago. Are you risking any legal problems ?

I don't think so. Again, I'm not worried about legal ramifications. I'm worried more about SEO and services.

Pronouncer - May 24, 2018, 4:45 pm

(May 24, 2018 04:27 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I don't think so. Again, I'm not worried about legal ramifications. I'm worried more about SEO and services.

I cant remember if im correct or not, but since hf is on Luxembourg (Not sure), does GDPR still apply here? I understand you are applying GDPR to the site, but if its in luxembourg like i believe surely You shouldnt have any worry about legal ramifications at all

Omniscient - May 24, 2018, 4:50 pm

Quote:since hf is on Luxembourg

We are not Luxembourg nor anywhere in the EU. Cloudflare has edge server locations across the globe which is likely the IP you see. HF servers are not located in the EU.

Roytoy - May 24, 2018, 4:53 pm

Hopefully this positively reflects on the community and we notice more maturity within it's members.

Pronouncer - May 24, 2018, 4:55 pm

(May 24, 2018 04:50 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) We are not Luxembourg nor anywhere in the EU. Cloudflare has edge server locations across the globe which is likely the IP you see. HF servers are not located in the EU.

I presumed from the server move due to DMCA i cant remember what i read from one of your posts but it was about DMCA so i presumed Luxembourg due to the DMCA being ignored policy. ?
Thanks for the update bud

Omniscient - May 24, 2018, 5:43 pm

Quote:but it was about DMCA so i presumed Luxembourg due to the DMCA being ignored policy

We do not ignore DMCA notices.

Omniscient - May 24, 2018, 6:04 pm

So this is what I have so far which I think we'll try to implement today.

<https://pastebin.com/fuv7rYVn>

Neodraxis - May 24, 2018, 6:05 pm

(May 24, 2018 06:04 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So this is what I have so far which I think we'll try to implement today.

<https://pastebin.com/fuv7rYVn>

From what I just read, looks good to me. :)

Bluffer - May 24, 2018, 9:59 pm

(May 24, 2018 06:04 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So this is what I have so far which I think we'll try

to implement today.

<https://pastebin.com/fuv7rYVn>

Looks good and honestly for the most part most HF members already wish to remain anonymous.

Anybody who reveals their real information including location and real name is a fool. Unless of course it is for business purposes or something along those lines.

At least this law might not affect HF as much as we all first thought.

Uploader.sx - May 24, 2018, 10:09 pm

Just move your servers here, in Lebanon. :D no such shitty laws.

Anw, you know what's best for HF, and we will have to accept everything.

SIM-3257834 - May 24, 2018, 10:40 pm

(May 24, 2018 06:04 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So this is what I have so far which I think we'll try to implement today.

<https://pastebin.com/fuv7rYVn>

What happens when someone under 16 agress to this and later is exposed to be underage?

Tutelary - May 24, 2018, 11:39 pm

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/individual-rights/right-to-be-informed/>

Yeah, this law is a big one and I don't blame US and UK organizations for procrastinating or waiting until the last minute to deal with this law. I found that link from Google and it basically goes through everything about what the law says, and how organizations should handle it. It even includes a right for "right for data portability" which would be a nightmare for HF. I'd love to see the test case for the US and how UK would even sanction the US if companies did not follow it. Though I suspect for multinational organizations, that would be simple. HF...I don't think so. I'm glad you're making an effort though.

Vitani - May 25, 2018, 4:44 am

(May 24, 2018 06:04 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So this is what I have so far which I think we'll try to implement today.

<https://pastebin.com/fuv7rYVn>

Just read everything and it's all crystal clear. A well written document to clear up such a shitty law.

One minor typo I found (line 34):

Quote:You agree that in the event of a server the data we store may be securely moved to a new location. We agree to inform you of a data move at least 3 days prior and provide you the option to delete your account data beforehand.

I assume you mean server breach/change?

Omniscient - May 25, 2018, 12:46 pm

Quote:What happens when someone under 16 agress to this and later is exposed to be underage?

If they tell us their 16+ then that's what they told us. Are you the fucking age police? It takes a real

fucking prick asshole to even suggest you "expose" a member. You want to dox someone then post their info on HF. YOU WILL GET A CLOSED ACCOUNT IMMEDIATELY.

Quote:I assume you mean server breach/change?

I meant server change. I do need to add language about security and breaches. Basically that if we do get breached or there has been unauthorized access that members will be notified in a timely manner, which we have always done anyways.

Basically I'm reviewing what other sites are doing and trying my best to formulate a policy tailored for HF.

Elitas - May 25, 2018, 1:06 pm

(May 24, 2018 06:04 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So this is what I have so far which I think we'll try to implement today.

<https://pastebin.com/fuv7rYVn>

Seems mostly good, some obvious mistakes were already mentioned.

Uhh, I feel like 'privacy' isn't exactly being used correctly here:

Quote:Your participation on our forum should be done from an anonymous and privacy perspective.

Actually not 100% sure what would sound better, maybe 'private'?

Arkane21 - May 25, 2018, 1:08 pm

I would say 16 is a more appropriate age for HackForums anyways.

Arkane21

ZuGgY - May 26, 2018, 7:30 pm

Interesting. Thank you for keeping us up to date.