


Basic information	
<b>2023/0202(COD)</b> COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
General Data Protection Regulation: additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of the Regulation  See also Regulation 2016/679 <a href="#">2012/0011(COD)</a>  <b>Subject</b>  1.20.09 Protection of privacy and data protection 2.80 Cooperation between administrations 3.45.05 Business policy, e-commerce, after-sales service, commercial distribution 4.60.06 Consumers' economic and legal interests	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	<div>LIBE</div> Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs		GREGOROVÁ Markéta (Greens/EFA)
			Shadow rapporteur VOSS Axel (EPP) VIGENIN Kristian (S&D) OZDOBA Jacek (ECR) MCNAMARA Michael (Renew) DEMIREL Özlem (The Left)
	Former committee responsible		Former rapporteur
	<div>LIBE</div> Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs		LAGODINSKY Sergey (Greens/EFA)
	Former committee for opinion		Former rapporteur for opinion
	<div>EMPL</div> Employment and Social Affairs		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	<div>ITRE</div> Industry, Research and Energy		The committee decided not to give an opinion.

	<div>IMCO</div> Internal Market and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<div>JURI</div> Legal Affairs	GARCÍA DEL BLANCO Ibán (S&D)	16/11/2023
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Justice and Consumers	REYNDERS Didier	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
04/07/2023	Legislative proposal published	COM(2023)0348 	Summary
13/07/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
15/02/2024	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
20/02/2024	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A9-0045/2024	Summary
10/04/2024	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T9-0187/2024	Summary
10/04/2024	Results of vote in Parliament		
10/04/2024	Matter referred back to the committee responsible for interinstitutional negotiations		
13/11/2024	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
15/07/2025	Approval in committee of the text agreed at 1st reading interinstitutional negotiations	PE775.517 PE775.692	
21/10/2025	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T10-0238/2025	Summary
21/10/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		
17/11/2025	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
26/11/2025	Final act signed		
12/12/2025	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2023/0202(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Amendments and repeals	See also Regulation 2016/679 2012/0011(COD)

<b>Legal basis</b>	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 016-p2
<b>Stage reached in procedure</b>	Procedure completed
<b>Committee dossier</b>	LIBE/10/00248

#### Documentation gateway


#### European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A9-0045/2024</a>	20/02/2024	<a href="#">Summary</a>
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading /single reading		<a href="#">T9-0187/2024</a>	10/04/2024	<a href="#">Summary</a>
Text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations		<a href="#">PE775.517</a>	15/07/2025	
Committee letter confirming interinstitutional agreement		<a href="#">PE775.692</a>	15/07/2025	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T10-0238/2025</a>	21/10/2025	<a href="#">Summary</a>

#### Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Draft final act	00031/2025/LEX	21/11/2025	

#### European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(2023)0348</a> 	04/07/2023	<a href="#">Summary</a>

#### National parliaments

Document type	Parliament/Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	<a href="#">DE_BUNDESRAT</a>	<a href="#">COM(2023)0348</a>	12/10/2023	
Contribution	<a href="#">IE_HOUSES-OF-OIREACTHAS</a>	<a href="#">COM(2023)0348</a>	06/03/2024	

#### Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	<a href="#">CES3796/2023</a>	13/12/2023	

#### Additional information

Source	Document	Date

## Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

### Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency				
Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
VIGENIN Kristian	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	14/05/2025	BEUC
VIGENIN Kristian	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	24/04/2025	DIGITALEUROPE
GREGOROVÁ Markéta	Rapporteur	LIBE	20/02/2025	Access Now Europe
VIGENIN Kristian	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	06/02/2025	FEDMA
GREGOROVÁ Markéta	Rapporteur	LIBE	20/01/2025	Access Now Europe noyb - European Center for Digital Rights EDRi BEUC
GREGOROVÁ Markéta	Rapporteur	LIBE	14/01/2025	DIGITALEUROPE
GREGOROVÁ Markéta	Rapporteur	LIBE	30/10/2024	European Digital Rights (EDRi) AccessNow
GREGOROVÁ Markéta	Rapporteur	LIBE	18/10/2024	noyb - European Center for Digital Rights
VIGENIN Kristian	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	16/10/2024	noyb - European Center for Digital Rights
GREGOROVÁ Markéta	Rapporteur	LIBE	27/09/2024	CNIL (Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés)
GREGOROVÁ Markéta	Rapporteur	LIBE	23/09/2024	Permanent Representative of Hungary to the EU
GREGOROVÁ Markéta	Rapporteur	LIBE	10/09/2024	noyb - European Center for Digital Rights BEUC AccessNow EDRi
VOSS Axel	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	26/07/2024	Deutsche Industrie- und Handelskammer
TOOM Jana	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	30/11/2023	noyb - European Center for Digital Rights
TOOM Jana	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	21/11/2023	Estonian Data Protection Inspectorate
TOOM Jana	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	20/11/2023	European Digital Rights
VOSS Axel	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	09/11/2023	E.ON SE
VITANOV Petar	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	08/11/2023	META
VITANOV Petar	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	08/11/2023	CCIA
VITANOV Petar	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	08/11/2023	Google
TOOM Jana	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	31/10/2023	DOT Europe
TOOM Jana	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	30/10/2023	DIGITALEUROPE
				Access Now Europe

<a href="#">LAGODINSKY Sergey</a>	Rapporteur	<a href="#">LIBE</a>	25/10/2023	European Digital Rights
<a href="#">TOOM Jana</a>	Shadow rapporteur	<a href="#">LIBE</a>	25/10/2023	Federation of European Data and Marketing
<a href="#">TOOM Jana</a>	Shadow rapporteur	<a href="#">LIBE</a>	24/10/2023	BEUC - The European Consumer Organisation
<a href="#">TOOM Jana</a>	Shadow rapporteur	<a href="#">LIBE</a>	24/10/2023	Alliance Digitale
<a href="#">TOOM Jana</a>	Shadow rapporteur	<a href="#">LIBE</a>	23/10/2023	ITI - The Information Technology Industry Council
<a href="#">TOOM Jana</a>	Shadow rapporteur	<a href="#">LIBE</a>	23/10/2023	Meta Platforms Ireland Limited and its various subsidiaries
<a href="#">LAGODINSKY Sergey</a>	Rapporteur	<a href="#">LIBE</a>	20/09/2023	DOT Europe

## Other Members

<a href="#">Transparency</a>		
<a href="#">Name</a>	<a href="#">Date</a>	<a href="#">Interest representatives</a>
<a href="#">SIPPEL Birgit</a>	15/02/2024	Centre for Information Policy Leadership (CIPL) at Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP
<a href="#">CUFFE Ciarán</a>	08/02/2024	Irish Data Protection Commission
<a href="#">SIPPEL Birgit</a>	15/12/2023	DG JUST
<a href="#">KELLER Fabienne</a>	07/12/2023	Association Française des Entreprises Privées / French Association of Large Companies
<a href="#">COLIN-OESTERLÉ Nathalie</a>	05/12/2023	Association Française des Entreprises Privées / French Association of Large Companies
<a href="#">KALJURAND Marina</a>	28/11/2023	Meta Platforms Ireland Limited and its various subsidiaries
<a href="#">SIPPEL Birgit</a>	15/11/2023	Bundesbeauftragte für den Datenschutz und die Informationsfreiheit

<a href="#">Final act</a>
<a href="#">Regulation 2025/2518</a> <a href="#">OJ OJ L 12.12.2025</a>

# General Data Protection Regulation: additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of the Regulation

2023/0202(COD) - 21/10/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 533 votes to 43, with 68 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR).

Parliament adopted its position at first reading by amending the proposal as follows:

## *Purpose and scope of application*

The Regulation establishes **procedural rules for the handling of complaints** and the conduct of investigations in complaint-based and ex officio cases by supervisory authorities in the enforcement of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 where those cases concern cross-border processing.

This Regulation aims to ensure that investigations in cases concerning cross-border processing are carried out in accordance with the principle of good administration, in particular that they are carried out **impartially, fairly and within a reasonable time**. This Regulation, therefore, lays down **horizontal principles** relating to the procedures in the enforcement of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 for such cases. Thus, in situations involving cross-border processing, supervisory authorities must conduct procedures falling within the scope of the Regulation swiftly and efficiently. The complainant will have the option of communicating only with the supervisory authority to which they lodged their complaint. Furthermore, the handling of a complaint will always result in a decision that is subject to an effective judicial remedy.

## ***Complaints***

A complaint is defined as a claim lodged by a data subject with a supervisory authority pursuant to Articles 77 and 80 of the GDPR. The mere reporting of alleged infringements is not to be regarded as a complaint.

To be admissible, a complaint must contain certain **specific information** (contact details of the perpetrator, description of the violation, etc.) but no additional requirements may be imposed beyond those provided for in the Regulation.

Administrative modalities and requirements of admissibility for complaints under the national law of the supervisory authority with which a complaint has been lodged, such as language, statute of limitations, means of identification, electronic form, specific template or signature, continue to apply.

The complainant should not be required to contact the party under investigation before lodging a complaint in order for that complaint to be admissible. Where the complaint relates to the exercise of a right of the data subject that relies on the data subject concerned making a request to the controller, that request will be made to the controller before the lodging of the complaint.

The supervisory authority with which the complaint has been lodged should determine whether the complaint concerns cross-border processing, transmit admissible complaints to the supervisory authority presumed to be competent to act as lead supervisory authority and inform the complainant thereof. The determination of admissibility of the complaint by the supervisory authority with which the complaint has been lodged should be binding on the lead supervisory authority.

To facilitate the handling of a complaint, supervisory authorities will be able to request supplementary information from the complainant. Where some of the information necessary for a complaint to be deemed admissible is missing, the supervisory authority with which that complaint has been lodged could contact the complainant in order to obtain the missing information, where feasible.

For supervisory authorities to bring a swift end to infringements of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and to deliver a quick resolution for complainants, supervisory authorities will endeavour, where appropriate, to resolve complaints through an **early resolution procedure**.

## ***Simple cooperation***

Where the lead supervisory authority has formed a preliminary view on the main issues in an investigation, it will be possible for the lead supervisory authority to cooperate with the other supervisory authorities concerned through a simple cooperation procedure. The simple cooperation procedure will be applied on a case-by-case basis, provided that the lead supervisory authority considers that no reasonable doubt exists as to the scope of the investigation and that the legal and factual issues identified do not require additional cooperation that would be required for the purposes of a complex investigation.

When applying the simple cooperation procedure, the lead supervisory authority, before submitting a draft decision, must ensure that, where appropriate, the parties subject to the investigation have the right to be heard and that the complainant has the opportunity to make his or her views known.

The amended text also specifies the relevant information to be exchanged between the lead supervisory authority and the other supervisory authorities concerned.

## ***Summary of key issues***

As part of the relevant information on a specific case, the lead supervisory authority will provide the other supervisory authorities concerned with a summary of key issues setting out its preliminary view on the main issues in an investigation. That summary will be provided at a sufficiently early stage to allow for the effective inclusion of the views submitted by the other supervisory authorities concerned.

## ***Time limits for submission of a draft decision***

The lead supervisory authority will submit a draft decision pursuant to Article 60(3) of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 within **15 months** of the lead supervisory authority confirming its competence. On an exceptional basis, the lead supervisory authority may extend the time limit once, for a period of no longer than 12 months, due to the complexity of the case.

This Regulation provides for rules for situations where the lead supervisory authority is required by national law to engage in **subsequent domestic proceedings** related to the same case, such as administrative appeal proceedings.

# **General Data Protection Regulation: additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of the Regulation**

2023/0202(COD) - 10/04/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 329 votes to 213, with 79 abstentions, amendments to the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

The matter was referred back to the committee responsible for inter-institutional negotiations.

## ***Subject matter and scope***

Complaints are an essential source of information for detecting infringements of data protection rules. To this end, it is recommended that an efficient mechanism for communication between supervisory authorities should be created to facilitate rapid and secure sharing of information necessary to resolve complaints in accordance with data protection rules.

Members stated that the proposed Regulation lays down **procedural rules for the handling of complaints and the conduct of investigations** in complaint-based and ex officio cases by supervisory authorities whenever supervisory authorities of more than one Member State are involved in the case, as well as procedural rules on related judicial remedies.

#### ***Applicable procedural law***

In addition to this regulation, and provided that it is not in conflict with this Regulation, the procedural law applicable before a supervisory authority should govern all direct interactions between that supervisory authority and the parties before it. Member States may specify procedural issues not covered by the Regulation.

A complainant has the right to solely communicate with the supervisory authority with which the complaint has been lodged. This does not prevent the complainant to directly communicate with another supervisory authority, including the lead supervisory authority, which may be more efficient.

#### ***Common procedural standards***

The amended text stipulates that each party should have at least the following rights:

- to have their case handled impartially and fairly, and to be treated equally, even if they are before different supervisory authorities in different jurisdictions ("**fair procedure**");
- to be heard before any measure is taken that would adversely affect them, including before the decision to uphold, or to fully or partially reject a complaint is adopted ("**right to be heard**");
- to have access to the joint case file, except to any internal deliberations of the supervisory authority or deliberations between those authorities ("**procedural transparency**").

The lead supervisory authority should inform and hear the parties at appropriate stages of the procedure, in order to allow them to effectively express their views on all factual findings and legal conclusions made by the lead supervisory authority.

#### ***Use of languages and translations***

Each supervisory authority should define one or more languages that it accepts for incoming information by other supervisory authorities. Members proposed that an additional joint "cooperation language" should be defined which all supervisory authorities must accept for incoming or outgoing information. In case of judicial remedies, the supervisory authority against which a judicial remedy is brought should have the duty to translate all relevant documents to the accepted languages.

#### ***Cross-border complaints***

A complaint subject to this Regulation should provide the information required in the template, as set out in the Annex. No additional information should be required in order for the complaint to be admissible. The information can be provided by any means the authority accepts, including by not using the template.

The supervisory authority with which a complaint has been lodged should, within two weeks, acknowledge receipt and admissibility of the complaint, or, where a complaint does not meet the requirements, declare the complaint inadmissible and inform the complainant about the missing information.

#### ***Handling of complaints***

The supervisory authority with which the complaint has been lodged should, within three weeks after acknowledging the admissibility of the complaint: (a) establish, by way of a preliminary conclusion, whether the complaint relates to cross-border processing of personal data of the complainant; (b) establish which supervisory authority is the assumed lead supervisory authority. The handling of a complaint should always lead to a **legally binding decision** that is subject to an effective legal remedy.

#### ***Amicable settlement***

A claim may be settled amicably between the claimant and the party under investigation at any stage of the proceedings. Amicable settlements are limited to cases of data subject rights, requiring the explicit agreement of the complainant, while not preventing ex-officio investigations of a supervisory authority for larger scale infringements of the GDPR.

#### ***Cooperation with other relevant authorities***

The lead supervisory authority should provide the other supervisory authorities concerned with **instant, remote access to a joint case file** that holds all relevant documents of the case, including all internal or confidential information, as well as a translation of all documents to the cooperation language. The competent supervisory authority should provide the parties with remote access to the joint case file, but may restrict this right of access under certain circumstances.

#### ***Summary of key aspects***

The supervisory authority with which a complaint has been lodged or which requests an ex-officio action may provide the lead supervisory authority with a summary of key issues setting out its preliminary view on the main issues in an investigation. The summary of key issues should be updated by the lead supervisory authority without undue delay to reflect any factual or legal changes that emerge during the course of the procedure.

#### ***Remedies against procedural determinations***

A new article has been introduced stating that remedies against procedural determinations by a supervisory authority under national law should only be brought together with the remedy against the final material decision. Deadlines for remedies against procedural determinations under applicable national law are prolonged for the duration of the procedure before the supervisory authority.

## **General Data Protection Regulation: additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of the Regulation**

2023/0202(COD) - 20/02/2024 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs adopted the report by Sergey LAGODINSKY (Greens/EFA, DE) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

Complaints are an essential source of information for detecting infringements of data protection rules. Defining clear and efficient procedures for the handling of complaints in cross-border cases is necessary since the complaint may be dealt with by a supervisory authority other than the one to which the complaint was lodged. To this end, it is recommended that an efficient mechanism for communication between supervisory authorities should be created to facilitate rapid and secure sharing of information necessary to resolve complaints in accordance with data protection rules.

Overall, this report consolidates and expands on the provisions on general procedural rules in order for the right to be heard, translations, confidentiality, and the sincere cooperation of authorities to always apply, not only in the case of complaints or for dispute resolution among authorities.

The committee responsible recommended that the European Parliament's position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the proposal as follows:

#### ***Subject matter and scope***

The proposed Regulation lays down procedural rules for the handling of complaints and the conduct of investigations in complaint-based and ex officio cases by supervisory authorities whenever supervisory authorities of more than one Member State are involved in the case, as well as procedural rules on related judicial remedies.

#### ***Applicable procedural law***

In addition to this proposal, and provided that it is not in conflict with this Regulation, the procedural law applicable before a supervisory authority should govern all direct interactions between that supervisory authority and the parties before it.

#### ***Common procedural standards***

The amended text stipulates that each party should have at least the following rights:

- to have their case handled impartially and fairly, and to be treated equally, even if they are before different supervisory authorities in different jurisdictions ("fair procedure");
- to be heard before any measure is taken that would adversely affect them, including before the decision to uphold, or to fully or partially reject a complaint is adopted ("right to be heard");
- to have access to the joint case file, except to any internal deliberations of the supervisory authority or deliberations between those authorities ("procedural transparency").

#### ***Use of languages and translations***

Members added a new article concerning the **cooperation language** to be used. The Board should determine one language that should be accepted by all supervisory authorities during the cooperation between authorities.

The lead supervisory authority should provide submissions into the joint case file in the original language and should provide translations into the cooperation language.

#### ***Cross-border complaints***

A complaint subject to this Regulation should provide the information required in the **template**, as set out in the Annex. No additional information should be required in order for the complaint to be admissible. The information can be provided by any means the authority accepts, including by not using the template.



The supervisory authority with which a complaint has been lodged should, within two weeks, acknowledge receipt and admissibility of the complaint, or, where a complaint does not meet the requirements, declare the complaint inadmissible and inform the complainant about the missing information.

#### ***Handling of complaints***

The handling of a complaint should always lead to a **legally binding decision** that is subject to an effective legal remedy.

#### ***Amicable settlement***

Amicable settlements are limited to cases of data subject rights, requiring the **explicit agreement** of the complainant, while not preventing ex-officio investigations of a supervisory authority for larger scale infringements of the GDPR.

#### ***Cooperation with other relevant authorities***

The lead supervisory authority should provide the other supervisory authorities concerned with instant, unrestricted and continuous remote access to the full joint case file, and should include in the joint case file all relevant information, in particular documents, submissions, memos and other information related to the case within one week from producing or receiving them.

#### ***Remedies against procedural determinations***

A new article has been introduced stating that remedies against procedural determinations by a supervisory authority under national law should only be brought together with the remedy against the final material decision. Deadlines for remedies against procedural determinations under applicable national law are prolonged for the duration of the procedure before the supervisory authority.

#### ***Entry into force and application***

The amended text lays down a transitional period of one year to allow for the necessary changes to the Internal Market Information System used by the authorities, and the Rules of Procedure of the Board, as well as possible amendments of national laws.

## **General Data Protection Regulation: additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of the Regulation**

2023/0202(COD) - 04/07/2023 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to lay down additional procedural rules relating to the enforcement of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation or GDPR).

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: in its report following two years of the application of the GDPR, the Commission noted that further progress was needed to make the **handling of cross-border cases more efficient and harmonised** across the EU. The report noted important differences in national administrative procedures and interpretations of concepts in the GDPR cooperation mechanism.

**Procedural differences** applied by data protection authorities (DPAs) hinder the smooth and effective functioning of the GDPR's cooperation and dispute resolution mechanisms in cross-border cases. These differences also have important consequences for the rights of the parties under investigation and complainants (as data subjects).

In its [resolution](#) on the Commission's 2020 report on the GDPR, the European Parliament highlighted the need to clarify the position of complainants in the case of cross-border complaints.

The proposal aims to tackle problems in the following areas:

- **Complaints:** DPAs have varying interpretations on requirements for the form of a complaint, the involvement of complainants in the procedure, and the rejection of complaints. The differences mean that the treatment of complaints and the involvement of complainants varies depending on where the complaint is lodged, or which DPA is the lead DPA for a given case. As a result, they delay the conclusion of the investigation and the delivery of a remedy for the data subject in cross-border cases. In its resolution on the Commission's 2020 report on the GDPR, the European Parliament highlighted the need to clarify the position of complainants in the case of cross-border complaints.

- **Procedural rights of parties under investigation:** the procedural rights of parties under investigation, such as the extent of the right to be heard and the right of access to the file, vary substantially across the Member States. The extent to which parties are heard, the timing of the hearing, and the documents that are provided to parties to enable them to exercise their right to be heard are elements on which Member States take varying approaches.

- **Cooperation and dispute resolution:** experience in the enforcement of the GDPR in cross-border cases shows that there is insufficient cooperation between DPAs prior to the submission of a draft decision by the lead DPA. Lack of sufficient cooperation and consensus-building on key issues in the investigation at this early stage has resulted in the submission of numerous cases to dispute resolution.

The proposal aims to address these issues by specifying procedural rules for certain stages of the investigation process in cross-border cases, thereby supporting the smooth functioning of the GDPR cooperation and dispute resolution mechanisms.

CONTENT: the proposed regulation aims to address the disparity in procedural approaches followed by DPAs, by harmonising certain aspects of the administrative procedure applied by DPAs when implementing the GDPR. It establishes **procedural rules for the handling of complaints and the conduct of investigations**, both complaint-based and ex officio, carried out by supervisory authorities in the cross-border application of the RGPD. Its main elements are as follows:

#### ***Form of complaints and position of complainants***

The proposal:

- provides a form specifying the information required for all complaints under Article 77 GDPR concerning cross-border processing and specifies procedural rules for the involvement of complainants in the procedure, including their right to make their views known;
- specifies procedural rules for the rejection of complaints in cross-border cases and clarifies the roles of the lead DPA and the DPA with which the complaint was lodged in such cases. It recognises the importance and the legality of amicable settlement of complaint-based cases.

#### ***Targeted harmonisation of procedural rights in cross-border cases***

The proposal provides the parties under investigation with the **right to be heard at key stages in the procedure**, including during dispute resolution by the Board, and clarifies the content of the administrative file and the parties' rights of access to the file. The proposal thereby strengthens the parties' rights of defence and ensures consistent observance of these rights regardless of which DPA is leading the investigation.

#### ***Cooperation and dispute resolution***

The proposal:

- equips DPAs with the tools necessary to **achieve consensus** by giving added substance to the requirement for DPAs to cooperate and to share "relevant information";
- establishes a framework for all DPAs to meaningfully impact a cross-border case by providing their **views early in the investigation** procedure and making use of all tools provided by the GDPR;
- entrusts the European Data Protection Board with the role of resolving disagreement by adopting an **urgent binding decision** in the event of disagreement between DPAs on the key issue of the scope of the investigation in complaint-based cases;
- lays down detailed requirements for the form and structure of **relevant and reasoned objections** raised by DPAs concerned, thereby facilitating the effective participation of all DPAs and the targeted and swift resolution of the case;
- **facilitates the swift completion of the dispute resolution procedure** for the parties under investigation and data subjects by laying down procedural deadlines for the dispute resolution procedure, specifies the information to be provided by the lead DPA when submitting the matter to dispute resolution, and clarifies the role of all actors involved in dispute resolution.