

Data Protection Authority Registration and Data Protection Officer Requirements for Data Controllers: Egypt

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This Q&A discusses obligations for private-sector data controllers in Egypt to notify, register with, or obtain authorization from the data protection authority under Egypt's comprehensive data protection law before processing personal data. It also discusses any requirements for data controllers to appoint a data protection officer (DPO) and any applicable notification or registration obligations relating to DPO appointments. This Q&A does not cover notification, registration, or authorization requirements for data processors or arising under sectoral laws. For an overview of the data protection law in Egypt, see [Country Q&A, Data Protection in Egypt: Overview](#).

Data Protection Authority

1. What is the name and contact information of the country's data protection authority or supervisory authority responsible for data protection?

Name

Once established, the Personal Data Protection Center (PDPC) will be the regulator for data protection in Egypt. The PDPC will be under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Information Technology.

Notification or Registration

2. Does the country's comprehensive data protection law require private-sector data controllers to notify or register with the data protection authority before processing personal data?

Yes.

General Requirements

The [Personal Data Protection Law](#) (No. 151/2020) (in Arabic) (PDPL) requires controllers to obtain a license or permit from the Personal Data Protection Center (PDPC), Egypt's data protection authority, to engage in any data protection activities, for example:

- Processing, maintaining, storing, transferring, or circulating personal data.
- Engaging in electronic marketing activities.
- Cross-border data transfers.

(Article 26, PDPL.)

The PDPC will classify and determine the types of licenses and permits required and set the conditions for each in compliance with the PDPL's Executive Regulations. The Executive Regulations, when issued, will set the procedures and fees for obtaining a license or permit. (Article 26(1), PDPL.)

For more on notification to the PDPC and the main obligations of data controllers, see [Country Q&A, Data Protection in Egypt: Overview: Question 7](#) and [Question 8](#).

Cross-Border Data Transfers

The controller must also obtain a license from the PDPC, after which time it can transfer, store, or share personal data outside of Egypt if:

- Each party to the transfer agrees on the nature of the work and the personal data's purpose.
- Each controller or processor, or the data subject, has a legitimate interest in the personal data processing.
- The foreign recipient has the same level of legal and technological protections as those required in Egypt.

(Article 16, PDPL.)

The PDPL permits controllers to transfer personal data to countries that do not provide the same level of data protection as Egypt if they obtain the data subject's explicit consent and the transfer, storage, or sharing fulfils one of several purposes, including:

- To protect the data subject's life or to provide medical care, treatment, or the administration of medical services to the data subject.
- To prove, exercise, or defend a judicial right.
- To execute or perform a contract between the controller and a third party for the data subject's benefit.
- To perform a procedure relating to an international judicial agreement.
- To protect the public interest as necessary or required by law.

- To complete a banking transfer.
- To comply with a bilateral or multilateral agreement to which Egypt is a party.

(Article 15, PDPL.)

For more on cross-border data transfers in Egypt, see [Country Q&A, Data Protection in Egypt: Overview: Question 20](#).

Authorization

3. Does the country's comprehensive data protection law require private-sector data controllers to seek authorization from the data protection authority before processing personal data?

Yes. See [Question 2](#).

Data Protection Officers

4. Does the country's comprehensive data protection law require private-sector data controllers to appoint a data protection officer?

Yes. The [Personal Data Protection Law](#) (in Arabic) (PDPL) requires controllers to appoint, announce, and register a data protection officer with the Personal Data Protection Center (Article 8, PDPL).

5. If the comprehensive data protection law requires private-sector data controllers to appoint a data protection officer (DPO), do data controllers have any obligations to notify or communicate the DPO's contact details to the data protection authority or register with the data protection authority?

Yes. See [Question 4](#).

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