



INFORMATION PRIVACY LAW COURSE SERIES

**GDPR and European Privacy Law Part I:  
The European System and the Structure of GDPR**

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## **GROUNDS FOR LAWFUL PROCESSING OF DATA UNDER THE GDPR**

*Article 6 of the GDPR sets forth the grounds for the lawfulness of processing personal data. Personal data may be processed only if at least one of the following bases apply:*

### **Consent**

“The data subject has given consent to the processing of his or her personal data for one or more specific purposes.”

### **Contract**

“Processing is necessary for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is party or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract.”

### **Legal Compliance**

“Processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject.”

### **Vital Interests**

“Processing is necessary in order to protect the vital interests of the data subject or of another natural person.”

## **Public Interests**

“Processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller.”

## **Legitimate Interests**

“Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party, except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child.”