

Announcement regarding the Remote Learning Platforms

10 Apr 2020

The Personal Data Protection Authority ("**Authority**") announced that in addition to students' personal data such as name-surname,

some special categories of data that can be considered biometric data such as voice and video-image, are processed through remote learning platforms. Furthermore, the Authority has stated that much software used by remote learning platforms operates through cloud-based service providers. Data centers of these software are mostly located abroad. In this context, the Authority has stated that:

- Data processing through remote learning platforms should comply with the personal data processing conditions stipulated under article 5 and 6 of Law on the Protection of Personal Data numbered 6698 ("**DP Law**"),
- For remote learning platforms whose data centers located abroad, cross-border transfer of personal data comes into question. Accordingly, personal data transfers that fail to meet the cross-border data transfer conditions indicated under article 9 of DP Law shall be deemed unlawful,
- Remote learning platforms should consider the Personal Data Protection Board's ("**Board**") "Personal Data Security Guide" and [the Board decision dated 31 January 2018 and numbered 2018/10 on "The Adequate Measures to be Implemented When Processing Special Categories of Personal Data"](#) while taking the necessary data security measures.

The full text of the Authority's announcement dated 7 April 2020 is available at [this link](#).

Related Practices

- [Privacy and Data Protection](#)