

Privacy4Press.ro explains GDPR and freedom of expression to journalists

10 December 2018

Privacy4press.ro is a resource website providing journalists with information on personal data protection and balance between the freedom of expression and the right to privacy. Behind this website is the [PrivacyOne](#) team, made up of lawyers specialized in personal data protection law – mainly Andreea Lisievici (partner) and Dana Ududec (associate).

The idea of creating this website came as a result of the fact that in particular in recent months the team noticed a lot of confusion regarding the application of data protection rules in the field of journalism. Some news websites have received requests for erasure of personal data or have been summoned by the data protection authority to prove compliance with data protection obligations that are not even applicable to them.

PrivacyOne's message for journalists is that the published materials that contain personal data are protected by the freedom of expression and are covered by an exemption from the application of the General Data Protection Regulation, as long as they fulfill certain requirements which are explained on [privacy4press.ro](#). This also means that the persons about whom journalists write may not simply ask them to erase the personal data included in the publications – otherwise, journalism would have no value in a democratic society.

Still, journalists cannot not publish any information they come across, because freedom of expression is not an absolute right. Furthermore, when there is a conflict with other human rights, such as the right to private life or non-discrimination, it is necessary to perform a balancing test in order to decide which right prevails in that particular case.

The PrivacyOne team hopes that [privacy4press.ro](#) will be a source that journalists will resort to when deciding what information to publish or if they have doubts regarding data protection in their activity. The platform will be constantly updated with relevant information, including the latest decisions of domestic and international courts.

The persons interested about these issues can contact the team at privacy4press@privacyone.ro.