

# Google paid a fine of 50 million euros after allegedly violating the General Data Protection Act in France

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The CNIL representative said the above record fine was issued because Google did not provide sufficient information about data management policies for users, nor did it provide users with enough control over how This company uses their information. More importantly, one of the main reasons why CNIL was determined to impose heavy penalties on Google was that the company was too late in overcoming the violations mentioned above.



According to the provisions of GDPR, companies are required to obtain absolute consent from users before being allowed to collect any of their personal information, which means that This agreement must go through a clear selection and participation process, without any coercion or ambiguity from users. In addition, users can also refuse to provide information whenever they feel their personal privacy rights have been violated.

Although the fine of 50 million euros seems big, it is still not compared to the maximum limit of the fine that GDPR is allowed to apply to a business or organization. Specifically, the maximum penalty for a serious violation of GDPR's terms can be up to 4% of the company's global revenue within a year. If this number is applied to big technology companies like Google or Facebook, the fine will definitely not stop at the million dollar level. For example, in the case of Google, the company reportedly earned \$ 33.74 billion in the last quarter of 2018, so Google's annual revenue is extremely large, which could lead to fined billions of dollars.

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This is not the first GDPR fine issued. In December, last year, a hospital in Portugal was fined 400,000 euros after their employees used bogus accounts to access patient records, while a communal communication service The German association was fined 20,000 euros in November for storing user account passwords in text form without their consent. A local Austrian business was also fined 4,800 euros in October last year for using unauthorized security cameras in public areas.

In response to this fine, a Google spokesperson said the company was deeply committed to meeting the high standards of transparency and control of executives as people expected. , and Google is currently scrutinizing CNIL's decision to determine the next steps.



In another move, Google has also been accused of consumer rights violations in GDPR by seven European groups. Specifically, these groups have accused Google of crooked, "phishing" users around tracking location and using their location data.

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\* GDPR is the General Data Protection Regulation, which has just been issued and has come into effect in European Union (EU) countries. From May 25, 2018, this new law will protect data and privacy for EU citizens but will also be applied in many other countries in different ways. Since most major technology companies operate multinationals, GDPR will affect what we use every day.

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