

COMP Article 85

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Article 85

Existing data protection rules of churches and religious associations

1. Where in a Member State, churches and religious associations or communities apply, at the time of entry into force of this Regulation, *comprehensive adequate* rules relating to the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data, such rules may continue to apply, provided that they are brought in line with the provisions of this Regulation.

2. Churches and religious associations which apply *comprehensive adequate* rules in accordance with paragraph 1 shall ~~provide for the establishment of an independent supervisory authority in accordance with Chapter VI of this Regulation~~ obtain a *compliance opinion pursuant to Article 38*.

Recitals

(128) This Regulation respects and does not prejudice the status under national law of churches and religious associations or communities in the Member States, as recognised in Article 17 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. As a consequence, where a church in a Member State applies, at the time of entry into force of this Regulation, *comprehensive adequate* rules relating to the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data, these existing rules should continue to apply if they are brought in line with this Regulation *and recognised as compliant*. ~~Such churches and religious associations should be required to provide for the establishment of a completely independent supervisory authority.~~