**General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**

The GDPR, effective May 25, 2018, applies to the European Economic Area (EEA; 28 states of the European Union and Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland). It aims to protect data privacy rights. Human subject data collection that is not 100% anonymous can trigger special considerations for research. Violations can incur very severe penalties. There is uncertain coverage of GDPR for methods such as, MTurk Internet data collection that could include residents of the EEA, US citizens who are research subjects who continue to collect their own data for a study while in the EEA, etc.

For more information, see the following sites:

Harvard’s GDPR page: <https://cuhs.harvard.edu/news/gdpr>

Office of Human Research Protections international web page: <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/international/index.html>

Useful Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections (“SACHRP”) letter

<https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/sachrp-committee/recommendations/attachment-b-implementation-of-the-european-unions-general-data-protection-regulation-and-its-impact-on-human-subjects-research/index.html>

GDPR site: <https://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/justice-and-fundamental-rights/data-protection/2018-reform-eu-data-protection-rules_en>