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30MAR25

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CYSE 201S Online

## **Article Review #2: Reconciling blockchain technology and data protection laws: regulatory challenges, technical solutions, and practical pathways**

### **Introduction**

This study explores the intricate relationship between blockchain technology and GDPR, shedding light on regulatory hurdles and potential technical resolutions that support adherence. It underscores the significance of establishing precise regulatory guidelines to encourage innovation alongside strong data protection protocols.

### **Relevance to Social Sciences Principles**

As a revolutionary tool for data management and transparency, blockchain technology resonates with concepts in sociology and economics. The article highlights its societal impact, such as improved data security and operational efficiency, while addressing ethical and legal dilemmas tied to data protection measures.

### **Research Questions or Hypotheses**

The primary research questions addressed by the study are:

- How can blockchain systems reconcile their inherent decentralization and permanence with GDPR compliance?
- Which technological developments, such as zero-knowledge proofs or chameleon hashes, could enable compatibility?

By addressing these questions, the research offers a balanced perspective, bridging the gap between innovative technology and regulatory frameworks.

## **Research Methods**

Adopting an interdisciplinary methodology, the study merges legal scrutiny with technical analysis. It evaluates recent legal progressions and authoritative perspectives to present a progressive viewpoint on aligning blockchain technology with GDPR standards.

## **Data and Analysis**

The research reviews emerging applications, like digital currency deployment on blockchain, and investigates compliance issues through theoretical analysis and practical approaches. It suggests functional frameworks based on technological innovations designed to harmonize blockchain operations with GDPR mandates.

## **Relevance to Coursework**

This is relevant to our course work as sociology and psychology play a major role. Going back to the 12-year-old (Rueben Paul) we learned about in class, regulations are greatly required and needed. Although inclusiveness is needed as well, you will also run into child prodigies, good and bad, who are potentially ready to wreak havoc. You do not want a child making you a headline.

## **Marginalized Groups**

It emphasizes the necessity of inclusive policies that address obstacles encountered by marginalized populations, including individuals with restricted access to technological resources or legal expertise. The research advocates for equitable strategies that ensure blockchain innovations serve all societal groups.

## **Societal Contributions**

The article's proposed solutions bridge the gap between blockchain innovation and GDPR compliance, aiding in the broader pursuit of balanced technology development and privacy protection. It stresses the need for comprehensive regulations that promote sustainable progress and societal welfare.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the article delivers insightful perspectives on the interplay of blockchain technology and GDPR, stressing the importance of cross-disciplinary collaboration to tackle these challenges. It advocates for harmonized innovation and regulatory compliance to create mutually beneficial outcomes.

## **References**

- Zafar, Ammar. “Reconciling blockchain technology and data protection laws: Regulatory challenges, technical solutions, and practical pathways.” *Journal of Cybersecurity*, vol. 11, no. 1, 19 Feb. 2025, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cybsec/tyaf002>.