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Article Review #1

[GDPR and the indefinable effectiveness of privacy regulators: Can performance assessment be improved?](#)

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## Introduction

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a regulation that was established in 2018 by the European Union to protect the data privacy of its citizens; however, the main focus of the article is establishing if GDPR's effectiveness can be analyzed. The main two questions they wished to answer were, "How is the effectiveness of the GDPR regulator judged by involved stakeholders?" and, "How could we better measure the performance of the GDPR regulator?" (Buckley et al., 2024). The independent variable for the first question would be the stakeholders and the dependent variable would be the perceived effectiveness of the GDPR regulator, while the second question's independent variable is the methods used to measure GDPR regulators and the dependent variable is the success of the method used.

## Review

According to the paper, they used a combination of qualitative and quantitative analysis methods, such as one-to-one interviews, 70 survey responses, and public data to create an overall idea of how regulators and security professionals involved in GDPR regulation felt about the system (Buckley et al., 2024). The data was qualitative by showing the role of interviewees and their gender while also getting quantitative data about regulator decisions and resources used from the various data protection agencies (DPA) in the EU, although they pointed out a lack of standardization for DPA reports causes issues with the analysis (Buckley et al., 2024). Overall, the topic shows the principle of relativism because the goal of the research is to make DPAs and GDPR more efficient and get insiders' thoughts on what is currently being done wrong, and GDPR affects any industry that collects data. This means that changing how DPAs are run will affect not just cybersecurity, but also commercial, medical, educational, social media, and other industries. The paper also shows the principles of objectivity, empiricism, and skepticism because it doesn't just assume that GDPR is efficient and properly run because the government and people's perceptions say so. They used data from interviews and statistical reports to see how DPAs handled cases, complaints, fines, etc., and they made sure to interview those who serve a key role in GDPR's operation, not random users of the internet and non-regulators (Buckley et al., 2024).

## Conclusion

This study creates a contribution not just for the EU or countries that operate under GDPR, but for all countries trying to make online privacy laws and regulations, because we get to see what works and what doesn't, with factual data and expert opinions of those who are intimate with their systems' flaws. This also contributes to global awareness for data protection and privacy because users who read the paper can get a transparent understanding of how their government works to protect their data and develop trust in the systems we use. This

transparency is vital because many groups of people don't know how their data is being used, such as poor people, uneducated people, children, and the elderly. They might not be able to understand the legal and technical jargon used by GDPR and can't verify for themselves that their data is safe, but this paper could simplify the key issues for a wider audience to understand. Overall, the paper reflected many topics we discussed in class, like the principles of social sciences, various research methods like surveys and interviews, and how to present the data in a way that is effective and answers their hypothesis.

### **Works Cited**

Buckley, G., Caulfield, T., & Becker, I. (2024, September 10). GDPR and the indefinable

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