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Another GDPR presentation but with a twist: Plagiarism detection

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Abstract:

On the 25th of May 2018, universities in the European Union will need to conform to GDPR (the General Data Protection Regulation). This will have some consequences for how plagiarism detection systems are used. Some practice will most probably develop but right now, universities need to make sure that the systems they use, which may have access to personal student data, are conforming to GDPR.

Universities will need to keep documentation on which data is kept and how it is processed and which data processors that may be used by the university as sub-contractor, such as a plagiarism detection system.

Previous data protection legislations have exempted unstructured personal data, such as personal data that is present in documents that has been submitted to plagiarism detection systems. This exemption will disappear in GDPR and will make the use of a student assignment databases a bit trickier than before since also documents where submitted data has been anonymised will be considered as personal data. Because there is a possibility that these documents contain personal data. To encrypt document data or to use “pseudonymization” will not be sufficient since storing data is considered to be equal to processing.

The presentation goes through some of the main provisions that need to be considered by universities that are using plagiarism detection, how URKUND has tackled these problems and which tools are provided by URKUND to universities to enable them to conform to GDPR.