

Consent Comprehension Made Easy Demo¹

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Although, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) defines several potential legal bases for personal data processing, in many cases data controllers and processors, even when they are located outside the European Union (EU), will need to obtain consent from EU citizens for the processing of their personal data (GDPR Art.6(1)(a)). According to GDPR Art. 4 (11), consent needs to be “freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous indication of the data subject’s wishes by which he or she, by a statement or by a clear affirmative action, signifies agreement to the processing of personal data relating to him or her”.

Although there have been some attempts to give users more control and transparency regarding personal data processing [3,4], the cognitive limitation of data subjects in terms of understanding what exactly they consented to remains an open research challenge [1,2]. In order to address this challenge, in our *demo*, we’ll present a consent request (CoRe) user interface² (UI), which provides transparency regarding personal data processing, more control via customization, and improves users’ comprehension with respect to what they actually consent to. The CoRe UI is developed based on an exemplifying use case scenario, whereby an individual purchasing a new smart watch needs to complete the consent request in order to activate its various features. The CoRe UI requirements were derived both from the text of the GDPR and Article 29 Working Party Guidelines on consent under Regulation 2016/6791. The main features of the CoRe UI are: (i) *categorization* of purposes; (ii) *granular consent customization*; (iii) *improved understandability*; (iv) *consent revocation*.

The UI was well received by the participants of our usability evaluation, who performed all tasks quickly, easily and almost without errors. The overall comprehension level of what users had consented to was also very high.

References

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² The prototype is available at: <http://cr-slider.soft.cafe/en/>