



GERALDINE SCALI

Partner
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Partner and EMEA Lead of Data Privacy and Security

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BIOGRAPHY

Geraldine Scali is the EMEA lead of data privacy and security, and has a focus on data protection and cybersecurity, with a specific emphasis on the financial services, life sciences and retail sectors.

She is a dual-qualified lawyer, admitted as a Solicitor in England and Wales, and as a French lawyer admitted to the Paris Bar, which together with her experience gained at US and International law firms over a period of nearly 20 years, makes her uniquely placed to give the best possible service to her global client base in the UK, Europe and the US.

She advises on all aspects of data privacy and security, with an emphasis on advising clients on the emerging laws that impact the development and implementation of AI solutions including the EU AI

Act as well as the implementation of global data protection compliance programmes including UK/EU GDPR. cross-border data transfers, preparedness and management of personal data breaches and reporting. She also regularly advises on data protection issues in the context of complex cross-border investigations and litigation, corporate deals, and Inclusion & Diversity Programmes.

Geraldine is a regular contributor to the firms “Privacy Speaks” series which focuses on data protection and security and writes for several journals including “Data Protection Leader Magazine” and “Data Guidance.” She is a contributing author to Financial Regulation: Emerging Themes in 2021 – an extensive collection of articles around the themes of Brexit; Regulatory Change; Regulatory and Litigation Risk; Technology; Governance; and Sustainability and People.

She also regularly speaks on data protection and security at IAPP’s conferences and at other industry conferences, and regularly gives in-house training to companies and financial institutions.

Geraldine is an active member as a mentor in the mentoring programme of the W@Privacy platform, which aims at bringing together privacy experts and enthusiasts to share, connect and engage on data protection and privacy topics.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Women in Privacy®, an international networking group for women data protection and privacy professionals. Geraldine was one of the inaugural members who helped establish the organisation.
- IAPP (International Association of Privacy Professionals)
- W@Privacy, a platform for women privacy professionals

DIRECTORY RECOGNITION

- Who’s Who Legal: UK Global Elite- Data Privacy & Protection, and in Data Security, as a leading individual (2018-) and as a thought leader (2020-)
- Legal 500 2024 in Data Protection, Privacy and Cybersecurity

EMERGING THEMES 2025

Creating Connections

2025 marks the 15th edition of Emerging Themes in Financial Regulation & Disputes. This year, our overarching theme is Creating Connections, examining three main pillars: **Technology**, **Transparency**, and **Trust**.

ADMISSIONS

- Paris
- England and Wales

RELATED CAPABILITIES

- Data Privacy, Telecommunications & Collections
- General Data Protection Regulation
- BCLP Data Breach Hotline
- AdTech
- Marketing & Advertising
- Healthcare & Life Sciences
- Data Privacy & Security
- Corporate
- Finance
- Investigations
- Regulation, Compliance & Advisory

EXPERIENCE

Geraldine's experience includes advising:

- **Numerous international companies** in the financial services, life sciences and retail on compliance with the UK/EU GDPR including on cross-border data transfers;
- **Various organisations** on dealing with personal data breaches including ransomware attacks;
- **Various international banks** in the context of a cross-border investigations in the context of whistleblowing procedure or on the data protection implications of the mirroring of mobile devices;

- **An investment management firm** on employee monitoring and the rollout of monitoring software;
- **Multiple clients** in relation to the design and launch of diversity and inclusivity initiatives including multi-jurisdictional employee surveys; and
- **Multiple clients** in relation to updating their intra-group data transfer agreements to take into account the rollout of the new EU Standard Contractual Clauses and UK International Data Transfer Agreement and Addendum.

RELATED INSIGHTS

Insights

Feb 06, 2025

Information Commissioner's open letter to the UK Prime Minister - Key Takeaways

On 16 January 2025, in an open statement and letter, the UK Information Commissioner, John Edwards, responded to the December 2024 letter from the UK Prime Minister, the Chancellor, and the Business Secretary. He set out the ICO25 strategic plan and highlighted a few interesting points. The plan confirms that responsible innovation and sustainable economic growth are core strategic objectives for the data protection regulator. Additionally, the importance of data protection and information rights are noted as essential building blocks for the ICO's strategic plans, as they ensure public trust and consumer confidence alongside offering businesses security and certainty upon which to build for the future.

Insights

Jan 30, 2025

Cybersecurity risks for financial services firms

Insights

Jan 21, 2025

CNIL Strategic Plan 2025

Insights

Jan 14, 2025

EMEA- Data Privacy, Digital and AI Round Up 2024/2025

As expected in the data privacy and digital space, 2024 shaped up to be a year full of guidance, consultations, regulatory focus areas and legislative updates. Artificial Intelligence (AI) remained a hot topic with advertising technology (AdTech) closely following its heels. With the blizzard of global data protection developments continuing unabated in 2024 with no doubt more to come in 2025, it is a good moment to look back at what 2024 held for businesses as well as to consider what 2025 may hold in the EMEA region.

Insights

Dec 23, 2024

European Data Protection Board's Opinion on AI Models

On 17 December 2024, the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) adopted its opinion on certain data protection aspects related to the processing of personal data in the context of AI models (Opinion). The Opinion comes as a response to the Irish supervisory authority's (Irish SA) request. The Irish SA's request made to the EDPB was prompted due to the current lack of harmonisation amongst supervisory authorities when it comes to assessing AI models and addresses key components of an AI model such as training, updating, developing and the operation of AI models where personal data is part of the dataset. The Irish SA posed four specific questions as part of the request which covers: Anonymity in AI models where personal data has been used to train the model; The appropriateness of relying on legitimate interest as a lawful basis and how this can be demonstrated; and The continued use of an AI where...

Insights

Dec 19, 2024

Out with the old and in with the new- The Data (Use and Access) Bill

On 23 October 2024, the Data (Use and Access) Bill (the "DUAB") was introduced to Parliament. The DUAB is the Labour government's answer to the perceived shortfalls of the since-abandoned Data Protection and Digital Information Bill (the "DPDI" Bill). We unpack below the elements from the DPDI Bill that were abandoned, those retained, and the newly added ones introduced by the DUAB.

News

Dec 12, 2024

BCLP advises BGC Group with the sale of Rates Compression business Capitalab

Insights

Dec 10, 2024

AI in HR - what you need to know

BCLP recently hosted a seminar on AI in HR. In this thought-provoking session, we considered how AI is used in HR and its regulation in the EU and the UK, and then engaged in some discussions around two theoretical scenarios. For those who were not able to attend, we have put together a summary of the key takeaways.

Insights

Dec 06, 2024

Data and Cybersecurity - European Union Legislation and Proposals

The pace of new EU law continues unabated, with IoT, cyber security and digital services being key areas of activity. The BCLP Data Privacy & Security team is tracking EU law developments relevant to data and cyber security. In our tracker we (1) provide a snapshot, (2) explain who is impacted and (3) confirm the status and timeline for each of: the Digital Services Act, the Digital Markets Act, the Data Governance Act, the Data Act, the NIS2 Directive, the Cybersecurity Act and the Cybersecurity Resilience Act.