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# The ties that bind global data protection and privacy laws

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By Robert Bond

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They are certainly appearing all over the world, and their similarities make them so interesting for those of us who have to implement and manage data protection and privacy compliance.

There have been notions of data privacy, the confidentiality of communications, and the right to be left alone for 200 years or more. The modern interpretation of data protection as a fundamental right appeared in the 1970s in Europe and then more globally in guidance in the 1980s from the Council of Europe's Convention 108. In the 1990s, these rights appeared in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) fair processing principles adopted by OECD members, including the US; guidance from the European Union (EU) and the International Chamber of Commerce; and guidance from the United Nations.

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