

## **The Registration Deadline Before the Turkish Data Controllers' Registry ("VERBIS") expires on December 31, 2021.**

### **What is VERBIS registration?**

- Turkish Data Protection Authority maintains a publicly accessible registry of data controllers which is called Data Controllers' Registry ("VERBIS").
- As per Turkish Law on the Protection of Personal Data, natural or legal persons who process personal data are obliged to register before the VERBIS before processing any personal data. However, there are exceptions to this obligation specified by the Data Protection Board which will be explained hereunder.
- VERBIS involves information on the categories of personal data processed, data subject groups, purposes of data processing, retention periods, data categories being transferred, recipients, and security measures.

### **What is the deadline for the VERBIS registration?**

- The deadline to be registered before the VERBIS expires by December 31, 2021.

### **What is consequence of non-compliance with the VERBIS registry obligation in time?**

- Failure to register before the VERBIS until December 31, 2021 can be fined up to TL 1,967,000 (around EUR 195,000). Such fine is subject to increase every year as per Tax Procedural Law no. 213.

## **Who is obliged to be registered?**

- The Turkish natural and legal person data controllers with more than 50 employees **or** a financial balance of more than 25 million TL (around EUR 2,5 million) annually are obligated to register before the VERBIS.
- These thresholds do not apply to the Turkish natural and legal person data controllers which are processing sensitive personal data. Regardless to the employee number or the annual financial balance, the Turkish natural and legal person data controllers which are processing sensitive personal data are required to be registered.

## **Do foreign data controllers have to be registered before the VERBIS?**

- If a foreign data controller is processing the personal data of Turkish citizens or residents of Turkey, regardless of its employee number or its annual financial balance, such foreign data controller is required to be registered.

## **Does the Turkish entity of a foreign company have to be registered?**

- If the Turkish entity of a foreign company employs less than 50 employees **or** has a financial balance of less than 25 million TL (around EUR 2,5 million) annually, such Turkish entity is exempt from VERBIS registry obligation.

## **If the Turkish entity of a foreign company is registered to the VERBIS, does the foreign company has to register to the VERBIS as well?**

- If a foreign data controller is processing personal data of Turkish citizens or residents of Turkey, regardless of its Turkish entity's VERBIS registration, such foreign data controller has the obligation to register to the VERBIS as well.