

DIGITAL BILL OF RIGHTS

We the people of the Internet, in order to form a more perfect altruistic (via Craig Tinsley) online experience existence (via Ruben Sibon), establish ~~limitations and restrictions on accessing~~ privacy of user data¹ and online presence (via [Ashley Henderson](#)), ensure protections for all individuals, provide for the common² checks and balances of our online rights, promote the general welfare, and secure the ~~Blessings of Liberty~~ liberty of to our online identities and our information (via Geno Martinez), do ordain and establish this Digital Bill of Rights for the people of the Internet.

Section 1.

The user ~~shall have~~ has (via [August der Dritte](#)) the freedom to choose and control with whom he or she shares his or her activity³ or personal information—~~personal information, meaning but not limited to contact information, financial details or other identifying details~~ with. (via Mark Cross)

Furthermore, data that a user uploads to an online service⁴ ~~should~~ shall (via [Charlie Gerancher](#)) not be shared with other users except at their ~~explicit request~~ consent⁵. (via [Simon Souyris Strumse](#) and [Michael Safyan](#))

Section 2.

Each and every user shall be offered equal protections of privacy and free speech regardless of their nationality, religious beliefs or political affiliation. (via Mark Cross)

Section 3.

Each and every user shall have the right to enjoy a peaceful experience on

the Internet without suffering discrimination, degradation or cruel punishment from other Internet services and users. (via Yohan Anthony and Mark Cross)

Section 4.

The user shall have the right for his or her view of the Internet to be ~~unbiased~~, uncensored and unrestricted by ~~local policies or~~ political interference. (via Mark Cross)

No government or service may prevent a user from viewing or accessing content that is posted publicly or that was shared with that user, except for phishing and/or scam pages, pages that are or that deliver viruses and other forms of malware or pages that sell or feature an illegal product including but not limited to stolen property, child pornography or illegal drugs. Political speech, news and encyclopaedic content shall not be restricted nor filtered for the user, regardless of his or her location.

The user shall not be censored or restricted access to submit his or her online speech to web-based services including, but not limited to, web sites, blogs, social media platforms and other online services. (via Jack Hoffman)

Section 5.

Jurisdiction should remain neutral, wherever the user is located in the world. (via [Hugo Pickering](#))

Section 6.

~~Banking information, private messaging and emails and browsing histories should be the property of the user. Anything shared publicly belongs to the Internet.~~ All content⁶, works and information the user uploads to the Internet

remains the property of the original owner. ~~Copyrighted content Works and information should stay~~ are (via [August der Dritte](#)) protected under applicable copyright. (via [Michael Davidson](#), [Nina Frazier](#) and [Nacho Burgoa](#)) ~~no matter who decides to share the user's work online.~~

The original creator shall be free to assert his or her copyright over this work, or transfer ownership and copyrights in a private transaction, irrespective of whomever may have shared, modified or derived new work from the original work, unless they choose freely to waive this right with a public disclosure, when applicable. (via Mark Cross and [Nacho Burgoa](#))

No user shall be denied attribution of or proceeds arising from his or her intellectual and/or digital properties by theft or from devaluation of these assets caused by sharing without the legal owner's explicit permission. (via Mark Cross)

Section 7.

~~The user should have the right to disappear,~~ shall have the right to terminate his or her participation with any online service at any time. ~~meaning that if~~ If a user wants to terminate a relationship with a web-based service, ~~, such as a social network,~~ a user shall have the right to delete all of his or her own user data ~~the service has collected of said user~~ within said service.

Furthermore, a user has the right to instruct a service provider to delete any data that has been collected about him or her. (via Mark Cross)

For data that is not owned by the user -- for example, works contributed to a community or to a work owned by other users -- the service may preserve the data but anonymize the contributor as an alternative to deleting that data. When a user requests to delete his or her data, the service shall indicate which data will be preserved in this fashion.

~~A user who has joined or contributed information to an public, semi-public or private online community, social network or similar service shall be able to become anonymous in the eyes of that community if the user no longer wishes his or her past contributions to be personally attributable.~~

(via [Jerome Camal](#), [Ashley Henderson](#), Mark Cross, Jack Hoffman and [Michael Safyan](#))

Section 8.

A user shall have the right to demand and receive a full copy of any data associated with said user that is held by a web-based service. (via Mark Cross)

Services may copy the data from one data center to another or otherwise act on the data on the user's behalf. (via [Michael Safyan](#)) ~~But uploading content does not transfer ownership to the service. (via [Toby Trueman](#))~~

Section 9.

~~Email, texts and cell phone calls~~ Personal communications, including but not limited to email, SMS, instant messages, social media, video conferences and phone calls, ~~should~~ shall have (via Jack Hoffman) the same legal protections as ~~snail mail and land lines~~ one's traditional letters, and phone calls and any other physical correspondence.

In addition, one's online data shall have the same legal protections as one's physical records. There shall be no search and seizure of one's digital property without probable cause, and a valid, court-issued warrant. (via [Anthony Lee](#), [Hashim Ali](#), Mark Cross, [Michael Safyan](#) and Ashley Henderson)

~~There must be a demonstrable just cause for the government to obtain access to cloud storage and social network data and user data held on private servers. (via [Anthony Lee](#) and Mark Cross)~~

Section 10.

~~All information a user expects to be private online shall remain private. It will not be given to a third party without the consent of the creator of that information. (via [Joel Casian](#) and [Ashley Henderson](#))~~

~~No entity on the Internet may utilize a user's contact information or contact information of a user's connections to approach those parties without express permission of the original user, nor shall they be permitted to use this information in advertising as a form of endorsement. (via Mark Cross)~~

~~A user of social media platforms is responsible for regulating his or her user, whether publicly or privately, and the services are responsible for maintaining honest and consistent approaches to user data within publicly-declared parameters. (via James Brandt) (via Mark Cross)~~

Section 11.

~~The user shall have the right to remain anonymous online, and only reveal their identities to whom they choose. (via [Geno Martinez](#))~~

Section 12.

~~No entity -- government, law enforcement agency, corporation or human -- may harvest collect, examine, steal or otherwise utilize a user's data without the explicit permission of the subject entity, barring legally justified data collection/search/seizure. Any such data use without permission shall be punishable by law. (via [Billy Priest](#))~~

A service shall be required to ask for user consent for any significantly novel usage for which consent was not previously given. But internal processing required to deliver the service that does not have a material impact on user privacy or security -- such as copying data from one datacenter to another -- does not require additional consent. (via [Michael Safyan](#))

Section 13.

~~Encrypt information online and make it illegal to force someone to divulge the key. (via [Jim Gomes](#))~~ Online services that send or receive user data must send the data over an encrypted connection. Any data that a service receives over an encrypted connection must be encrypted when stored and when transmitted outside the service. (via [Michael Safyan](#))

Section 14.

~~Any adult user may request that a service provider delete any data about activities that the user participated in as a minor, as defined by the laws of the country in which the subject was a resident of at the time under the age of 18 should have the ability to be protected and have their online records wiped clean of indiscretions and mistakes made as an underage citizen when they turn 18. (via [Josh Katlin](#) and Mark Cross)~~

An employer should be prohibited from discriminating against a user based on information posted online by said user when he or she was underage, or for information posted online that is more than five years old.

Employers may not coerce employees to divulge passwords or grant access to personal accounts or to privately shared posts that have been shared to their personal accounts. (via [Michael Safyan](#))

Section 15.

No corporate entity may construct an End User License Agreement which would violate or nullify the rights of citizens enumerated in this document or subsequent additions to these rights. (via [Eric S. Riley](#))

No user shall be required to accept further changes to such an agreement unless the service provider has reasonable justifications for making the change. (via Mark Cross)

Section 16.

A user of the Internet shall have the right to use the Internet without his or her activity and/or communications being surveilled by any government or agency. (via Mark Cross)

Section 17.

A user shall have the right to access the Internet.

Definitions:

1. User Data: Includes but is not limited to social media activity, such as posts and comments, personal or public photos, financial information, private messages, such as emails, contact information of personal connections and video conferences, among other types.
2. Common: Occurring frequently. A usual or habitual occurrence.
3. Activity: This term can encompass, but is not limited to, location information, financial information, information about personal individuals and works such as comments, posts, photos and more.
4. Online Service: These types of services include, but are not limited to,

Internet service providers, email providers, news providers, entertainment providers, search, e-shopping sites, e-finance or e-banking sites, e-health sites, e-government sites, encyclopaedic sites and social media platforms, among other services.

5. Consent: It is a permission for something to happen or an agreement to do something.

6. Content: The material, which include but are not limited to text, images, music, intellectual property and more, that constitute a publication, document, etc.

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