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Technical Media Report Analysis

**Tech giants warn cybersecurity bill could undermine users' privacy**

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# Technical Media Report Analysis

## Tech giants warn cybersecurity bill could undermine user’s privacy

Abstract - This report documents the analysis of a recent media article “Tech giants warn cybersecurity bill could undermine users’ privacy” regarding the proposal of the CISA bill and the response of tech giant companies such as Facebook, Google and Yahoo. The analysis focuses on the social, legal and ethical aspects of the media article. It also incorporates the source of the articles credibility and reliability.

## Introduction

The article in question was published online on the 15th October 2015 by the Guardian. This report analyses and details the social, legal and ethical implications of the articles context. It also reviews the articles source and credibility and related media from alternative sources.

#### What is the CISA bill?

The CISA bill (Cybersecurity information sharing act) is a proposed legislation that will help to enforce cyber security within the United States. The proposed legislation would allow technical and manufacturing companies to share client data with the government to help combat cyber threats and attacks. It would also provide immunity from privacy and antitrust laws to companies that do share this data with the government.

During the 113th congress held in July 2014 the CISA (Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act) bill was inaugurated by the U.S Senate. The bill was passed by the Senate Intelligence Committee but did not obtain a full vote. In March 2014 at the 114th Congress the CISA bill was re-proposed and again passed by the Senate Intelligence agency. The bill was then attached as an amendment to the ‘National Defense Authorization Act’ which did not make sufficient enough votes to be accepted.

Supporting organisations: ‘National Cable and Telecommunications Association’, ‘’, ‘’

Members of the senate who opposed the bill have concerns about centralizing client data and handing security responsibilities to the government. History has weakened the public’s trust in the government’s ability to protect and secure sensitive data.

#### What are the motivations of the bill?

In the ever growing effort to improve cybersecurity in the U.S.

Seen countless times over the past 40 years corporate companies, telecommunications providers and governments have attempted determine standards and quantify areas of the internet.

Internet data security is an ongoing battle since the birth of the commercial internet. Proposals such as CISA yet again diminish the public trust in the security of their online presence.

* Background of topic in question
* History of governing bodies such as CCIA and CISA
* History of issue
* Other related media reports such
* Associated laws such as Februaries Net Neutrality by Barack Obama

## Discussion

**CCIA – who are they, what do they have to do with tech giants, who do they answer to?**

#### What are the Social impacts of bill passed/declined?

# After reading the CISA bill my first thoughts that the bill as stated is a perfectly acceptable proposal. Surely this would increase global security

However users are less likely to opt into a service that is collecting their personal data. For better or for worse the fact still remains that the general public are being heavily monitored. If you were walking down a scary looking alley in the middle of the night would you feel safer or violation. The moral of the story is that there will always be a scenario that will back for and against.

#### What are the Legal impacts of the bill passed/declined?

The bill would empower government agencies. Is this why the tech giants oppose such a bill so that they can relinquish their superiority and control over sensitive data. Or is that they truly believe they can do a better job of national security than government agencies. Maybe they don’t trust the government to do the right thing.

Surely all of this boils down to the same thing. How much does the general public trust the government /if just a little? Actions in the past have broken the public’s trust of government agencies and there movements.

Surely passing this bill would undermine the data privacy act.

#### What are the Ethical impacts of the bill passed/declined?

#### Links to relevant legislations and media articles

The Computer and Communications Industry Association defend tech companies that are opposing the CISA bill.

A further article was posted by the Guardian on the 21st October titled ‘Apple, Google and Twitter among 22 tech companies opposing CISA bill’. The article reiterates the concerns of privacy and civil liberties.

# Tech companies track and analyse our online data through third party businesses. They most probably have a better idea of a digital presence than the government.

#### Articles credibility and reliability

## Conclusion

The government is highly alarmed that tech giant corporations already harnessing such power are surpassing the influence of the government.

## References

[1]

[2]

[3] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cybersecurity_Information_Sharing_Act>, visited 16th October

[4] <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/754>, visited 17th October

[5]