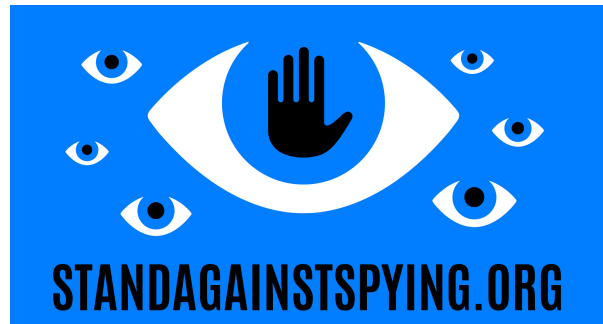




NSA Surveillance: Demand Accountability

News of the U.S. government's mass spying—both domestically and around the globe— has shown us more than ever that the technologies we use and create every day have astonishing implications on our basic, most cherished rights.

Surveillance that sweeps up the communications of millions of people violates the US Constitution and international law. And even details about our communications—like who we call and when— paint an intimate portrait of our lives.



Why we stand against spying

- **NSA surveillance violates the Fourth Amendment of the US Constitution**, which forbids general surveillance warrants without probable cause.
- **NSA spying chills freedom of speech.** Dozens of well-known writers— including Don DeLillo, E.L. Doctorow and Daniel Handler (aka Lemony Snicket) published an open letter saying NSA surveillance “poses a grave threat to the United States’ proud tradition as a champion of free expression.”
- **NSA spying doesn't make us safer.** Former NSA director Alexander admitted that there are no more than 13 cases (out of billions of communications records of innocent Americans) where NSA had supplied data for any sort of investigation into US terrorism.
- **NSA surveillance profiles** based on religious affiliation. Muslims, including Americans, are being directly spied on based on constitutionally protected exercise of freedom of religion and speech.
- **NSA is sharing illegally collected information** with the Drug Enforcement Agency, the FBI, and local law enforcement in ordinary investigations that have nothing to do with terrorism.
- **NSA efforts to put backdoors in trusted computer security systems** make us all unsafe.
- **Spying is costly.** While the government keeps the intelligence budget secret, leaked documents revealed that over \$10.8 billion was allocated to the NSA in 2013 alone.

Real reform for NSA surveillance

We are calling on our representatives to pass strong legislative reform to outlaw mass surveillance, including provisions that recognize the privacy rights of non-US citizens. NSA reform must:

- End bulk collection of communications and details about communications.
- Ban the NSA practice of searching through their databases for American communications without a warrant, known as the “backdoor search loophole.” This data is currently collected under section 702 of the FISA Amendment Act, which is not supposed to be used to collect American communications.

- Reform the FISA court, the secret court that signs off on the NSA's secret surveillance, with mandatory declassification of significant opinions and a public advocate arguing on behalf of the privacy rights of all persons.
- Prohibit the NSA from undermining international encryption technologies and standards and hacking into technology companies.
- Promote transparency, publish transparency reports, and give companies rights to publish detailed accounts about cooperation with bulk surveillance efforts.

How Congress must act

Congress is currently not considering legislation that would be a comprehensive solution. But in the meantime, the 2014 USA FREEDOM Act, S. 2685, is a good first step.

Senators: co-sponsor and vote yes on Senator Leahy's 2014 USA FREEDOM Act, S. 2685. Support amendments that strengthen the bill.

Representatives: support the stronger Senate version of USA FREEDOM instead of the weakened House version, H.R. 3361.

Diverse Coalition Opposes Mass Surveillance

Organizations from across the political spectrum have united in calling for meaningful reforms of the National Security Agency's surveillance powers as part of StandAgainstSpying.org:



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