

Facebook failing on privacy promises: campaign group

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"Now it seems that [Facebook](#) is not even sticking to the obligations under this report," said Europe-versus-Facebook, a group set up by an Austrian student, Max Schrems, who has fought a long battle against the social [networking website](#).

"Many issues should have been solved by March 31, 2012. This was e.g. the date where Facebook should have brought its worldwide privacy

policy in line with European law ... but nothing happened until now," a statement said.

In December, the Irish [Data Protection Commissioner](#) (DPC) said that Facebook had to better explain to users what happens to their personal data and give them more control.

The report, which followed a string of complaints by Schrems and his group, also called on Facebook to allow users to permanently delete old messages, friend requests, pokes, tags and posts.

Europe-versus-Facebook also said that 40,000 Facebook users had made use of the group's guide on how to request from the firm all the data it holds on them, but that so far "no one has received all data Facebook is legally bound to disclose."

Instead, Facebook has sent out emails to the users with a "download tool" that only held 22 of the 84 data categories Facebook holds about every user, such as old messages, friend requests, pokes, tags and posts.

The group said it has now published forms enabling people to file a complaint with the European Commission. The group's website is www.europe-v-facebook.org/.

Facebook, which says it has 845 million users including 483 million who log in daily, had said in December that the DPC had "highlighted several opportunities to strengthen our existing practices."

"Facebook has committed to either implement, or to consider, other 'best practice' improvements recommended by the DPC, even in situations where our practices already comply with legal requirements," it had said.

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