

Europe-vs-Facebook group gathers comments in privacy battle

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The announcement came as Facebook announced a price of \$38 per share for its record-setting <u>initial public offering</u>, which would give the leading social network a giant market value of \$104 billion (83 billion euros).

Facebook on May 11 published changes to its privacy policy, after Austrian law student Max Schrems and others had complained to the



data commissioner in Ireland where Facebook has its overseas headquarters.

Schrems however criticised the changes, saying they presented "one step forward, two steps back" -- with users losing their legal rights over their online data and personal profiles.

The <u>advocacy group</u> has proposed changes at <u>www.our-policy.org</u> and invited users to comment -- aiming for more than 7,000 comments, Facebook's threshold within seven days to put the proposed changes up for a vote.

"We made it: More than 7,000 comments for our-policy.org," the group said on its website www.europe-v-facebook.org, saying that far more comments had been submitted in languages other than English.

It said the number of comments "means that according to Facebook's policy they are unable to make the proposed changes. We are now waiting for the first reaction by <u>Facebook!</u>"

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