

Facebook CEO to meet with Glenn Beck, other conservatives

May 16 2016



In this Saturday, March 19, 2016, file photo, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg speaks during a panel discussion held as part of the China Development Forum at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing. Zuckerberg is meeting with conservative leaders, including radio host Glenn Beck, on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, in light of a report that Facebook downplays conservative news subjects in its "Trending Topics" feature. Facebook has denied the claims, but Zuckerberg said the company is investigating it nonetheless. (AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein, File)

Radio host Glenn Beck and American Enterprise Institute president Arthur Brooks are some of the conservative leaders Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg plans to meet with this week.

The meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, follows a [report](#) that Facebook employed bias in the way it selected stories for its "Trending Topics" feature. A report in the tech blog Gizmodo claimed that Facebook downplays conservative news subjects. Facebook denies that report, which relied upon a single anonymous individual with self-described conservative leanings.

Nonetheless, Zuckerberg said the Menlo Park, California, [company](#) is investigating the matter and has invited conservative leaders to meet with him. Others invited include Zac Moffatt, the co-founder of conservative technology company Targeted Victory, and Dana Perino, co-host of The Five on Fox News Channel.



In this Wednesday Sept. 9, 2015, file photo, radio host Glenn Beck speaks during a Tea Party rally against the Iran deal on the West Lawn of the Capitol in Washington. Beck and American Enterprise Institute president Arthur Brooks are some of the conservative leaders Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg plans to meet with on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, in light of a report that Facebook downplays conservative news subjects in its "Trending Topics" feature. Facebook has denied the claims, but Zuckerberg said the company is investigating it nonetheless. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin, File)

"I want to have a direct conversation about what Facebook stands for and how we can be sure our platform stays as open as possible," Zuckerberg said in a Facebook post last week.

Facebook has said that a series of checks and balances—involving both software formulas and humans—ensures that stories displayed in the "trending topics" section aren't biased. In a blog post last week, the company also linked to a 28-page internal document it uses to determine trending topics, after the Guardian published a similar document that was leaked to it.

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Citation: Facebook CEO to meet with Glenn Beck, other conservatives (2016, May 16) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-05-facebook-ceo-glenn-beck.html>

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