

EU says data privacy deal with US can be improved

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In this May 16, 2012, file photo, the Facebook logo is displayed on an iPad in Philadelphia. Silicon Valley is a uniquely American creation, the product of an entrepreneurial spirit and no-holds-barred capitalism that now drives many aspects of modern life. But the likes of Facebook, Google and Apple are increasingly facing an uncomfortable truth: it is Europe's culture of tougher oversight of companies, not America's laissez-faire attitude, which could soon rule their industry as governments seek to combat fake news and prevent extremists from using the internet to fan the flames of hatred. (AP Photo/Matt Rourke, File)

The European Union says that the one-year-old rules governing data transfers with the U.S. are working well but that some improvements can still be made to the system to guarantee EU citizens' privacy protection.

The EU-US Privacy Shield agreement was imposed last year amid concerns of snooping by U.S. intelligence agencies on global data managed by U.S. companies. The EU's top court annulled a previous deal because it was deemed insufficient.

EU Justice Commissioner Vera Jourova said Wednesday that "the Privacy Shield works well, but there is some room for improving its implementation."

The EU said it will be looking for better compliance monitoring by the U.S. authorities of their companies and raise awareness among EU citizens how to better defend their privacy rights.

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