

TOS Annexes

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Annex A. From Twitter’s IPO papers

1:

“Twitter is a global platform for public self-expression and conversation in real time. By developing a fundamentally new way for people to create, distribute and discover content, we have democratized content creation and distribution, enabling any voice to echo around the world instantly and unfiltered.

Our platform is unique in its simplicity: Tweets are limited to 140 characters of text. This constraint makes it easy for anyone to quickly create, distribute and discover content that is consistent across our platform and optimized for mobile devices. As a result, Tweets drive a high velocity of information exchange that makes Twitter uniquely “live.” We aim to become an indispensable daily companion to live human experiences.”

“Twitter is a public, real-time platform where any user can create a Tweet and any user can follow other users. We do not impose restrictions on whom a user can follow, which greatly enhances the breadth and depth of available content and allows users to discover the content they care about most. Additionally, users can be followed by thousands or millions of other users without requiring a reciprocal relationship, enhancing the ability of our users to reach a broad audience. The public nature of our platform allows us and others to extend the reach of Twitter content beyond our properties. Media outlets distribute Tweets beyond our properties to complement their content by making it more timely, relevant and comprehensive. Tweets have appeared on over one million third-party websites, and in the third quarter of 2013 there were approximately 48 billion online impressions of Tweets off of our properties.

Twitter provides a compelling and efficient way for people to stay informed about their interests, discover what is happening in their world right now and interact directly with each other. We enable the timely creation and distribution of ideas and information among people and organizations at a local and

¹ <https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1418091/000119312513424260/d564001ds1a.htm>

global scale. Our platform allows users to browse through Tweets quickly and explore content more deeply through links, photos, media and other applications that can be attached to each Tweet. As a result, when events happen in the world, whether planned, like sporting events and television shows, or unplanned, like natural disasters and political revolutions, the digital experience of those events happens in real time on Twitter. People can communicate with each other during these events as they occur, creating powerful shared experiences.”

“President Obama used our platform to first declare victory publicly in the 2012 U.S. presidential election, with a Tweet that was viewed approximately 25 million times on our platform and widely distributed offline in print and broadcast media.”

Annex B. Twitter Privacy, or lack thereof

More from Twitter’s “Privacy Policy”:

*“... we may collect, use, and store additional information about your location - **such as your current precise position or places where you’ve previously used Twitter** ... We do not support the Do Not Track browser option.” -- which also tells Twitter a lot about other people, like owners or residents of these places.*

*“We receive information when you view content on or otherwise interact with our services, which we refer to as **“Log Data,”** even if you have not created an account. For example, when you visit our websites, sign into our services, interact with our email notifications, use your account to authenticate to a third-party service, or visit a third-party service that includes Twitter content, we may receive information about you. **This Log Data includes information such as your IP address, browser type, operating system, the referring web page, pages visited, location, your mobile carrier, device information (including device and application IDs), search terms (including those not submitted as queries), and cookie information.** We also receive Log Data when you click on, view, or interact with links on our services, including when you install another application through Twitter.” -- ‘such as’ means ‘including but not limited to’.*

*“When you view our content on third-party websites that integrate Twitter content **such as** embedded timelines or Tweet buttons, we may receive Log Data that includes the web page you visited.”*

*“Our ad partners and affiliates share information with us **such as browser cookie IDs, mobile device IDs, hashed email addresses, demographic or interest data, and content viewed or actions taken** on a website or app. Some of our ad partners, particularly our advertisers, also **enable us to collect similar information directly from their website or app** by integrating our advertising technology.” -- yes, Twitter watches us everywhere, even when we have no idea it can physically do that.*

*“We may receive information about you from third parties who are not our ad partners, such as others on Twitter, **partners who help us evaluate the safety and quality of content** on our platform, our corporate affiliates, and other services you link to your Twitter account.”*

*“We engage service providers to perform functions and provide services for us in the United States, Ireland, and other countries. **For example**, we use a variety of third-party services to help operate our services, such as hosting our various blogs and wikis, and to help us understand the use of our services, **such as Google Analytics.**”*

Many companies use third party services for purposes like computer repairs or software development. They might occasionally encounter some data, usually for short periods of time and under strict NDA. Neither a reasonable person nor an expert would suspect what really happens. Twitter transfers the data to Google through Google Analytics, where it combines the data from Twitter with mountains of data received from other sources -- Google search, Android, YouTube, Google Ads, Google Analytics all over the web including most [government websites](#).²

*“**Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Privacy Policy or controls we may otherwise offer to you, we may preserve, use, share, or disclose your personal data or other safety data if we believe that it is reasonably necessary** to comply with a law, regulation, legal process, or governmental request; to protect the safety of any person; to protect the safety or integrity of our platform, **including to help prevent spam, abuse, or malicious actors on our services, or to explain why we have removed content or accounts from our services;** to address fraud, security, or technical issues; or to protect our rights or property or the rights or property of those who use our services.”*

*“**We may revise this Privacy Policy from time to time.** ... If we make a change to this policy that, **in our sole discretion, is material, we will notify you** within Twitter.com, Twitter for iOS, or Twitter for Android, via a Twitter owned and operated Twitter account (for example @TwitterSupport), or by sending an email to the email address associated with your account.”*

In other words, Twitter reserves the right to modify its “privacy policy” at any time and without notification.

Annex C. Termination and Terms Modification at Will by Facebook and YouTube

Termination for any or no cause, Facebook

“Unilateral termination at will without prior notice” said in long and crooked phrase, creatively changing from time to time.

Current on 2022/04/04:³

*“**If we determine, in our discretion, that you have clearly, seriously or repeatedly breached our Terms or Policies, including in particular the Community Standards, we may suspend or permanently disable your access to Meta Company Products, and **we may permanently disable*****

² <https://defyccc.com/google-spies-on-us-on-gov-sites/>

³ https://www.facebook.com/legal/terms/plain_text_terms

or delete your account. We may also disable or delete your account if you repeatedly infringe other people's intellectual property rights or where we are required to do so for legal reasons. "

Notice: "we determine, in our discretion" and "clearly, [or] seriously or repeatedly breached our [countless] Terms or Policies" is sufficient to terminate the services.

June 2019:⁴

"We may also **suspend or disable your account** if you create risk or legal exposure for us **or when we are permitted or required to do so by law**. Where appropriate, we will notify you about your account the next time you try to access it."

Notice: termination when "permitted by law".

January 2017:⁵

"**If you violate the letter or spirit of this Statement, or otherwise create risk or possible legal exposure for us, we can **stop providing all or part of Facebook** to you."**

Notice: yes, "possible legal exposure".

Termination for any or no cause, YouTube

"Unilateral termination for any or no cause without notice" said in long crooked sentences. Also, YouTube may terminate the whole Google account of the user, possibly even to brick the user's Android phone.

Current on 2022/04/04:⁶

"Terminations and Suspensions by YouTube

YouTube reserves the right to suspend or terminate your Google account or your access to all or part of the Service if ... (c) we reasonably believe that there has been conduct that creates (or could create) liability or harm to any user, other third party, YouTube or our Affiliates.

Notice for Termination or Suspension

We will notify you with the reason for termination or suspension by YouTube unless we reasonably believe that to do so: ... (c) would compromise the integrity, operation or security of the Service; or (d) would cause harm to any user, other third party, YouTube or our Affiliates."

Plain English: YouTube may terminate services to the user if it "reasonably believes" that there has been conduct by anybody, not even connected to the user, that could create liability or harm (any harm, including discovery of one's crime) to anybody in the world.

⁴ https://web.archive.org/web/20190630023320/https://www.facebook.com/legal/terms/plain_text_terms

⁵ <https://web.archive.org/web/20170105195212/https://www.facebook.com/legal/terms>

⁶ <https://www.youtube.com/t/terms>

January 2019:⁷

*“YouTube reserves the right to decide whether Content violates these Terms of Service for reasons other than copyright infringement, **such as, but not limited to**, pornography, obscenity, or excessive length. YouTube may at any time, without prior notice and in its sole discretion, remove such Content and/or terminate a user's account for submitting such material in violation of these Terms of Service.”*

*“These Terms of Service apply to all users of the Service, **including users who are also contributors of Content** on the Service.”*

Plain English: YouTube may declare that your Content violates TOS, and to terminate your use of the services. The Content includes comments.

TOS Modification at will, Facebook, and YouTube

Facebook:

*“... we may need to update these Terms from time to time to accurately reflect our services and **practices**”*

YouTube: modification at will without any notification:

Current on 2022/04/04:⁸

*“We may change this Agreement, **for example**, (1) to reflect changes to our Service or how we do business ... (2) for legal, regulatory, or security reasons, or (3) to prevent abuse or harm. **If we materially change this Agreement**, we'll provide you with reasonable advance notice and the opportunity to review the changes, **except** (1) when we launch a new product or feature, or (2) in urgent situations, **such as** ...”*

January 2019:⁹

*“Although we **may attempt to notify you when major changes are made to these Terms of Service**, you should periodically review the most up-to-date version <https://www.youtube.com/t/terms>). YouTube may, in its sole discretion, modify or revise these Terms of Service and policies at any time, and you agree to be bound by such modifications or revisions.”*

Annex D. Arriving to Twitter.com from Congress.gov

⁷ <https://web.archive.org/web/20190101235708/https://www.youtube.com/t/terms>

⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/t/terms>

⁹ <https://web.archive.org/web/20190101235708/https://www.youtube.com/t/terms>

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