

Twitter apologizes to developers and suggests Politwoops might come back

CEO Jack Dorsey mentions Politwoops in apology to developers

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SUMMARY

Twitter says it will improve its communication with developers. ‘We want to come to you today, and first and foremost apologize for the confusion’, said Jack Dorsey, CEO of Twitter, at the company’s second annual Flight developer conference in San Francisco. Dorsey said that Twitter needed to get better about being transparent. ‘We have a responsibility to continue to power organizations who want to bring transparency like Politwoops,’ Twitter’s CEO said. In August 2015, Twitter blocked Politwoops, run by Open State Foundation, in more than 30 countries that enabled the public to see what legislators and other elected officials, once had tweeted but then decided to delete.

‘T

his statement seems to indicate a possible change in Twitter’s position on Politwoops’, said Arjan El Fassed, director of Open State Foundation the organization that launched Politwoops in more than 30 countries since 2010. ‘We look forward to reach out to Twitter and restore access to Twitter’s API again soon so that we can continue to enable the public to hold elected public officials accountable for their public statements.’

In August 2015, Twitter blocked Politwoops in more than 30 countries that enabled the public to see what legislators and other elected officials, once had tweeted but then decided to delete.

Open State Foundation started Politwoops in 2010 in the Netherlands and then helped expand Politwoops to more than 30 countries and parliaments, included the United States, the European Parliament and countries like Egypt, Argentina, Turkey and Greece.

In September, 50 rights and transparency groups across five continents, including Access Now, Sunlight Foundation, Human Rights Watch, and the Electronic Frontier Foundation joined in opposition to Twitter’s crackdown on Politwoops and called on the social network to restore Politwoops’ API access.

RELEVANT LINKS

- Twitter Address by Jack Dorsey at Twitter Flight 2015

<https://twitter.com/Flight/status/656882929923059713>

- Open State preserves Politwoops' history on the net

<http://openstate.pr.co/111189-open-state-preserves-politwoops-history-on-the-net>

- Politwoops: Major coalition of rights groups call on Twit...

<http://openstate.pr.co/109874-politwoops-major-coalition-of-rights-groups-call-on-twitter-to-turn-it-back-on>

- Twitter cuts off DiploTwoops and Politwoops in all remain...

<http://openstate.pr.co/108959-twitter-cuts-off-diplotwoops-and-politwoops-in-all-remaining-30-countries>

QUOTES

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— Arjan El Fassed, director Open State Foundation

ABOUT OPEN STATE FOUNDATION

Open State Foundation bevordert digitale transparantie door het ontsluiten van open data en de ontwikkeling van innovatieve en creatieve toepassingen te stimuleren.

Open State Foundation promotes digital transparency by unlocking open data and stimulates the development of innovative and creative applications.



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