

# Politwoops up and running in 25 countries, more to come

Tool tracking politicians' deleted tweets back online

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## SUMMARY

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**T**oday, [Open State Foundation](#) has set [Politwoops](#) back online. After an agreement reached with Twitter, API access has been restored and deleted tweets of politicians in 25 countries, including the [Netherlands](#), [Chile](#), [Ireland](#), [Portugal](#), [United Kingdom](#), [Spain](#) and [Turkey](#) but also of members of the [European Parliament](#) are preserved again.

On December 31, an [agreement](#) had been reached with [Twitter](#) that allows Open State Foundation to publish deleted tweets by politicians again via its tool Politwoops. The agreement followed several meetings between Twitter and digital transparency organisations Open State Foundation, Sunlight Foundation and digital rights organisation Access Now.

Now, deleted tweets of politicians in 25 countries and parliaments are preserved and visible via Politwoops. Open State Foundation works to update various country pages and has the ambition to roll out Politwoops to more countries in the future.

'The understanding reached last week has been welcomed by all those who believe the world needs more political transparency', says Arjan El Fassed, director of Open State Foundation. 'Our next step is to continue and expand our work to enable the public to hold public officials accountable for their public statements'.

Open State Foundation started Politwoops in 2010 in the Netherlands and has since then expanded Politwoops to 30 countries and parliaments that enabled the public to see what legislators and other elected public officials, once had tweeted but then decided to delete. In August 2015, Twitter blocked Politwoops until last week when an agreement was reached between Twitter and Open State Foundation to bring back Politwoops.

As it worked to relaunch Politwoops, Open State Foundation also made it possible to search and filter deleted tweets. Deleted tweets can be filtered on the period between the time of original tweet and its

deletion. This makes it easier for users to filter typos and still be able to search through all deleted tweets of politicians.



#### RELEVANT LINKS

 **Politwoops**  
<http://politwoops.eu/countries>

 **Open State Foundation**  
<http://openstate.eu>

 **Twitter blog on agreement over Politwoops**  
<https://blog.twitter.com/2015/holding-public-officials-accountable-with-twitter-and-politwoops>

 **Storify: Agreement with Twitter allows Politwoops to come...**  
<https://storify.com/OpenStateEU/twitter-cuts-off-politwoops-and-diplotwoops>

#### QUOTES

*"The understanding reached last week has been welcomed by all those who believe the world needs more political transparency. Our next step is to continue and expand our work to enable the public to hold public officials accountable for their public statements. We have the ambition to launch Politwoops in more countries in the near future."*

— Arjan El Fassed, director of Open State Foundation

#### IMAGES



**politwoops**

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#### 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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