



14 May 2018

Re: political self-regulation to help fight the problems of disinformation

Dear Secretary-General Alexander Beels,

cc: President Guy Verhofstadt

In light of revelations of the misuse of EU citizens data by Cambridge Analytica and facilitated by Facebook, European Digital Rights (EDRi) is deeply concerned about the democratic impact of such practices and other misuse of personal data.

We know that the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe share this concern, as President Guy Verhofstadt stated that “yet another mastodontic private data breach should come as significant warning for our democracy.”¹

Therefore, we call upon the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe to do as ALDE Vice-Chair Sophie In’t Veld suggested and “walk the walk”² by committing not to use tracking-based online advertising in the 2019 European Parliament elections, whether through Facebook or any other platform.

We would be delighted to hear from you about whether you are prepared to make this commitment.

Kind regards,

Joe McNamee
Executive Director
European Digital Rights

1 <https://twitter.com/guyverhofstadt/status/975388960309628928?lang=en>

2 <https://ec.europa.eu/avservices/video/player.cfm?sitelang=en&ref=1153632>