

Press release version CB 1 March 2024, machine translation

Facebook taken to court again

The Data Privacy Foundation (DPS), in cooperation with Consumentenbond, is launching a new lawsuit against Meta to enforce compensation for Facebook and Instagram users. DPS and Consumentenbond held negotiations with Meta to this effect, but those talks came to nothing.

In 2023, the Amsterdam District Court ruled that Meta violated the privacy of Dutch users for years. According to the court, Meta had not sufficiently informed consumers about what their data was being used for. It also lacked permission to use the data for advertising purposes. In addition, according to the court, Meta misled its users by withholding essential information. Meta is still guilty of these violations.

To the US

Meta violated privacy rights of Facebook and Instagram users also by transmitting personal data to the United States for years without adequate protection from U.S. government surveillance. For this Meta received a [€1.2 billion fine](#) from the Irish regulator. DPS and Consumentenbond also want user compensation for these privacy violations.

Compensation

DPS demands that Meta pay €750 per Facebook user for all damaging effects of the collection and use of personal data. In addition, DPS demands €500 for every Facebook and Instagram user for the illegal transfer of data to the United States. Finally, DPS requests the court to determine an amount in compensation for Facebook users based on the value of their data that Meta wrongfully profited from.

Forcing

Sandra Molenaar, director Consumentenbond: 'Unfortunately, Meta keeps refusing to compensate aggrieved consumers, even after the court ruled that Meta acted unlawfully. So we will have to go to court to force compensation for consumers. It is unfortunate that it is necessary, but we are ready for it and confident that we will be successful. Last year, the Amsterdam district court ruled in our favour and we even have decisions from the European Court of Justice and various authorities on our side.'

Violated

Dick Bouma, president of DPS: Meta is deliberately acting unlawfully and makes billions out of it. As a result, users have lost control and authority over their own data. They run the risk that their data will be misused in future and that they will be discriminated. Meta's abusive practices have curtailed users' freedom of choice and invaded their privacy.

Sign up

Consumers in the Netherlands who had a Facebook account after April 1, 2010 and want to be eligible for compensation for the use of their Facebook data can [apply](#) with Consumentenbond.

Consumers who had Facebook and/or Instagram accounts after May 25, 2018 and want to claim compensation for the transfer of data to the U.S. can also apply here. Consumers can apply for one or both claims.

Application block

Left:

Verdict: <https://uitspraken.rechtspraak.nl/#!/details?id=ECLI:NL:RBAMS:2023:1407>

Announcement: <https://www.consumentenbond.nl/nieuws/2023/consumentenbond-en-dps-winnen-baanbrekende-privacyzaak-tegen-facebook-en-starten-nieuwe-zaak>

Sign up:

https://www.claims-service.nl/facebook/?mtm_campaign=fiona2cb&mtm_source=consumentenbond&mtm_medium=nieuwsbericht&mtm_content=kader