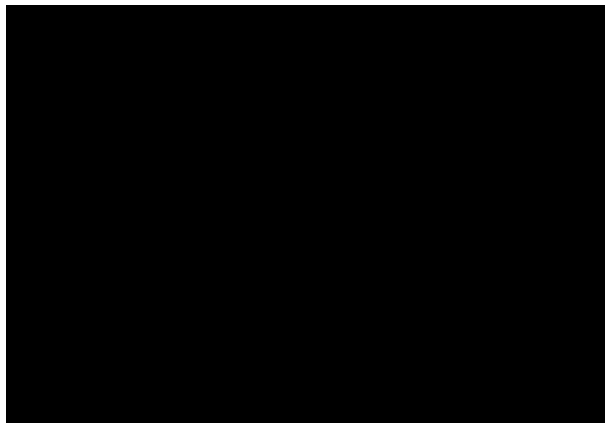


ALL FACEBOOK Users Had Their Personal Data Scraped And Abused By Facebook For Political Manipulation



Facebook admitted on Wednesday that it was likely that most of its 2 billion users have had their public profiles scraped by external companies without the users' explicit permission, [a dramatic increase from the previously disclosed numbers last year which were near 270,000](#), according to The Washington Post.

The data privacy controversy does not seem to be fading for the social media giant as investigations are ongoing in the United States and Europe and Facebook's stock price has been tumbling.

The acknowledgment was part of a broader admission from Facebook about which levels of user data have been used by others, ranging from malicious actors to ordinary app developers.

"We're an idealistic and optimistic company, and for the first decade, we were really focused on all the good that connecting people brings," Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg said on a call with reporters Wednesday afternoon. "But it's clear now that we didn't focus enough on preventing abuse and thinking about how people could use these tools for harm as well."

Facebook for the first time admitted to the scope of the improper data collection that was amassed by Cambridge Analytica, the political data consultants

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