



The Honorable Lina Khan  
Chair, U.S. Federal Trade Commission  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20580  
*Via electronic delivery*

Dear Chair Khan,

The purpose of this letter is to welcome your appointment to the Federal Trade Commission, as well as introduce to you the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue and its work.

We are a unique network, a convenor of like-minded, independent, and forward-thinking consumer and digital rights groups in the U.S. and the EU. We provide a platform for NGOs to develop and agree common views, advocate the consumer and wider public interest, and to input into the EU-US economic and political negotiations and agreements.

Since our inception, in 1998, we have been working closely as a major stakeholder – and on occasion as a critical friend – with the Federal Trade Commission. We denounced abuses of corporate power, have highlighted the grave deficiencies of the Privacy Shield (and its predecessor), complained, and demanded actions regarding the privacy abuses of the powerful US technology companies and demonstrated the need of general data protection/privacy laws in the U.S, and were early ‘adopters’ of the need to reconsider the competition framework in the light of the increasing importance of Big Data in ensuring platforms dominance. Our members were at the forefront of research and evidence regarding the use of “dark-patterns”, indeed long before the use of these practices gained prominence. And throughout this work we have collaborated closely with the FTC Commissioners and staff and have been particularly grateful to the FTC Office of International Affairs and Commissioner Chopra for their involvement and support.

We, as consumer and digital rights advocates, are concerned about increasing concentration of our economies and the impact it has on society. Both the U.S. and the EU face similar challenges posed by the global corporations, and we need more Transatlantic Cooperation and to work together to succeed. We need the EU and the U.S. to lead by example and help create an environment in which consumers can benefit from a fair and competitive marketplace. We need you, as the FTC Chair, together with your EU counterparts, to lead and take action, with a zero-tolerance approach to the violation of consumers’ and digital rights.

We have been long-standing admirers and supporters of your innovative work on competition/antitrust issues and the way you think about regulating techno-monopolies, your understanding on how these companies are harming consumers, society generally and in the long-run democracy itself. We hope that this can be translated further in your work at the FTC, to deliver this vision on the ground to achieve real changes in people’s lives.

We look forward to continuing to support FTC in all this important work – as well as be critical friends when the occasion demands it.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lina Khan', written over a horizontal line.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Edmund M. Wierzbinski'.

**Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD)**

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**C/c:**

- Commissioner Rohit Chopra, Federal Trade Commission.
- Stacy Feuer, Assistant Director, International Consumer Protection and Privacy, Federal Trade Commission
- Sam Levine, Acting Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission