Who is EDRi?

Founded in 2002, European Digital Rights (EDRi) is the biggest European network defending rights and freedoms online. Currently 42 non-governmental organisations are members of EDRi and 30 observers closely contribute to our work.

What does EDRi do?

Our mission is to promote, protect and uphold human rights and the rule of law in the digital environment, including the right to privacy, data protection, freedom of expression and information.

Our vision is for a Europe where State authorities and private companies respect everyone's fundamental rights and freedoms in the online environment. Our overall aim is to build the structures where civil society and individuals are empowered to embrace technological progress in control of their rights.
Digital technologies have transformed the way we communicate, connect and share – but also pose threats to our human rights. We advocate for fair and safe digital technologies that empower people.

WE DEFEND PRIVACY AND DATA PROTECTION!
Government surveillance threatens our personal communications. Private companies use our personal data to increase their profit.
Privacy is a crucial element of our personal security. It’s essential for freedom of expression and a prerequisite for democratic participation.

WE DEFEND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ONLINE!
Governments are increasingly “outsourcing” the decisions on what is allowed online and what is not to big tech companies. Our freedom of expression is threatened by opaque and unaccountable algorithms that automatically and arbitrarily block content.
There are risks of restricting our human rights in response to every online public policy problem including hate speech, terrorism, copyright, disinformation and child protection. This affects journalists, human rights defenders, political activists, women and people of colour in a context of shrinking space for civil society.

WE OPPOSE EXCESSIVE ONLINE SURVEILLANCE!
Governments increasingly push for measures to guarantee our security online. Paradoxically, many of these measures actually put our security at risk by breaking tools that are vital for security such as encryption. Our information is gathered, centralised, and under enormous risk of falling into the wrong hands.
WE SUPPORT DIGITAL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN EUROPE!

We run campaigns that empower people to exercise their rights in the digital environment. As a booster for the voices of digital rights NGOs, we act as a platform for member and partner organisations to strengthen the movement defending human rights online.

Our major milestones and victories

2003: EDRi presents the Big Brother Awards in 14 different countries

2005: EDRi organises What the Hack conference and launches broad campaign against the EU’s data retention proposals

2005: EDRi, together with a coalition of civil rights NGOs, defeats the Software Patents proposal

2010: EDRi successfully calls for the rejection of the proposal for mandatory EU-wide web blocking

2012: EDRi fights on the frontline to defeat the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)

2015: EDRi successfully pushes for the EU to adopt net neutrality rules

2012–2016: EDRi plays a key role in the adoption of the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
Support EDRi and the fight for your digital rights!
https://edri.org/donate

By supporting EDRi you ensure that we will be able to continue defending your digital human rights and freedoms in 2020 and beyond.