

Resolution Opposing the U.S. Government's Mass Domestic Surveillance Programs

WHEREAS the 4th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits unreasonable search and seizure; and

WHEREAS the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, in providing a procedure for authorizing domestic surveillance by the federal government, requires that targets of authorized surveillance be specifically related to foreign powers, and that such surveillance not collect information on unrelated persons who have not been designated as targets; and

WHEREAS it was recently confirmed that the government has been collecting information on the private activities of untargeted citizens through the PRISM program operated by the National Security Agency (NSA); and

WHEREAS the public's only awareness of the PRISM program came via an unauthorized release of information by a government contractor, thereby demonstrating that we cannot possibly know how many other such programs exist; and

WHEREAS it was also disclosed recently that the NSA is "storing the online [data] of internet users for up to a year, regardless of whether or not they are persons of interest,"^[1] thereby contradicting government assurances that such data had been deleted;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we oppose, as an invasion of privacy, the mass collection of third party information on U.S. citizens who have not been specifically targeted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we demand the federal government meet the highest standards of justification for targeting U.S. citizens with surveillance and information-collection techniques; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we demand an end to all programs of mass collection and behavioral analysis of data that violate the Constitutional rights of individuals, and we respectfully urge the U.S. Congress to cease funding such programs.

Adopted _____ *by* _____

[1] James Ball: "NSA stores metadata of millions of web users for up to a year, secret files show," 2013. 1 Oct. 2013
<<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/sep/30/nsa-americans-metadata-year-documents>>