

Join **EPIC**'s fight to

# STOP THE SURVEILLANCE STATE.

*Help us defend privacy and protect our democracy!*



## HOW WE GOT HERE

For years, tech companies have embedded trackers, sensors, and cameras into everything around us. We are constantly under surveillance, and our data is a hot commodity. Big Tech profits from us, leaving us vulnerable. And there is no comprehensive privacy law to protect us or to put the power back in our hands.



Now, those surveillance systems built by Big Tech are being co-opted and abused by the government. Technologies marketed as tools built to protect us are being used to consolidate data and track everyone – targeting our communities for ICE raids, retaliating against observers, and stifling dissent. Systems built to target ads and fuel tech profits have become systems of government control, and they are threatening the foundations of our democracy.

This moment calls for us all to join together and oppose these surveillance systems. For more than 30 years, EPIC has been the independent watchdog with the legal, technical, and policy expertise needed to fight back against unchecked surveillance. But we rely on people like you – people who believe in democracy, civil liberties, and the right to privacy – to help us win this fight. We need you now more than ever.

**We hope that you will join EPIC's Stop the Surveillance State Campaign and help us reach our goal of raising \$1,000,000 by June 2026 so we can continue this critical work.**

## THE PROBLEM

The surveillance state is expanding through a powerful and largely unregulated partnership between federal agencies and Big Tech firms – one that is outpacing legal oversight and democratic accountability.



### Facial Recognition Targeting

ICE is using facial recognition to identify immigrants, protesters, and bystanders without legal authorization.

### Billions in Surveillance Contracts

DHS and ICE are spending billions of dollars on Palantir and other contractors to fuel a surveillance deportation targeting system.

### Warrantless Location Tracking

The government is tracking our movements in real time using license plate reader networks like Flock without warrants or oversight.

### Expanding Camera Networks

Amazon Ring has turned doorbells and security cameras into the country's largest surveillance system, and it holds the keys.

### Consumer Surveillance Devices

Big Tech companies like Meta have built surveillance and facial recognition into consumer products like sunglasses.

### Social Media Data Demands

DHS and ICE have sent subpoenas to tech companies for data on users who speak out against their abuses, suppressing speech.

### Data Broker Loopholes

Data brokers sell behavioral profiles to federal agencies, allowing the government to bypass Fourth Amendment protections.

### Illegal Database Merging

Federal agencies are illegally merging sensitive datasets into massive interagency surveillance systems without public notice or safeguards.

## THE SOLUTION

EPIC is already in the fight. Your support helps us:



- **Expose ICE's surveillance machine**

We are creating a detailed database of ICE's surveillance machine to lift the veil on the private contractors and data systems that are powering immigration enforcement and demanding public accountability for how that infrastructure is used.

- **Fight face surveillance**

We have endorsed the ICE Out of Our Faces Act to stop ICE's abusive use of the technology and will continue to push for broader federal legislation to establish clear legal limits on facial recognition before it becomes a permanent fixture of unchecked law enforcement surveillance.

- **Limit government use of data brokers**

We are working with a broad coalition of civil society groups and a bipartisan group of legislators to end the practice that lets agencies purchase what the Constitution says they cannot seize, and to establish enforceable restrictions on government data purchases.

- **Hold surveillance companies accountable**

We are developing new litigation strategies to hold the companies that build and profit from this surveillance infrastructure liable under existing law.

## EPIC'S TRACK RECORD

EPIC has been pushing back against unchecked surveillance since 1994. Here are some of our highlights. We...

- **Filed lawsuits** against federal agencies for unlawfully seizing the personal data of food assistance recipients and creating a massive, unlawful database used to illegally remove citizens from voter rolls.
- **Published a report** on “DHS’s Data Reservoir,” exposing the ways that the DHS collects and disseminates location data.
- **Published a white paper** on “Closing the Data Mines” to dive into some of the problems with government data mining.
- **Led coalitions** opposing ICE’s use of facial recognition apps that collect and retain data on U.S. citizens, immigrants, and bystanders.
- **Opposed USCIS’s plan** to dramatically expand biometric collection and normalize invasive surveillance of millions.
- **Urged the FTC and state attorneys general** to investigate Meta’s plan to incorporate facial recognition capabilities into its Ray-Ban glasses.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

At EPIC, we don’t take any government funding or corporate sponsorships. That means your support enables us to hold the government and surveillance technology companies accountable. Here’s how **you** can make a difference:



- **Be an Anti-Surveillance Leader** — Pledge \$50,000 or more and challenge others to join this fight.
- **Become an Anti-Surveillance Advocate** — Give \$5,000 or more and publicly pledge your support to rally others to this cause.
- **Join as an Anti-Surveillance Partner** — Give \$1,000 or more and bring friends or colleagues along with you.