

The New York Times

ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER JR., *Publisher*

Founded in 1851

ADOLPH S. OCHS
Publisher 1896-1935

ARTHUR HAYS SULZBERGER
Publisher 1935-1961

ORVIL E. DRYFOOS
Publisher 1961-1963

ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER
Publisher 1963-1992

The News Sections

BILL KELLER, *Executive Editor*
JILL ABRAMSON, *Managing Editor*
JOHN M. GEDDES, *Managing Editor*
WILLIAM E. SCHMIDT, *Deputy Managing Editor*

Assistant Managing Editors

DEAN BAQUET GLENN KRAMON
TOM BODKIN GERALD MARZORATI
SUSAN EDGERLEY MICHELE McNALLY
TRISH HALL

The Opinion Pages

ANDREW ROSENTHAL, *Editorial Page Editor*
CARLA ANNE ROBBINS, *Deputy Editorial Page Editor*
DAVID SHIPLEY, *Deputy Editorial Page Editor*

The Business Management

SCOTT H. HEKIN-CANEDY, *President, General Manager*
DENISE F. WARREN, *Senior V.P., Chief Advertising Officer, General Manager, NYTimes.com*
YASMIN NAMINI, *Senior V.P., Marketing and Circulation, General Manager, Reader Applications*
ALEXIS BURYK, *Senior V.P., Advertising*
ROLAND A. CAPUTO, *Senior V.P., Chief Financial Officer*
THOMAS K. CARLEY, *Senior V.P., Planning*
TERRY L. HAYES, *Senior V.P., Operations and Labor*
MICHAEL VALENTINE, *V.P., Human Resources*

MARTIN GOTTLIEB, *Editor, Global Editions*

Government Surveillance

To the Editor:

Thanks for your Nov. 3 editorial "Major Technical Difficulties," warning of federal law updates requiring phone and broadband carriers to ensure that their networks can be wiretapped.

It doesn't take working in the technology industry to understand the power of 24/7 surveillance. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act shows how eavesdropping to combat terrorism can expand into spying on regular Americans — with few checks and balances.

The international precedent is another danger. American Internet companies can hardly claim that releasing user data contradicts our principles, if they're doing it here. Once tech companies develop capabilities to make spying easier across various devices, other nations will mandate similar information — only for less noble purposes.

We're interested in what these election results mean for Internet privacy and freedom of expression. Will proposals to increase government surveillance of domestic phone calls and e-mail messages get these newly elected constitutional fundamentalists worked up? We hope so.

ED BLACK

President and Chief Executive
Computer and Communications
Industry Association
Washington, Nov. 5, 2010