



**DIDIER REYNDERS**  
MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
JUSTICE

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Dear Mr Schrems,

Thank you for your letter of 11 July.

I regret if my remarks at the press conference held on 10 July may have been interpreted in any way as questioning the role or approach of Civil Society Organisations like None Of Your Business (NOYB). My intention was to refer to your previous statements concerning the possible start of a new litigation procedure.

The active engagement of CSOs is a key component in order to guarantee a robust system of checks and balances to protect the rule of law in our society, as stressed in our last Annual Report on the application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, which was precisely dedicated to civic space.

It is also for that reason that contacts and exchanges with CSOs on any relevant topic are of the utmost importance for myself and the Commission, as reflected during the preparation of the negotiations with the US on a successor arrangement to the Privacy Shield.

For instance, following the judgement of the CJEU, I organised a roundtable in which several civil society representatives, including NOYB, took part to discuss the situation in greater detail. This was followed by further dedicated exchanges between NOYB (among other organisations) and my services.

My team and I remain available to discuss the adequacy decision on the EU-US Data Privacy Framework, as well as any other matter of interest.

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)

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