

“Americans have same online Freedom as Putin’s Subjects” says Cryptohippie

- The USA closes – only 2/100ths of a point behind Russia.
- Americans have the same online freedom as Putin’s subjects.*

Our friends at [Cryptohippie](#), an online privacy protection service, have just released the 2010 edition of their excellent Electronic Police State Report. Following is their summary of the report, which you can download free along with the data used.

When we produced our first Electronic Police State report, the top ten nations were of two types:

1. Those that had the *will* to spy on every citizen, but lacked the *ability*.
2. Those who had the *ability*, but were restrained in *will*.

This is changing: The able have become willing and their traditional restraints have failed.

The United States, with the UK and France close behind, have now caught up with Russia and are gaining on China, North Korea and Belarus.

The key developments driving this are the following:

- The USA has negated their Constitution’s fourth amendment in the name of protection and in the name of “wars” against terror, drugs and cyber attacks.
- The UK is aggressively building the world of /1984 /in the name of stopping “anti-social” activities. Their

populace seems unable or unwilling to restrain the government.

- France and the EU have given themselves over to central bureaucratic control.

METHODOLOGY

We moved to a more elaborate ranking system this year. The categories remained the same, but we have now weighted each one according to its importance. (The weighting factors are shown in parenthesis for each category itemized below.) Within each category we used a comparative method of assigning value.

We have not taken into account how many people, or what percentage of people, are affected by each characteristic. So, even though very few people in North Korea have Internet access, those who do are subjected to very serious surveillance. The low number of users has no effect on the national ranking.

In addition, it is significant to note that we are /not/ measuring government censorship of Internet traffic or police abuses, as legitimate as these issues may be. Nor are we including government corruption.

Note also that none of our categories apply to evidence-gathering by traditional, honest police work. (Searches only with warrants issued by an independent judge, after sufficient examination of evidence.)

THIS YEAR'S RESULTS

We ranked 51 major states.

Here are the 51 states and their rankings, with last year's ranking shown in parenthesis.

1. North Korea (2)
2. China (1)

3. Belarus (3)
4. Russia (4)
5. United States of America (6)
6. United Kingdom (5)
7. France (9)
8. Israel (8)
9. Singapore (7)
10. Germany (10)
11. Ireland (12)
12. Malaysia (11)
13. Netherlands (14)
14. Italy (24)
15. South Korea (15)
16. Australia (18)
17. Belgium (17)
18. Spain (43)
19. Austria (21)
20. Ukraine (16)
21. Greece (28)
22. Switzerland (30)
23. Japan (19)
24. Norway (22)

25. Canada (29)
26. India (23)
27. New Zealand (20)
28. Portugal (44)
29. Denmark (26)
30. Hungary (27)
31. Poland (32)
32. Sweden (34)
33. Bulgaria (49)
34. Taiwan (25)
35. Czech Republic (40)
36. Cyprus (37)
37. Finland (33)
38. Lithuania (36)
39. Estonia (39)
40. Luxembourg (45)
41. Slovenia (31)
42. Malta (38)
43. Iceland (41)
44. Latvia (35)
45. South Africa (42)
46. Argentina (46)

47. Mexico (51)
48. Thailand (48)
49. Romania (47)
50. Brazil (50)
51. Philippines (52)

We will issue our next report toward the end of Q1, 2011. We welcome input and assistance from reliable sources.

We may be reached at: info@cryptohippie.com

[Full PDF Version of this report](#)

[Report Data](#)

[Supplement: The Taking Of The Internet](#)

Related link: [Totally Secure Laptops](#)