



14 June 2013

Ms. Cornelia Rogall-Grothe
State Secretary
German Ministry of the Interior
Berlin

Dear State Secretary Rogall-Grothe

I refer to your letter addressed to Apple Deutschland GmbH of 11 June to which I am replying in my capacity as Head of European Privacy.

First of all I would like to thank you for writing to Apple on this matter. We want to reassure you that protecting our customers' privacy is a top priority at Apple, and it is a priority for our teams at each stage of product development. As we stated publicly on 6 June 2013, "We have never heard of PRISM. We do not provide any government agency with direct access to our servers, and any government agency requesting customer data must get a court order."

Apple requires compulsory legal process before providing a customer's personal data to any third-party including the United States government. Law enforcement agencies must obtain a search warrant for all customer content sought. We apply the exact same standards to requests we receive from EU law enforcement entities including those in Germany. We carefully review each legal demand we receive to ensure that proper legal process has been followed. Apple does not voluntarily provide customer data to third-parties, nor does it provide direct access to our systems to third-parties.

As we had also received a similar query from your colleague Dr Rainer Metz in the Bundesministerium für Ernährung, Landwirtschaft und Verbraucherschutz, I am copying this reply to him.

If you would like any further assistance on this topic I would be more than happy to meet with you.

Yours sincerely


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