PayPal Could Be Legally Prevented From Banning People For Their Political Views

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PayPal could be prevented by law from banning people over their political views, after the company faced a backlash following its decision to terminate the accounts of several high profile groups.

Although PayPal has been banning conservatives and right-wingers for years, its recent move to terminate accounts operated by the Free Speech Union and other groups in the UK that opposed lockdowns and vaccine mandates has apparently been a step too far.

Following the controversy, dozens of Conservative Party MPs, including Michael Gove, David Davis and Sir Iain Duncan Smith, signed an open letter to Jacob Rees-Mogg's Business Department demanding that PayPal be legally barred from imposing discriminatory practices.

The letter asserts that it is "hard to avoid construing PayPal's actions as an orchestrated, politically motivated move to silence critical or dissenting views on these topics within the U.K."

This morning, the London Times also published a <u>powerful piece</u> by Jawad Iqbal which highlighted the dangers of allowing PayPal to abuse such powers.

"This is censorship by corporate diktat: the company sets its own rules and interprets them as it sees fit. It appears oblivious to the notion that it is wrong in principle to withdraw vital services from people because of their political views. Would it be acceptable for a supermarket to refuse to serve a customer because of their politics or for a high street bank to refuse to make a payment to a company it deemed politically objectionable?" asked lqbal.

After questions were asked in Parliament about the issue, a new law could be on the cards that would put an end to PayPal's crusade against dissident viewpoints.

"Conservative backbenchers are considering launching an amendment to upcoming financial legislation in the House of

Commons that would ban companies from freezing campaigners' accounts," reports the Telegraph.

"One source said ministers are likely to accept the amendment to the law because Conservative backbenchers will support it."

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport has also demanded answers from PayPal.

The familiar old argument from leftists, who apparently now vehemently support monopolistic transnational corporations using their might and vast resources to impose censorship, is that "PayPal is a private company and can ban who it wants."

However, at least in the UK, that isn't strictly true.

PayPal is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), which mandates "All firms must be able to show consistently that fair treatment of customers is at the heart of their business model."

Fair treatment of customers clearly isn't at the heart of PayPal's business model, it's literally the exact opposite.



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