



X Marks the Censor

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The European Union's censors are outraged that Elon Musk's social media platform, Twitter-X, flouts their demands to gag users.

So they're gearing up to fine X [more than a billion dollars](#). The EU will also be demanding "product changes."

Another EU investigation reported by *The New York Times* "is broader and ... could lead to further penalties," but amounts to the same thing: punishing Musk's free-speech company for disobeying orders to prevent and punish speech.

All this is rationalized by a new EU law to compel social media platforms to police users. One would be hard

put to find a clearer case of governmental censorship-by-delegation. It's not even taking place behind closed doors, as was the case regarding the U.S. Government and Twitter before Mr. Musk bought the platform.

These European censors *brag* about it.

X says it will do its best to "protect freedom of speech in Europe."

If push comes to shove and EU goons do not back down, what X should do has been indicated by the smaller platforms social media platforms [Gab and Kiwi Farms](#).

First, refuse to pay a penny of any imposed fine.

Second, block access to X within the European Union, advising all account holders who try to log on why having an EU IP address is now a bad idea and why using a good virtual private network (VPN) to access X is now a good idea.

By disguising point of origin and encrypting traffic, a good VPN can help people living under tyrannical regimes like the European Union to evade censorship.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.