

Financial surveillance vs responsible journalism

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Overview

- Ethics and law
- Dealing with the data
- Understanding the data
- Telling the story
- Lessons and what next

Ethics and law

- Do we want to look at the data?
- Is it ethical?
- Is it legal?

Dealing with the data

- Several GB of line-based JSON
- Number of records

Understanding the data

- “world-check” filetype:pdf
- Conspiracy sites

Telling the story

- SELECT * from worldcheck WHERE biography LIKE "%activist%";

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Banks bar honest clients
Three-year-old royal and top historian on 'blacklist' used to block terrorists
Times Investigation
A controversial 'blacklist' used by British banks to identify terrorists and potential money launderers has grown so bloated that it includes details of a three-year-old member of the royal family. The Times can reveal World Check, a database of more than two million 'high-risk' individuals including criminals and senior politicians, is used by 49 of the world's 50 biggest banks to carry out compliance checks on existing and potential clients. Customers who are flagged up face extra scrutiny and their accounts could be closed or their loans and mortgage applications denied. The names listed on World Check were a tightly guarded secret until a copy was accidentally left online this summer. The Times has analysed that copy and found that hundreds of individuals were included partly on the basis of unverified blog posts and even far-right or extremist websites. Thousands of others were listed on the database, which dates from 2014, only because they were relatives or friends of minor public figures. These include Maud Windsor, the daughter of Lord Freddie Windsor and the actress Sophie Winkleman. Ms Windsor was listed at nine months old. The apparent justification was that she was a family member of a 'politically exposed person' (PEP), a reference to her father, who is 43rd in line to the throne. Under an internationally agreed definition only senior public officials and their families are normally classified as PEPs. Other British PEPs on the database include Sir Neil Cossons, a historian and the former chairman of English Heritage. 'I've never been involved in any party political activities nor in money laundering,' Sir Neil said. 'I am most concerned to have been identified in any capacity on World Check.' Thomson Reuters, the media company that makes millions of pounds compiling and selling the database, does not inform individuals that they have been included and thus has no obligation to tell clients why they have been denied services. I declined to comment on why Ms Windsor was included or

Caitlin Moran
Mince pies around mine
Magazine

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Weekend

Berlin killer shot dead in Milan

Police surrounded the body of Anis Amri, who killed 12 people when he drove into a market. His posted footage in which Amri pledged allegiance to the group. Pages 6-7

Includes The Times newspaper, Sunday 14.10.16, Saturday 15.10.16, Sunday 16.10.16, Monday 17.10.16, Tuesday 18.10.16, Wednesday 19.10.16, Thursday 20.10.16, Friday 21.10.16, Saturday 22.10.16, Sunday 23.10.16, Monday 24.10.16, Tuesday 25.10.16, Wednesday 26.10.16, Thursday 27.10.16, Friday 28.10.16, Saturday 29.10.16, Sunday 30.10.16, Monday 31.10.16

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Lessons & what next