

Deep Impact: Italy's Conviction of Google Execs Threatens Global Internet Freedom

by [Leslie Harris](#) [1]

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With today's stunning conviction, the future of social media in Italy has been thrown into doubt and the hand of censors has been strengthened.

Leslie Harris - President and CEO, CDT

It's an old adage that bad cases make bad law and today an Italian court made bad law that could sap the vitality from the Italian Internet and impact Internet freedom far beyond the Italian peninsula. The court convicted David Drummond, Google's senior vice president of corporate development, Peter Fleischer, global privacy counsel, and George Reyes, a former chief financial officer, of privacy violations for allowing a user to post an offensive video on the Google Video service. The three were cleared of a defamation charges.

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