



Who Is On Facebook's Oversight Board? Members Uphold Trump's Ban

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Facebook's Oversight Board has just decided that Donald Trump's Facebook and Instagram ban will remain. Who is on the board?

Following January's Capitol Hill riots, Donald Trump was banned from both Facebook and Instagram.

Upon reviewing the ban this week, the Oversight Board has decided to uphold his ban, meaning that his suspension remains in place for now.

However, they decided that the former President can not be banned from the site 'indefinitely', as this goes against Facebook's usual rules, and have given Facebook six months to review their decision and decide a new penalty.

So, what is the Facebook Oversight Board? And who is on it? Here are all the details.

WHAT IS THE FACEBOOK OVERSIGHT BOARD?

The Oversight Board is a body that was created to rule over social media platforms Facebook and Instagram.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg approved the creation of the board in 2018 and described it as Facebook's 'Supreme Court' as it was formed to rule on difficult or controversial moderation decisions made by Facebook.

It is an independent entity made up of journalist, lawyers, academics and human rights activists, but its wages and costs are covered by Facebook.

The board didn't begin working until October 2020, and has ruled on nine different cases so far since its creation.

WHO IS ON THE BOARD?

The board's 20 founding members were announced in May 2020.

The co-chairs, who selected the other members jointly with Facebook are...

- **Michael McConnell** – U.S. federal circuit judge, religious freedom expert and Stanford Law Professor.
- **Jamal Green** – Columbia Law Professor.
- **Catalina Botero Marino** – Colombian attorney and Dean of Law Faculty at Universidad de los Andes.
- **Helle-Thorning Schmidt** – Former Danish Prime Minister

The other members are...

- **Afia Asantewaa Asare-Kyei** – Human rights lawyer from Ghana.
- **Evelyn Aswad** – University of Oklahoma College of Law Professor from the USA.
- **Endy Bayuni** – Journalist from Indonesia.
- **Katherine Chen** – Public relations and statistics professor at National Chengchi University from Taiwan.
- **Nighat Dad** – Lawyer and internet activist from Pakistan.
- **Pamela S. Karlan** – Stanford Law Professor from the USA.
- **Tawakkol Karman** – Journalist and human rights activist from Yemen.
- **Maina Kiai** – Lawyer and human rights activist from Kenya.
- **Sudhir Krishnaswamy** – Vice-Chancellor of the National Law School of India University from India.
- **Ronaldo Lemos** – Lawyer and academic from Brazil.
- **Suzanne Nossel** – CEO of PEN America from the USA.
- **Julie Owono** – Lawyer and executive director of Internet Sans Frontières from Cameroon.
- **Emi Palmor** – Former director general of Israeli Justice Ministry from Israel.
- **Alan Rusbridger** – Journalist from the United Kingdom.
- **Andras Sajo** – Law academic from Hungary.
- **John Samples** – Vice president of the Cato Institute from the USA.
- **Nicolas Suzor** – Queensland University of Technology Law Professor from Australia.