



Portal > Knowledgebase > Frequently Asked Questions > Is Private Internet Access Located In A Fourteen Eyes Country?

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## Is Private Internet Access Located In A Fourteen Eyes Country?

Kaneesha D. - 2018-06-28 - in Frequently Asked Questions

**Yes, Private Internet Access is located in the USA which is a 5 Eyes country. But we're not concerned about it...**

*But what is a 5 Eyes country?*

A 5 Eyes country is a country who initially signed the UKUSA Agreement which was an agreement to collect, analyse and share intelligence between the signing countries. This means that whilst a country may not be able to collect information legally on it's own citizens, they can ask another member to conduct the surveillance on their behalf.

Initially there were 5 signing members (5 Eyes) which later expanded to include a further 4 members (9 Eyes) and more recently, members of the SIGINT Seniors Europe (SSEUR) were added (14 Eyes).

5 Eyes (UKUSA)	9 Eyes	14 Eyes (SSEUR)
United Kingdom	Denmark	Germany
United States	France	Belgium
Australia	Netherlands	Italy
Canada	Norway	Spain
New Zealand		Sweden

*Should I be concerned?*

Online privacy sites such as [privacytools.io](https://www.privacytools.io) recommend staying away from VPN Providers located within the 14 Eyes countries as it could potentially mean that Security Agencies could demand access to customer data. Furthermore, they could gag the VPN provider to

ensure secrecy and prevent transparency.

This is why at PIA, we have designed our operations to prevent this from happening in the first place. There are no logs. There is no identifying information that can be collected, regardless of the amount of force applied. There are several companies who *claim* they don't log, but have been proven to be the opposite. In contrast, we have stated in multiple court cases that we do not log, one case is [available](#) for anyone to read (pages 11-12):

*"All of the responses from 1&1, Facebook, Twitter, and Tracfone have been traced back by IP address to ... privateinternetaccess.com. [...] A subpoena was sent [...] and the only information they could provide is that the cluster of IP addresses being used was from the east coast of the United States. However, [PIA] did provide that they accept payment for their services with a vendor company of Stripe and/or Amazon. They also accept forms of payment online through paypal, bitpay, bitcoin, cashyou, ripple, ok pay, and pay garden."*

With the added security of end-to-end encryption and with nothing logged that can identify our users, with public court records to show for it, the question remains what to do if PIA is coerced into something - or rather, if authorities *try* to coerce PIA into something, such as was the case with Yahoo recently, when the NSA had forced it into spying on its own users.

There is a precedent for this, and it is [Lavabit](#) choosing to shut down operations instead of selling out its users (specifically, selling out Edward Snowden). That's also exactly what Private Internet Access *has already done* once, when Russia demanded that we start logging our users' identities, after seizing PIA servers.

Our response was to immediately [shut down operations](#) in Russia:

*The Russian Government has passed a new law that mandates that every provider must log all Russian internet traffic for up to a year [...] Upon learning of the above, we immediately discontinued our Russian gateways and will no longer be doing business in the region.*

And this, in summary, is why Private Internet Access isn't concerned about being located in a Fourteen Eyes Country.

Tags

Country

Eyes

Fourteen