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December 2018

Dear Tomasz Husak,

Welcome to our final newsletter of the year. I would like to share a few updates on the latest initiatives.

First, we celebrated Google's 20 year anniversary and reflected on our growth since our humble beginnings in a small garage. Our products now serve billions of people all over the world. Our first product, Search, is now offered in more than 150 languages and over 190 countries. Despite our growth, we've never lost sight of our mission: to organize the world's information for everyone.

People now have more information at their fingertips than ever before and a free and open web is a vital resource for its users and businesses around the world.

In fact, businesses across Europe, such as The Organic Boho in Denmark (https://goo.gl/8hrPfS) which was recently at our #SearchIs20 event in Brussels, attribute their growth in part to our platforms. Moreover, 550,000 businesses in Europe have reported growth in revenue and customers due to the global Grow with Google initiative (https://grow.google/). The initiative is part of our commitment to help people find a job or grow their business and we're proud to be a partner on the European Commission's Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition in this work.

It's clear technology can be a positive force in our lives and as more people around the world are coming online, we're launching more tools to not just help users access information, but also to keep them safe and secure.

In August, we launched digital wellbeing tools to help people understand and manage their use of technology as you'll read in the newsletter. You'll also read about how we expanded our Safety Center (https://safety.google/) to allow users to more easily manage their data and privacy controls.

We take user privacy very seriously and believe privacy is an individual right which we must continue to work together to uphold. We know many people have questions about how tech companies deal with user data. This year we worked hard to explain our approach better, providing more transparency by showing consumers how they can control their data. In that vein, we recently launched Your Data in Search (https://goo.gl/MF8qa1), giving users a simpler way to view and manage their data directly in product. This functionality will be available on more products and surfaces soon.

And, just as privacy and transparency are important, so is elevating quality information from trusted sources. We recently signed the European Commission's Code of Practice on Disinformation (https://goo.gl/J9akx3) to do our part in promoting quality information, empowering consumers and cutting the flow of money to scammers and misrepresentative websites.

This is especially important as the 2019 European elections approach. This will be a crucial democratic moment and we're committed to helping support elections by rolling out new products and programs over the next few months to get people the information they need to vote.

Looking ahead, we're even more committed to our mission and building great products for everyone and making a meaningful impact on people's lives.

As always, if you have any questions about our work at Google, please do let us know.

Yours Sincerely,

*EU Public Policy and Government Relations Director*

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