

The Internet allows for true democracy by letting anyone read anyone's thoughts that have been simply uploaded to a website. Additionally, two-way communication exists on the Internet since anyone can then write a response, either on their own website, on a forum, or some type of electronic messaging. Net Neutrality allows anyone to have an equal opportunity to "speak" on the web and have themselves heard. By allowing the creation of tiers of the Internet, then some people or businesses will then have an unequal chance for their voices to be heard simply because they are able to pay for the "premium" Internet bands. A non-neutral Internet stifles the right to free speech and the right for people to read other's speech. Additionally, it decreases innovation on the Internet by not allowing everyone to compete on the same level. ISPs who control the infrastructure claim that they need money from Internet companies to pay for upgrading the infrastructure and increasing bandwidth. This is already being paid for by the end user. End User Joe is paying ISP-X for their service and ISP-X makes a profit off Joe in order to upgrade their service. When ISP-X is able to extort Internet Company Y it creates an uneven playing field. X is able to market its products on a high priority service (at no cost to itself) while Y must pay X to get the same service. This makes it more difficult for Y to enter the marketplace. Joe is then receives products marketed by Y even though X may have a better product.