

This article addresses the question of whether the users of Social Networking Sites (SNSs) benefit from the partial exemption from data protection law that must be granted under the main EC Data Protection Directive (Directive 95/46/EC, hereafter the Directive ) when this is necessary to protect freedom of expression. It follows on from an article by the same author in the last issue of the Data Protection Review (Issue No. 9, June 2009), on whether such SNS users are covered by data protection law at all, and which concluded that, problematically, they often will be.