

How Washington fumbled the future | POLITICO

By Leah Nysten

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Few moments in the power struggle between Washington and Silicon Valley have inspired more anger and bafflement than one in January 2013, when [antitrust regulators appointed by former President Barack Obama declined to sue Google](#).

The decision still rankles the company's rivals, who have watched the search giant continue to amass power over smartphones, data-hoovering devices and wide swaths of the internet, unimpeded by laws meant to deter monopolies. It has fueled [some lawmakers' calls to overhaul the Federal Trade Commission](#), the agency that spent 19 months investigating Google's efforts to overpower the competition — and critics say, blinked.

[...]

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