

News Item

Violence on Capitol Hill Is a Day of Reckoning for Social Media | The New York Times

By Kate Conger, Mike Isaac and Sheera Frenkel January 6, 2021

Update: Twitter has insisted that President Trump delete three tweets, and said it would lock his account for 12 hours, the *New York Times* reported late Wednesday.

Facebook and YouTube also removed a Trump video, NBC reported.

On Twitter, users called on Wednesday for the company's chief executive, Jack Dorsey, to take down President Trump's account.

Civil rights groups weighed in, saying action by social media companies against calls for political violence was "long overdue." And even venture capitalists who had reaped riches from investing in social media urged Twitter and Facebook to do more.

"For four years you've rationalized this terror. Inciting violent treason is not a free speech exercise," Chris Sacca, a tech investor who had invested in Twitter, wrote to Mr. Dorsey and Facebook's chief executive, Mark Zuckerberg. "If you work at those companies, it's on you too. Shut it down."

As pro-Trump protesters stormed the Capitol building on Wednesday and halted the certification of Electoral College votes, the role of social media companies such as Twitter, Facebook and YouTube in spreading misinformation and being a megaphone for Mr. Trump came under renewed criticism.

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Source: <u>Violence on Capitol Hill Is a Day of Reckoning for Social Media | The New York</u> Times