

While U.S. Politicians Suckle At Google And Facebook's Pig Trough Europe's Antitrust Cop, Margrethe Vestager, Has Them In Her Crosshairs



European Commissioner for Competition Margrethe Vestager delivers a speech in Lisbon in November. (Patricia de Melo Moreira/AFP/Getty Images)

By [Michael Birnbaum](#) [Email the author](#)

BRUSSELS — Margrethe Vestager is an avid Twitter user who likes to post photos of flowers and cityscapes from her native Denmark.

Her [account](#) is also a means of tracking her travels as Europe's chief antitrust cop and a scourge of big technology companies. Here she is at the European Parliament. Here she is speaking in [Washington](#) and at [Harvard](#) and delivering a [Ted talk](#) in New York. Here she is imposing a [\\$2.9 billion fine on Google](#) for “abusing its search dominance.” And [slapping Facebook with a fine](#) for “wrong/misleading information when it took over WhatsApp.” And [threatening higher taxes](#) for Apple and other digital companies that do business in Europe.

Vestager was scrutinizing tech companies long before the latest scandals about Russian election