

# PRIVACY HORIZONS: TERRA INCOGNITA

29<sup>th</sup> International Conference of  
Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners

September 25 to 28, 2007  
Montreal, Canada



## LES HORIZONS DE LA PROTECTION DE LA VIE PRIVÉE : TERRA INCOGNITA

29<sup>e</sup> Conférence internationale des commissaires  
à la protection des données et de la vie privée

du 25 au 28 septembre 2007  
Montréal, Canada

# Mutual ignorance, suspicion and superiority

## EU view of US

- No comprehensive privacy law
- Patchwork approach to specific problems
- Differing State requirements
- No dedicated independent regulator
- No real protection
- Inferior

## US view of EU

- Too abstract, conceptual
- Too prescriptive & dependent on official authorisation
- Bureaucratises privacy
- Not uniform across 27 sovereign states of Europe
- No real protection
- Inferior