

**Question for written answer E-001293/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Kathleen Van Brempt (S&D)

Subject: The case of Telegram and the methodology for determining VLOPs under the DSA

Telegram is not classified as a very large online platform (VLOP) under the Digital Services Act¹ (DSA), despite independent research suggesting that it has more than 45 million users in the EU – a user threshold that means it should be designated as a VLOP. Official figures report fewer than 45 million EU users, but given Telegram’s significant role in online discourse and its widespread use, concerns have arisen about the accuracy of these figures.

1. Could the Commission clarify the methodology used to determine the size of Telegram’s EU user base, and explain why it has not been designated as a VLOP?
2. If further evidence indicates that Telegram’s EU users exceed the 45 million user threshold, what steps will be taken to reassess its classification?
3. Given the implications for platform accountability and regulatory oversight, how does the Commission ensure that platforms operating at a similar scale are treated consistently under the DSA?

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¹ Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of 19 October 2022 on a Single Market For Digital Services, OJ L 277, 27.10.2022, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj>.