

**Question for written answer E-004671/2025/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Marieke Ehlers (Pfe)**

**Subject:** The potential consequences of Signal's decision to leave the European messaging services market

The CEO of messaging service Signal has threatened to leave the European market if the EU introduces chat control<sup>1</sup>. The proposed regulation stipulates that messaging services should allow information to be checked before it is encrypted. Signal's CEO also points to the danger of AI agents, which would have far-reaching access and virtually unlimited powers, and could as a result be used for espionage via the 'back door' which would have to be built in for chat control purposes.

In the IT security training course at the European Parliament, IT security correspondents are also encouraged to use Signal because Signal's software is said to offer better protection against hacking, data theft and espionage than its competitors.

1. What consequences would Signal's decision to leave the messaging services market have for competition and for the dominance of those players who choose to remain on the European market?
2. How can chat control be reconciled with the recommendations of the European institutions' IT security experts?
3. What guarantees can the Commission offer that the 'back door' required for chat control will not be abused by malicious AI agents, as Signal's CEO has warned against?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.bluewin.ch/en/news/signal-app-boss-threatens-to-withdraw-from-europe-2897197.html#google\\_vignette](https://www.bluewin.ch/en/news/signal-app-boss-threatens-to-withdraw-from-europe-2897197.html#google_vignette)