

**Question for written answer E-004136/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Dan-Ştefan Motreanu (PPE)

Subject: Assessing the impact of the Digital Markets Act on European SMEs and innovation

A report published by the Association for Competitive Technology (ACT) in September 2026 raises concerns about the impact of the Digital Markets Act¹ (DMA) on European small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), app developers and start-ups.

More than two years after the DMA obligations entered into force, ACT argues that the legislation has yet to provide any measurable benefits for smaller businesses. According to the association, regulatory uncertainty surrounding interoperability requirements has contributed to delays in launching innovative technologies, including certain artificial intelligence features, within the EU.

The report also highlights growing fragmentation in app distribution and concerns that restrictions on major digital platforms could inadvertently weaken competition for developers and increase operational complexity for SMEs.

These findings contrast with the Commission's April 2026 evaluation, which concluded that the DMA remains fit for purpose and has created new opportunities for businesses and developers.

Considering these contrasting assessments, how does the Commission intend to objectively measure the DMA's impact on SME competitiveness and innovation, address potential unintended consequences, and ensure that the DMA's implementation supports rather than hinders the EU's digital development?

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¹ Regulation (EU) 2022/1925 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2022 on contestable and fair markets in the digital sector and amending Directives (EU) 2019/1937 and (EU) 2020/1828 (OJ L 265, 12.10.2022, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/1925/oj>).