

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001900/24
to the Commission
Fabio De Masi (NI)
(1 October 2024)**

Subject: Claims of deals offered to social media platforms

Recent press reports ⁽¹⁾ quote the owner of social media platform X, Mr Elon Musk, stating that the Commission offered him a deal specifying that X should change its policies in order to avoid a court case that could potentially lead to fines.

I therefore ask the Commission:

Has any sort of deal been offered to X or to other social media companies, such as TikTok and Meta, in any form, in order to avoid court cases that would have been initiated based on the Digital Services Act (DSA) ⁽²⁾? And if so, which directorate-general was in contact with the social media companies to discuss with them how to adhere to the DSA?

Submitted: 1.10.2024

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Vestager on behalf of the European Commission
(18 November 2024)**

The Directorate General for Content, Networks and Technology supervises the compliance of very large online platforms and very large online search engines under the Digital Services Act (DSA) ⁽¹⁾.

To this effect, the co-legislator entrusted the Commission with investigative and enforcement powers. These powers and related procedures are laid out in the DSA and include the possibility of accepting commitments, i.e. remedial actions offered by platforms to remedy the Commission's issues raised in certain proceedings.

To assist companies in deciding whether to offer commitments, in line with the principles of good administration, the Commission may explain its concerns to the online platform provider ⁽²⁾.

The Commission's actions, including in relation to the open investigations ⁽³⁾, are undertaken within the limits of its powers. No demand, proposal or offer of 'quiet censorship' has been made in this process.

The acts and decisions adopted by the Commission on the basis of the DSA are subject to judicial review by the EU courts.

¹ <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2024/07/12/eu-offered-secret-deal-to-censor-twitter-claims-musk/>.

² OJ L 277, 27.10.2022, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj>.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a Single Market for Digital Services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act), OJ L 277, 27.10.2022, p. 1-102.

⁽²⁾ The Commission adopted the first DSA commitment decision on 5 August 2024, making binding TikTok's commitments to permanently withdraw TikTok Lite Rewards programme from the EU, https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_24_4161

⁽³⁾ Updated information on the supervision of the designated very large online platforms and search engines can be found here: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/list-designated-vlops-and-vloses>