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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.3.2025)

The Commission is aware of the cited article published in the New York Times. The practices mentioned in this article could in principle fall under the scope of the Digital Services Act (DSA, Regulation (EU) 2022/2065) in the EU if they relate to systemic issues, such as systemic over-removal of health-related information, stemming from the provision of very large online platforms and very large online search engines. In this regard, the Commission is currently not aware of any data or evidence of such systemic issues in the EU, but continuously monitors the practices of very large online platforms and search engines, including Facebook and Instagram.

In 2024, the Commission launched a whistleblower tool¹ for the DSA. This tool offers individuals with inside information a secure and privacy-protected avenue to share anonymous, or attributed, submissions concerning harmful practices by very large online platforms and search engines to the Commission. The Commission welcomes any contributions to this tool, since these contributions can provide useful insights on potential DSA violations.

¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/dsa-whistleblower-tool>