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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(4.8.2025)

Under Article 22(1) of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065¹ (Digital Services Act, DSA), providers of online platforms must prioritise notices of illegal content from trusted flaggers through the notice and action mechanism, pursuant to Article 16 of the DSA and take a decision on them without undue delay. As clarified in Recital 52 of the DSA, in respect of the processing of all the notices submitted, the providers should act in a timely manner by taking into account the type of illegal content and the urgency of taking action, such as a threat to life or safety of persons, which should also be considered when processing the notices submitted by trusted flaggers.

Under Article 22(2) of the DSA, trusted flagger status may be granted, to any entity that demonstrates expertise and competence in detecting, identifying and notifying illegal content, acts to submit notices diligently, accurately and objectively, and is independent from any online platforms provider. The status is awarded, by the Digital Services Coordinator (DSC) of the Member State where the applicant is established, following an assessment of these conditions. As required by Article 50 of the DSA, DSCs must act independently, impartially and transparently.

Furthermore, robust safeguards, including the reporting obligations of trusted flaggers laid down under Article 22(3) of the DSA, ensure transparency and accountability of trusted flaggers. If an entity no longer meets the criteria, the DSC must suspend and revoke the status in line with Article 22(6)–(7), which allow online platforms to submit information on inaccurate notices and require the DSC to suspend the status during investigation and revoke it if the conditions are no longer met.

The Financial Transparency System² offers an overview of EU funds awarded under direct and indirect management, showing who receives funding and for what purpose.

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.

² <https://ec.europa.eu/budget/financial-transparency-system/index.html>.