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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(14.10.2025)

The Digital Services Act (DSA) does not define which content is illegal – that is governed by national and, in exceptional cases, other pieces of EU law. All law in the EU and the implementation of any law in the EU must comply with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union¹, which guarantees the right to freedom of expression and information. The DSA does not regulate content, nor can it be used as a legal basis to censor any specific viewpoint online. Rather, it sets out clear and transparent rules for platforms to establish procedures for tackling the spread of illegal content and other societal risks, such as risks to the well-being of minors, while protecting users' freedom of expression. The DSA mandates transparency, clear explanations for content removals, and robust appeal mechanisms. Thanks to the transparency resulting from the DSA, it can be noted that the DSA appeal mechanisms already lead to millions of pieces of content to be reinstated. It remains the sovereign right of the EU and its Member States to regulate economic activities on their territory consistent with the EU's democratic values. The Commission has clarified the DSA and these points to the United States administration.

The DSA was adopted through the EU's legislative process, with large majorities in the Council and the European Parliament. It is the Commission's duty to fully enforce the law, which it does with full transparency, following due process subject to independent judicial scrutiny.

¹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/char_2016/oj/eng.