

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003873/25
to the Commission
Marieke Ehlers (Pfe), Auke Zijlstra (Pfe)
(2 October 2025)**

Subject: Disturbing Google testimony to the US Congress on EU censorship legislation

On 23 September 2025, Google sent a letter to the US Congress in which the company admitted to being put under intense pressure by the Biden Administration to block creators of politically undesirable content on YouTube, even though this content was completely legal and in line with the platform's own rules. In paragraph 27, Google warns that EU censorship legislation — the Digital Services Act (DSA) and the Digital Markets Act (DMA) — could lead to politically undesirable but lawful content being censored, both within and outside the EU ⁽¹⁾.

1. What is the European Commission's position on the concerns expressed by Google in its letter regarding the potential cross-EU impact of the DSA and DMA on content moderation outside the EU, and to what extent is it possible that this legislation could also influence the censorship practices of platforms in non-European countries?
2. Has the Commission been in contact with big tech companies such as Google and Meta with a view to blocking politically undesirable but lawful content?
3. What will the Commission do to ensure that the DSA and DMA no longer contribute to growing transatlantic tensions?

Submitted: 2.10.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(28 November 2025)**

The Digital Services Act (DSA) empowers individual citizens and protects their fundamental rights — including the right to free expression — when using digital services.

The DSA does not regulate content, nor can it be used as a legal basis to censor any specific viewpoint online. The DSA does not prescribe which content is illegal; that is determined by national law that is in compliance with EU law or, exceptionally, by other EU laws.

The DSA sets a regulatory standard for platform providers to respect users' rights to free expression, and to ensure their services address the systemic circulation of illegal material — such as child sexual abuse material, or terrorist content.

It mandates transparency, clear explanations for removals, and robust appeal mechanisms. It holds platform providers accountable for their claims on how they protect users.

When European companies do business in other countries, they have to respect their rules. This is a globally applicable principle. Equally, the DSA and the Digital Markets Act (DMA) apply to all companies that offer their services to recipients established in the EU and these laws apply exclusively within the EU. They have no extraterritorial jurisdiction, neither in the United States nor in any other non-EU country.

The Commission has repeatedly clarified these laws to the United States administration. While it remains open to dialogue, it will continue to enforce the DSA and DMA, with maximum transparency and due process with all procedural safeguards of the parties, as has been done from the start.

¹ <https://judiciary.house.gov/media/press-releases/google-admits-censorship-under-biden-promises-end-bans-youtube-accounts>.