

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003962/25
to the Commission**

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(8 October 2025)

Subject: Reducing illegitimate censorship on digital platforms

The European Media Freedom Act formally provides for the promotion of media pluralism, for example by combating concentration, regulating state advertising, and also by limiting censorship by digital platforms, in particular on social media, in line with Article 18 of the EMFA.

The aim is to prevent those platforms from arbitrarily removing content, or even accounts, with no possibility of appeal, as may have occurred on the X platform involving content of a sovereigntist or conservative nature, prior to Elon Musk's acquisition of the business.

1. Has the Commission noted a drop in the number of content or account removals by all digital platforms?
2. If not, which platforms most actively suppress content?
3. Do the national regulatory authorities, in particular in France, carry out proper checks to establish whether such removals are justified?

Submitted: 8.10.2025

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

The right of freedom of expression and the respect of media freedom and pluralism are enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights ⁽¹⁾. They are essential checks and balances in democracies and part and part of the rule of law.

The European Media Freedom Act introduces a targeted set of safeguards to better protect the editorial integrity of media service providers online ⁽²⁾. In particular, in order to ensure that media freedom and media pluralism are duly considered by the Very Large Online Platforms (VLOPs) content moderation activities, the VLOPs providers are required to inform media service providers when they plan to remove their content, giving them 24 hours to reply before the removal can take effect.

The Digital Services Act (DSA) ⁽³⁾, aims at providing a safer online experience for all users, by introducing several transparency tools -such as the (bi-)annual transparency reports ⁽⁴⁾ and the DSA Transparency Database ⁽⁵⁾, that shed light on the platforms' content moderation practices, while allowing users to appeal such content moderation decisions.

A causal link between the introduction of a new policy and the rate of content moderation activities-e.g., looking at the trends of Statements of Reasons in the DSA Transparency Database (details in Annex)- cannot be easily derived, as content moderation practices are platform-dependent and evolve asynchronously, for instance, when a platform adopts a new content moderation policy.

Under the DSA, the Commission is exclusively competent to enforce the regulation vis-à-vis the providers of the designated services. The Digital Services Coordinators of each Member State remain responsible for overseeing the compliance of all other online platforms with the DSA.

See annex: Annex

⁽¹⁾ <https://fra.europa.eu/en/eu-charter/article/11-freedom-expression-and-information>.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1083.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) 2022/2065.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/dsa-brings-transparency>.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://transparency.dsa.ec.europa.eu/>.