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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(15.1.2026)

Under the Digital Services Act (DSA)¹, providers of designated very large online platforms (VLOPs), such as Facebook and Instagram, are required to diligently identify, analyse, assess and mitigate systemic risks presented by their services in the EU, including risks to fundamental rights such as freedom of expression and media pluralism and risks to civic discourse. These risk assessments are mandated at least annually and must also occur prior to deploying any functionalities that could significantly impact a platform's risk profile (Article 34(1) of the DSA). In these risk assessments, providers must consider how their algorithmic systems, such as artificial intelligence (AI) features integrated into VLOPs, may affect these risks.

It is Meta's responsibility to comply with the provisions under the applicable EU and national laws, including the DSA and provisions protecting freedom of expression. The Commission is monitoring Meta's compliance with the DSA overall². However, at this stage, the Commission has not investigated any specific internal guidelines used for Meta's AI chatbots. The DSA applies to companies providing certain services in the EU regardless of the location of their headquarters.

¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/digital-services-act>.

² Commission sends requests for information on generative AI risks to 6 very large online platforms and 2 very large online search engines under the Digital Services Act <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-sends-requests-information-generative-ai-risks-6-very-large-online-platforms-and-2-very>.