

EN

E-005003/2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.2.2026)

The Commission set three separate fines for each of the infringements by the provider of X of the Digital Services Act (DSA)¹, namely for Article 25(1), 39 and 40(12) DSA, amounting to a total of EUR 120 million now due for payment.²

The calculation of the fine for each infringement was based on the nature, gravity, recurrence and duration of the infringements, as well as potential aggravating and mitigating factors. The Commission considered objective criteria, in particular the impact of the specific breaches on the effectiveness of the DSA and their consequences for users, researchers and the public across the EU. Other important factors were the duration of the infringements, and the need to ensure a sufficient deterrence effect.

The turnover of the provider is not the starting point for determining the fine. Instead, the turnover of the provider is used as a means of ensuring that the fines imposed are below the maximum ceiling for fines under the DSA (6% of the total worldwide annual turnover of a provider in the preceding financial year).

The Commission's assessment regarding Article 25(1) DSA is based on a careful analysis of the processes the provider of X put in place to assess the authenticity of applicants to the 'blue checkmark' feature - which the provider of X explained to the Commission in detail upon request. It also considered third-party evidence and domain expertise on the efficiency of these safeguards. Based on this assessment, the Commission concluded that the 'blue checkmarks' feature deceived users because any recipient could pay to obtain the 'verified account' status without the provider of X meaningfully verifying who was behind the account.

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, 27.10.2022, p. 1–102.

² <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-fines-x-eu120-million-under-digital-services-act>.