

EN

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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.3.2026)

The Commission shares the view that these are very serious issues that need to be addressed in an effective way.

On 26 January 2026, the Commission initiated proceedings against the provider of X for that provider's suspected infringement of the Digital Services Act (DSA). The Commission will investigate if the provider of X diligently assessed and effectively mitigated systemic risks associated with the deployment in the EU of Grok's functionalities into X, including risks related to the dissemination of illegal content, such as manipulated sexually explicit images and content that may amount to child sexual abuse material, and the actual or foreseeable negative effects in relation to gender-based violence and to the person's physical and mental well-being¹. Should the Commission conclude that the provider of X breaches the DSA, it may impose a fine of up to 6% of that provider's total worldwide annual turnover.

The 2024 Directive on combating violence against women criminalises different forms of cyber-violence offences, such as non-consensual sharing of intimate images and of material created or altered to falsely portray someone engaging in sexually explicit activities. Member States must transpose it by 14 June 2027 and ensure its enforcement².

The gender-based cyber-violence dimension is also addressed in the newly adopted action plan against cyberbullying³.

The Commission is aware that Member States and Members of the European Parliament are proposing to strengthen the AI Act⁴ to include explicit prohibitions of AI systems producing child sexual abuse material and non-consensual sexually explicit images in the context of the AI Omnibus negotiations.

¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-investigates-grok-and-xs-recommender-systems-under-digital-services-act>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1385/oj/eng>.

³ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/action-plan-against-cyberbullying>.

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence and amending Regulations (EC) No 300/2008, (EU) No 167/2013, (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1139 and (EU) 2019/2144 and Directives 2014/90/EU, (EU) 2016/797 and (EU) 2020/1828 (Artificial Intelligence Act), OJ L, 2024/1689, 12.7.2024.