

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000134/26
to the Commission
Catherine Griset (Pfe), André Rougé (Pfe), Marie Dauchy (Pfe), Pierre Pimpie (Pfe)
(14 January 2026)**

Subject: Electronic messaging interoperability

In line with the Digital Markets Act, the various messaging services — such as WhatsApp, Signal, Telegram, Haiket and BirdyChat — are gradually giving their users the ability to message users of other instant messaging services without leaving their own app ⁽¹⁾.

This interoperability, which is inspired by the system used for e-mails, will make it easier for users to chat to one another, reduce their dependence on a single platform and promote freer competition in this market.

1. This interoperability seems to be progressing slowly, however. Does the Commission have any information on its deployment to all messaging providers?
2. Does it know whether it guarantees message encryption, which is vital to ensure that data transmissions are secure?
3. In this competitive environment dominated by foreign companies, which may be ordered by their country to suspend these services as a sanction, will European messaging apps emerge?

Submitted: 14.1.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Ribera on behalf of the European Commission
(27 February 2026)**

Article 7 of the Digital Markets Act ('DMA') ⁽¹⁾ requires gatekeepers to ensure interoperability of their messaging service with the messaging services of other providers upon the request of the latter.

As of today, Meta is the only provider of messaging service that has been designated as a gatekeeper for two of its messaging services — WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger — for which it is required to comply with Article 7 DMA. For those services, Meta published reference offers for interoperability in March 2024 and November 2024, respectively.

The Commission is in constant contact with Meta and interested third parties to ensure effective compliance with Article 7 DMA. In November 2025, two new messaging services (BirdyChat and Haiket) announced that they managed to interoperate with WhatsApp.

However, those two new services are only gradually rolling out to the public or in beta test version. It is therefore too early to assess the take up for interoperability in the context of those services at this stage. The Commission will continue to closely monitor the situation in the coming months.

These recent launches confirm that there is potential demand for interoperability, and that Article 7 DMA can contribute to market contestability with regards to the provision of messaging services.

Regarding encryption, Article 7 DMA provides that the level of security, including end-to-end encryption, should be preserved across the interoperable services.

In line with this requirement, the interoperability solution provided by Meta for WhatsApp and Messenger preserves end-to-end encryption.

¹ <https://www.usine-digitale.fr/article/messageries-instantanees-pour-se-plier-au-dma-whatsapp-annonce-une-interoperabilite-avec-birdychat-et-haiket.N2241467>.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2022/1925 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2022 on contestable and fair markets in the digital sector and amending Directives (EU) 2019/1937 and (EU) 2020/1828 (Digital Markets Act), OJ L 265, 12.10.2022, pp. 1-66.