

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002873/26
to the Commission
Sandro Gozi (Renew)
(13 July 2026)**

Subject: Digital Services Act supervisory fee

The implementation and enforcement of the Digital Services Act (DSA) are becoming increasingly important for the protection of citizens, the integrity of democratic processes and the proper functioning of the internal market. The Commission's supervisory and enforcement responsibilities are becoming more complex and resource-intensive. Effective implementation of the DSA therefore requires sufficient financial and human resources to ensure timely investigations and credible enforcement.

Can the Commission confirm:

1. whether it plans to increase annual supervisory fees over the coming years to ensure that the resources required for a significant strengthening of DSA enforcement are available? If not, why not?
2. whether it still expects to reach its target of 270 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff dedicated to DSA enforcement in 2026? If so, how many FTEs have been recruited to date, how many vacancies remain to be filled, and does the Commission consider the current recruitment trajectory sufficient to meet its enforcement objectives?

Submitted: 13.7.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(9 October 2026)**

The mechanism to calculate the supervisory fee annually levied on providers of very large online platforms (VLOPs) and very large online search engines (VLOSEs) is designed to ensure that the Commission has sufficient resources to perform its Digital Services Act (DSA) ⁽¹⁾ supervisory tasks over time. The Commission currently supervises a total of 29 VLOPs and VLOSEs.

The fee is calculated based on an estimation of the Commission's costs for the following year, which means that the fee fluctuates from one year to another to adapt to the changing needs.

An increase in the supervisory activity and in human resources required to perform that task is reflected in the fee through an increase of the budget forecast for staff.

The operational costs are also taken into account, which vary every year due to the execution of multiannual service contracts and other specific activities.

In addition, any deficit or surplus resulting from the execution of the estimated budget is accounted for in the following year's supervisory fees.

Furthermore, the Commission annually reports to the European Parliament and the Council *ex post* on the actual incurred costs. The estimations in the form of staff working documents ⁽²⁾ and reports ⁽³⁾ are published every year on the Commission's website.

As of June 2026, 189 full-time-equivalent units of personnel (FTEs) are in place to fulfil the Commission's supervisory tasks. The Commission is in the process of recruiting additional staff to reach 270 FTEs by end of 2027, as indicated in the staff working document published on 30 June 2026.

The number of staff working on DSA implementation is set by the authorised staffing levels agreed in the standard budgetary procedure and can evolve subject to budgetary availabilities and anticipated needs.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ Overview of elements accounted for the estimation of the amount of external assigned revenues stemming from the supervisory fee for year 2027 pursuant to Article 6(1) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/1127 Shaping Europe's digital future.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52026DC0147>.