

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001672/25
to the Commission**

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(24 April 2025)

Subject: Review of the Digital Services Act

Article 91 of the Digital Services Act (DSA) provides for a review of the Act by November 2025 regarding the designation of very large online platforms, their scope, and the DSA's compatibility with various legal instruments.

The DSA has been heavily criticised by the current US administration, by European politicians and by human rights defenders who have reported and documented its impact on fundamental rights, particularly the right to freedom of expression.

In this context, a well-rounded review process assessing the impact of the DSA on the right to freedom of expression enshrined in Article 11 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights is needed.

Can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What procedures and timeline will the Commission follow for the review of the DSA by November 2025, and does it already envisage changes to the Act?
2. Given the DSA's stated aim of balancing platform accountability with fundamental rights (Recital 3 and Article 1), will the Commission assess the DSA's impact on freedom of expression during the review?
3. What role can Parliament, the Council of the EU, civil society, human rights groups, tech companies and researchers play in the Act's review?

Supporter ⁽¹⁾

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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(16 June 2025)

Pursuant to Article 91(1) of the Digital Services Act (DSA), by 17 November 2025, the Commission shall evaluate and report to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee on the application of Article 33 of the DSA and the way that the DSA interacts with other legal acts, in particular those listed in Article 2(2) and (3) of the DSA.

The Commission services, in close cooperation, have started the preparatory work towards the adoption of the report. The preparation of this report is closely aligned with the ongoing work of the Simplification Package ⁽¹⁾.

The report will also be informed by surveys addressed to a variety of stakeholders (including civil society organisations, companies and regulatory authorities) and other relevant analysis.

Pursuant to Article 91(3) the DSA, the report may be accompanied by a legislative proposal to amend the DSA, if necessary. At this stage, however, there is no such indication.

The protection of freedom of expression was at the core of the design of the DSA. The DSA has *inter alia* increased the transparency and accountability over the content moderation decisions taken by providers of intermediary services and reinforced redress mechanisms for users.

In addition, the DSA requires providers of services designated as very large online platforms and very large online search engines to identify, assess and analyse, and effectively mitigate systemic risks stemming from the functioning, design and use made of their services and related systems, including in relation to any actual or foreseeable negative effects for the exercise of the fundamental right to freedom of expression.

The Commission is committed to protecting freedom of expression in monitoring and enforcing the DSA rules.

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Sebastian Tynkynen (ECR)

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/news/commission-proposes-cut-red-tape-and-simplify-business-environment-2025-02-26_en.