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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.3.2026)

The Commission firmly rejects the report's unsubstantiated and unfounded allegations. Freedom of expression is a fundamental right enshrined in Article 11 of the Charter¹, as well as a cornerstone of our democracy. The Digital Services Act (DSA)², sets unparalleled standards for user empowerment; fundamental rights safeguards; and accountability of platforms as concerns illegal content online, based on what is defined as illegal in EU and national law.

The DSA brings unprecedented transparency on content moderation. The DSA shines light on online platforms by requiring them to make publicly available their risk assessment, mitigation and audit reports. The DSA also requires the Commission and national competent authorities to publish all key enforcement decisions, which is done on a dedicated website³, with due regard to the rights and legitimate interests of the provider, and other concerned person's confidential information⁴ in line with established practice amongst all comparable regulatory and enforcement frameworks.

The DSA is a proportionate, democratically enacted regulation, adopted in accordance with the EU legislative procedure and reflecting the EU's sovereign right to regulate its internal market. The Commission has repeatedly clarified the DSA's objectives to the US administration, and remains open to dialogue, while continuing its enforcement. The DSA addresses globally recognised societal challenges, including the abuse of AI tools, online scams, addictive design and threats to minors. Governments worldwide have identified and acted on these problems, including the US. We will continue enforcing the DSA in a firm, fair and evidence-based manner while working closely with the US on our shared challenges.

¹ Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union 2012/C 326/02 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/char_2012/oj/eng.

² Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 on a single market for digital services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act) <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj/eng>.

³ Supervision of the designated very large online platforms and search engines under DSA <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/list-designated-vlops-and-vloses>.

⁴ Article 80(2) and recital 146 of the DSA https://www.eu-digital-services-act.com/Digital_Services_Act_Article_40.html.