



THE GREENS/EFA
in the **European Parliament**

Brussels, 14 December 2020

Digital Services Act: Greens/EFA model law for Notice and Action and content moderation

Dear Executive Vice-President, Margrethe Vestager,
Dear Commissioner for Internal Market, Thierry Breton,

Ahead of tomorrow's publication of the Digital Services Act, the Greens/European Free Alliance (Greens/EFA) of the European Parliament would like to contribute to the discussions on the Commission's proposal since it represents a unique opportunity to build a better, safe and democratic internet.

Therefore, we would like to draw your attention to the Greens/EFA's legislative proposal for a Notice and Action mechanism and content moderation practices by online platforms as part of the upcoming Digital Services Act (DSA).

The internet is an empowering tool that allows us to communicate globally, meet each other, build networks and join forces, access information and culture, and express and spread political opinions. Unfortunately, online platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok filter and moderate content with a lot of collateral damage: Too often, hateful content, especially targeting minority groups remains online. On the other hand, legitimate posts, videos, accounts, and ads are removed and the platforms make it difficult to contest. This has serious implications for freedom of expression online for everyone.

With this model law, the Greens/EFA are presenting a comprehensive framework for an EU-wide mechanism. The draft model law was open for public comments from 1 October until 1 November. It reflects the state-of-the-art thinking of NGOs, academics, industry, and internationally renowned experts. This open collaboration and the participative process has stressed the importance of establishing procedures for notifying and acting on illegal content hosted by online platforms and transparency rules on notice and action procedures.

Among the solutions, the proposal suggests introducing a right to notify, a right for notice provider to be informed, a right to counter-notice, complaint and redress mechanisms, strong transparency obligations as well as a new independent dispute settlement mechanism for disputes related to actions of online platforms under their terms and conditions.

As the world is watching the EU, our legislative proposal contributes to an ambitious Digital Services Act that respects users' rights and freedoms while ensuring innovation and harmonisation of the Digital Single Market.

Kind regards,

Alexandra Geese, Patrick Breyer, Marcel Kolaja, Kim Van Sparrentak, Sergey Lagodinsky
Greens/EFA members in the European Parliament