

RADAR YOUTH LAB



Dismantle Disinformation on Climate Change

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TEPSA
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Institut für
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Funded by
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Regulation—EU Action against Disinformation

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- European Parliament
 - Special Committee on foreign interference in all democratic processes in the European Union, including disinformation, and the strengthening of integrity, transparency and accountability in the European Parliament (ING2) investigate existing loopholes for foreign interference including disinformation.
- European Council: European External Action Service (EEAS)
 - East StratCom Task Force, publish, analyse, detect and debunk Russian disinformation on EUvsDisinfo.eu

European Commission Priorities 2019-2024



- A new push for European democracy
- A Europe fit for the digital age

European Democracy Action Plan



- **promoting free and fair elections**
 - **strengthening media freedom**
 - **countering disinformation**
-
- improve the EU's existing toolbox for countering foreign interference in our information space, including new instruments that allow imposing costs on perpetrators
 - Develop the **Code of Practice on Disinformation (2018)** into a co-regulatory framework of obligations and accountability of online platforms, in line with the upcoming Digital Services Act
 - set up a more robust framework for monitoring its implementation

Code of Practise

The 2018 Code of Practice on disinformation was the first time worldwide that industry has agreed, on a voluntary basis, to **self-regulatory standards to fight disinformation.**

→ 2021 revision process including stakeholders to address shortcomings

The Strengthened Code of Practice on Disinformation 2022



- Open for all
- Covers new manipulative behavior
- More and better tools for users
- Hand in hand with the DSA
- EU- wide fact checking
- Transparent political advertising
- No financial gains from disinformation
- Task force for a future-proof code
- Ensure access to data researchers



The Strengthened Code of Practice on Disinformation 2022



The strengthened Code of Practice contains **44 commitments** and **128 specific measures**, in the following areas.

- **Demonetisation: cutting financial incentives for purveyors of disinformation**
- **Transparency of political advertising**
- **Ensuring the integrity of services**
- **Empowering users**
- **Empowering researchers**
- **Empowering the fact-checking community**
- **Transparency centre and Task-force**
- **Strengthened Monitoring framework**



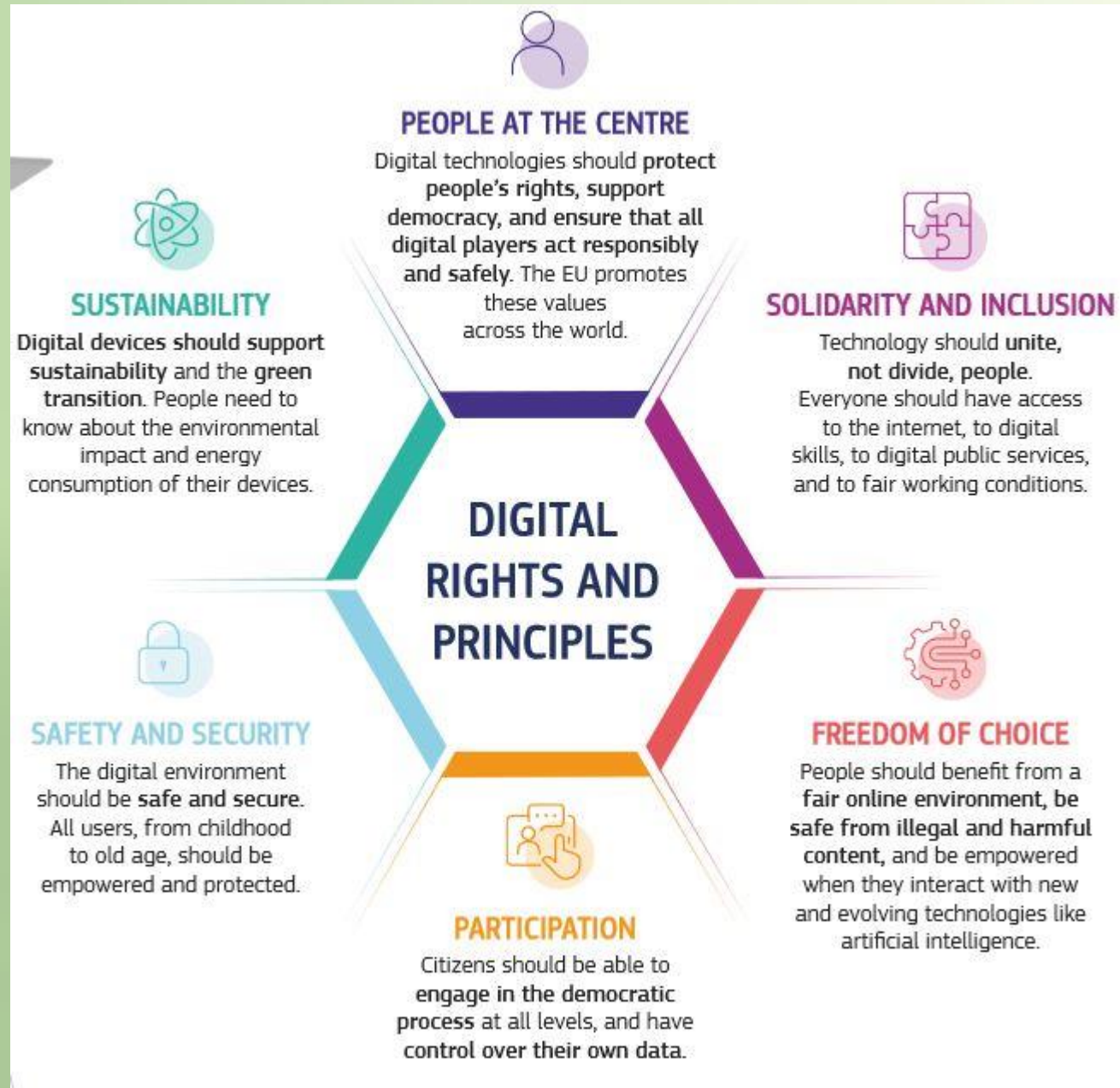
A Europe fit for the digital age

- **European Digital Decade**

The EU will pursue a human-centric, sustainable vision for digital society throughout the digital decade to empower citizens and businesses.

The Digital Decade policy programme sets out digital ambitions for the next decade in the form of clear, concrete targets:

1. a digitally skilled population and highly skilled digital professionals;
2. secure and sustainable digital infrastructures;
3. digital transformation of businesses;
4. digitalisation of public services.



Digital Services Act (DSA)

The Digital Services Act and Digital Markets Act aim to create a safer digital space where the fundamental rights of users are protected and to establish a level playing field for businesses.

The Digital Services Act (DSA) and the Digital Market Act (DMA) form a single set of rules that apply across the whole EU. They have two main goals:

1. to create a safer digital space in which the fundamental rights of all users of digital services are protected;
2. to establish a level playing field to foster innovation, growth, and competitiveness, both in the European Single Market and globally.

Digital Services Act - expected Impacts



- **For society at large**

- **Greater democratic control and oversight over systemic platforms**
- **Mitigation of systemic risks, such as manipulation or disinformation**

- **For citizens**

- **Better protection of fundamental rights**
- More choice, lower prices
- **Less exposure to illegal content**

For providers of digital services

- Legal certainty, harmonisation of rules
- Easier to start-up and scale-up in Europe

For business users of digital services

- More choice, lower prices
- Access to EU-wide markets through platforms
- Level-playing field against providers of illegal content

Digital Services Act



Commission adopted the first designation decisions under the [Digital Services Act](#) (DSA), designating **17 Very Large Online Platforms** (VLOPs) and **2 Very Large Online Search Engines** (VLOSEs) that reach at least 45 million monthly active users.

Very Large Online Search Engines:

Bing, Google Search

Very Large Online Platforms:

Alibaba AliExpress, Amazon Store, Apple AppStore, Booking.com, Facebook, Google Play, Google Maps, Google Shopping, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Snapchat, TikTok, Twitter, Wikipedia, YouTube, Zalando

Digital Services Act



	Intermediary services	Hosting services	Online platforms	Very large platforms
New obligations	<i>(cumulative obligations)</i>	<i>(cumulative obligations)</i>	<i>(cumulative obligations)</i>	<i>(cumulative obligations)</i>
Transparency reporting	•	•	•	•
Requirements on terms of service due account of fundamental rights	•	•	•	•
Cooperation with national authorities following orders	•	•	•	•
Points of contact and, where necessary, legal representative	•	•	•	•
Notice and action and obligation to provide information to users		•	•	•
Reporting criminal offences		•	•	•

Digital Services Act



Complaint and redress mechanism and out of court dispute settlement	•	•
Trusted flaggers	•	•
Measures against abusive notices and counter-notices	•	•
Special obligations for marketplaces, e.g. vetting credentials of third party suppliers ("KYBC"), compliance by design, random checks	•	•
Bans on targeted adverts to children and those based on special characteristics of users	•	•
Transparency of recommender systems	•	•
User-facing transparency of online advertising	•	•

Digital Services Act



Risk management obligations and crisis response	•
External & independent auditing, internal compliance function and public accountability	•
User choice not to have recommendations based on profiling	•
Data sharing with authorities and researchers	•
Codes of conduct	•
Crisis response cooperation	•

Digital Services Act — systemic risks



VLOPs or VLOSEs should identify, analyse, and assess systemic risks that are linked to their services. They should look, in particular, to risks related to:

- illegal content
- fundamental rights, such as freedom of expression, media freedom and pluralism, discrimination, consumer protection and children's rights
- public security and electoral processes
- gender-based violence, public health, protection of minors, and mental and physical wellbeing.
- obliged to put measures in place that mitigate these risks

Digital Services Act



Those designated as VLOPs or VLOSEs will also have to:

- establish an internal compliance function that ensures that the risks identified are mitigated
- be audited by an independent auditor at least once a year and adopt measures that respond to the auditor's recommendations
- share their data with the Commission and national authorities so that they can monitor and assess compliance with the DSA.
- allow vetted researchers to access platform data when the research contributes to the detection, identification and understanding of systemic risks in the EU.
- Provide an option in their recommender systems that is not based on user profiling
- have a publicly available repository of advertisements.

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