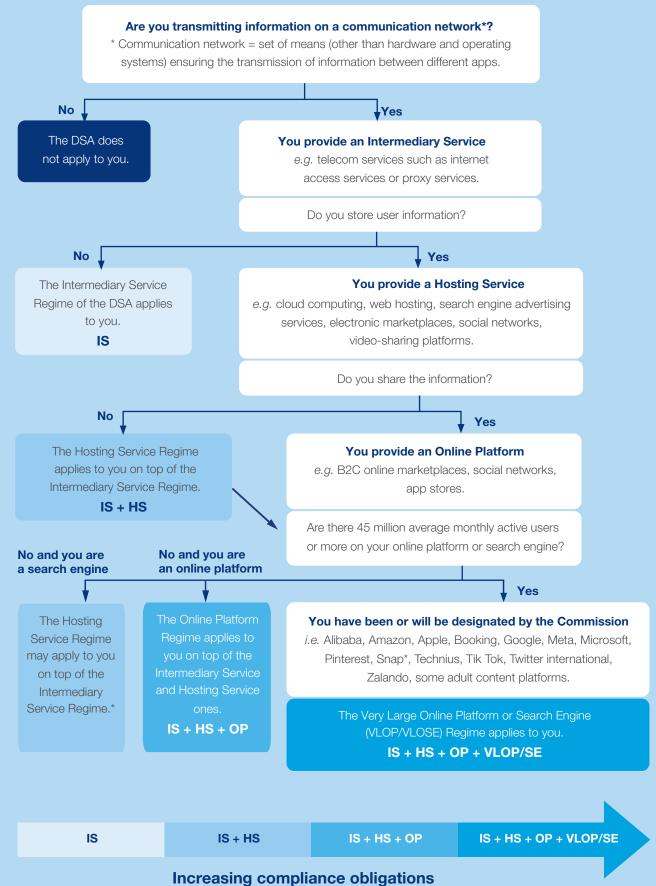


February 2024

# The Digital Services Act Are you impacted and how?



### 1. Who is concerned?



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<sup>\*</sup> Under the Ecommerce Directive, the European Court of Justice has ruled that search engines might be regarded as hosting services in certain cases (judgment of the 23 March 2010, Cases C-236/08 to 238/08, ECLI:EU:C:2010:159, para 111).

## 2. What are the drastic changes?

#### The DSA establishes:

- No general monitoring obligation of transmitted and/or stored information; but,
- A set of obligations ensuring content moderation effectiveness toward Intermediary Services.

## 3. What are the practical implications?

The following obligations apply, among others, with gradual intensity to all providers (IS, HS\*, OP\*\*, VLOP/VLOSE\*\*\*):

# DSA obligations

## Communication with users HS: notification of illegal content mechanisms for users.

 OP: dispute resolution mechanisms, special treatment of "trusted flaggers"\*\*\*\*\* notifications.

#### **Content monitoring**

- IS: restrictive measures on illegal content or incompatible content with the Terms & Conditions (T&C).
- HS: notification to public authorities of suspicions of criminal offence with a threat to life/safety of a person.
- VLOP/VLOSE: assessement and mitigation of risks induced by the service.

#### **Transparency obligations**

- IS: reports on implementation measures (particularly when using AI technology), on recommend and advertising systems, on risk assessement.
- OP: traceability of traders (when it is relevant), information of users when they have bought an illegal product.

#### **Practical implications**

# Identification of the scope of illegal content

 HS: with regards to the entirety of EU's and Member States' law.

# Implementation of monitoring processes

- IS: production of reccurring reports.
- HS: assessment of notifications from users.
- OP: assessment of notifications from trusted flaggers on top of those from users.

#### **Modification of T&C**

- IS: inclusion of content moderation related restrictions and some implementation results.
- VLOP/VLOSE: layout of the main elements in an easily readable summary.

# Modification of online interface

- **OP:** modification of information display (design & content).
- HS: introduction of notification, mechanism intended for users.

#### New skills required

## Advisory and implementing services

- Identification of the scope of illegal content - legal advice.
- Implementation of monitoring processes - legal advice, IT.
- Explanation of the content moderation process - legal advice.
- Modification of T&C legal advice, marketing.
- Modification of online interface
  legal advice, IT, Marketing.

#### **Mandatory points of contact**

- · With authorities.
- With users.

#### Legal representative

Mandatory when the providers are not established in the Union, but offer services in the Union.

<sup>\*</sup> IS obligations also apply to HSs.

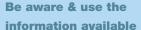
<sup>\*\*</sup> IS and HS obligations also apply to OPs.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> IS, HS, OP obligations also apply to VLOPs. IS, HS obligations also apply to VLOSEs.

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> Trusted flaggers = persons designated by the public authorities for their skills and experience.

## 4. What are the opportunities?

"Every disadvantage has its advantage" - Johan Cruyff



There is a lot of information and know-how publicly available.

# Build the legal system of tomorrow

You may be able to build codes of conduct and standards of the industry thereby distinguishing yourself from the competitors.

#### Position yourself even better on a high-demand market

There is a strong European demand for safe online services. A thorough DSA implementation will provide visibility and trust of recipients.



#### What are the timelines

**02/17/2024 –** Obligations and liability regimes apply to all IS / HP / OP / VLOP / VLOSE.

## Contact us for more information

#### **Marc Wiggers**

Partner

T +31 20 578 56 14 M +6 51 10 27 75

E marc.wiggers@loyensloeff.com





#### Natanya Bezemer

Attorney at law

T +31 20 578 57 99

M +31 6 51 43 62 77

E natanya.bezemer@loyensloeff.com



#### **Robert Fröger**

Attorney at law

T +31 20 578 56 20

M +31 6 20 59 35 14

E robert.froeger@loyensloeff.com



#### Marco de Vries

Attorney at law

T +31 20 578 50 87

M +31 6 30 42 37 81

E marco.de.vries@loyensloeff.com



#### **Maartje Jongejans**

Attorney at law

T +31 20 578 57 94

M +31 6 57 69 95 16

E maartje.jongejans@loyensloeff.com



#### Kirill Ryabtsev

Paralegal

T +31 20 578 50 31

M +31 6 51 72 51 18

E kirill.ryabtsev@loyensloeff.com



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