

**Question for written answer E-004990/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: New competition mechanisms

Of the 10 000 internet platforms participating in the EU digital market, the seven largest generate as much as 69% of the sector's total revenues. Aware of the fact that competition rules protect the integrity of the single market and help create a level playing field for businesses, while also undoubtedly helping to better protect consumer rights and promote innovation, the Commission has decided to propose a 'new competition tool' (NCT). At the same time, as part of the digital services package, the Commission is planning an ex ante instrument to regulate the services of large internet platforms acting as market gatekeepers.

1. Given that the two instruments mentioned above are both competition law mechanisms, what essential features will distinguish the two (i.e. the ex ante mechanism from the NCT)?
2. How does the Commission intend to avoid any overlap between the initiatives being prepared by DG-CNECT and DG-COMP?
3. What legal effects does the Commission expect from these new competition law instruments compared with existing legal instruments?