Question for written answer E-002560/2023 to the Commission Rule 138 Harald Vilimsky (ID), Georg Mayer (ID)

Subject: Digital Services Act

The new Digital Services Act entered into force last week. The Act provides for more stringent rules for internet corporations, especially when it comes to online hate speech and fake news, which must be deleted immediately. In order to block all 'illegal' content, it must also be possible for such content to be reported by other users.

- 1. To what extent should users without legal knowledge be able or obliged to decide on the legal meaning of a message?
- 2. How does the Commission intend to ensure that only content that is genuinely relevant under criminal law is deleted, and not also content expressing minority opinions or 'unpopular' views, and is this Act compatible with freedom of expression, of information and of the press, enshrined not only in the European Convention on Human Rights but also in many national constitutions?
- 3. How much has been spent so far on the Task Force set up by the Commission to monitor the enforcement of the Digital Services Act, and what costs relating to this Task Force will be included in the budget in future?

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