

**Question for written answer E-000996/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Follow up to Written Question P-002171/2023 – Slack antitrust complaint against Microsoft Teams

Following the Commission's decision in July 2023 to open a formal investigation¹ into whether Microsoft breached EU competition rules by bundling Teams with Office 365 and Microsoft 365 and engaging in other anticompetitive practices, the Commission replied to Written Question P-002171/2023² that it was 'in the process of evaluating its antitrust procedural framework to ensure they remain fit for purpose, in light of changes in market dynamics'³.

The press reported that Microsoft's offer in August 2023 to partially unbundle Teams from Office 365 and Microsoft 365 was criticised by complainants and other market participants, while the Directorate-General for Competition had reportedly rejected the offer of similar changes, judging them as insufficient to settle the Commission's concerns.

In February 2024, it was reported⁴ that Microsoft was exploring further changes related to its bundling of Teams in order to avert EU charges.

1. Has the Commission received an updated remedies offer by Microsoft and does it plan to issue a statement of objection before the end of this mandate?
2. Will it consider the use of structural remedies in this case, given the systematic nature of Microsoft's anticompetitive practices?
3. Will it continue pursuing robust enforcement of traditional competition law (Article 102 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union), given that the Digital Markets Act does not address the practices in question?

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¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_3991.

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-9-2023-002171_EN.html.

³ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-9-2023-002171-ASW_EN.html.

⁴ <https://content.mlex.com/#/content/1545922/microsoft-makes-fresh-effort-to-ease-european-concerns-over-teams>.