

EN

E-001219/2024

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell i Fontelles
on behalf of the European Commission
(31.7.2024)

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is aware of these aforementioned attacks against Honourable Member's accredited parliamentary assistant and local activists in Kosovo, which is unacceptable.

Based on an internal analysis, using open source observations from the platform where the incident occurred (X), experts in the EEAS concluded that there was a degree of coordinated messaging and strategic cross-posting activity between a number of accounts. However, as the analysts work with information available from open sources, it is impossible to make assumptions about the attribution of the few accounts analysed in this case.

In the framework of the Code of practice on disinformation¹, signatories such as major online platforms, civil society organisations and fact-checkers were in constant exchange during the European elections. The identification and mitigation of tactics, techniques and procedures such as bot campaigns is part of the work of the Code's permanent task force. While X is not a signatory of the Code, the Commission is actively monitoring the service's adherence to its obligations under the Digital Services Act (DSA)².

Under the DSA designated very large online platforms and search engines, including X, are obliged to assess and mitigate systemic risks, including actual or foreseeable risks to electoral processes and civic discourse.

¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/disinformation-commission-welcomes-new-stronger-and-more-comprehensive-code-practice-disinformation>

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_881