

EN
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Answer given by Ms Vestager
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.5.2019)

The Commission is fully aware of the British Parliament's Facebook study referred to in the question. The Commission closely monitors the functioning of the markets concerned with a view to ensuring a competitive environment. It is not possible for the Commission to make general pronouncements on the state of competition in one market or another without a detailed analysis of specific practices and the associated evidence. The Commission will continue its strict enforcement of the EU's competition rules in the digital economy. Furthermore, the co-legislators have recently adopted an EU regulation that aims to increase transparency and competition in online platform ecosystems, including social media (ref. EP: P8_TA(2019)0398).

The Commission took note of the decision of the German Federal Cartel Office. The German Federal Cartel Office's concerns are based on German competition law. The European legislator has made sure that the type of conduct in question is addressed by the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).