

# DSA Election Guidelines

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

## Introduction

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### **CONSULTATION on Guidelines for Providers of Very Large Online Platforms and Very Large Online Search Engines on the Mitigation of Systemic Risks for Electoral Processes**

## About you

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### \* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak

- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

\* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
- Business association
- Company/business
- Consumer organisation
- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

\* First name

\* Surname

\* Email (this won't be published)

\* Scope

- International
- Local
- National
- Regional

\* Level of governance

- Local Authority
- Local Agency

\* Level of governance

- Parliament
- Authority
- Agency

\* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

\* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

\* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

*This list does not represent the official position of the European institutions with regard to the legal status or policy of the entities mentioned. It is a harmonisation of often divergent lists and practices.*

- Afghanistan
- Åland Islands
- Albania
- Algeria
- American Samoa
- Andorra
- Angola
- Anguilla
- Djibouti
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Libya
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Macau
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Saint Martin
- Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Samoa
- San Marino
- São Tomé and Príncipe
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal

- Antarctica
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Aruba
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Belize
- Benin
- Bermuda
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bouvet Island
- Brazil
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- Estonia
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Falkland Islands
- Faroe Islands
- Fiji
- Finland
- France
- French Guiana
- French Polynesia
- French Southern and Antarctic Lands
- Gabon
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Gibraltar
- Greece
- Greenland
- Grenada
- Guadeloupe
- Guam
- Guatemala
- Guernsey
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Maldives
- Mali
- Malta
- Marshall Islands
- Martinique
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mayotte
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Montserrat
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar/Burma
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Sint Maarten
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- South Korea
- South Sudan
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Svalbard and Jan Mayen
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand

- British Virgin Islands
- Brunei
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Christmas Island
- Clipperton
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Niue
- Norfolk Island
- Northern Mariana Islands
- North Korea
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Palestine
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Pitcairn Islands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Réunion
- Romania
- Russia
- The Gambia
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Türkiye
- Turkmenistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- United States Minor Outlying Islands
- Uruguay
- US Virgin Islands
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Wallis and Futuna

- Curaçao
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Rwanda
- Saint Barthélemy
- Saint Helena
- Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Western Sahara
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association', 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

#### \* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

##### **Anonymous**

The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, your country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself.

##### **Public**

Your name, the type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, your country of origin and your contribution will be published.

#### \* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

##### **Anonymous**

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

## Public

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

## Questions to stakeholders

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The questions in this survey relate to the background document attached "Guidelines for Providers of Very Large Online Platforms and Very Large Online Search Engines on the Mitigation of Systemic Risks for Electoral Processes".

Questions are listed in the order as they appear in the background document for each section of the Guidelines.

FR and DE version are machine translated.

### Outline of the Guidelines

Section 1 sets out the purpose and structure of the guidelines, as well as references to relevant initiatives;

Section 2 sets out the scope of these guidelines;

Section 3 sets out the main mitigation measures the Commission proposes providers of VLOPs and VLOSEs to adopt to address election-related systemic risks.

Specific subsections cover: the identification of election-related systemic risks; the main mitigations measures to address those risks; specific mitigations measures linked to Generative AI content; cooperation with authorities and other stakeholders; the process of putting into place risk mitigation measures before or after an electoral event; and specific guidance for elections to the European Parliament;

Section 4 sets out the general modalities for a dialogue with the Commission on systemic risks for electoral processes;

Section 5 sets out that these guidelines will be reviewed one year from adoption.

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## 2. SCOPE OF THE GUIDELINES

Q1: Are there any documents, reports, guidelines, academic studies or relevant independent research you recommend as further input for these guidelines?

Q2: How can the Commission further clarify the purpose and scope of these guidelines to better address systemic risks in electoral processes?

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### 3. ELECTION SPECIFIC RISK MITIGATION MEASURES

#### 3.1. Identification of systemic risks related to electoral processes

#### 3.2. Elections-specific risk mitigation measures

Q3: Do you agree with the recommended best practices in this section?

Q4: What additional factors should be taken into account by providers of VLOPs and VLOSEs when detecting systemic risks related to electoral processes?

Q5: Are there additional mitigation measures to be considered as best practices on the basis of their proven effectiveness mitigating risks to electoral processes?

Q6: How should providers of VLOPs and VLOSEs measure effectiveness of their risk mitigation measures in a reliable and conceptually valid way for electoral processes?

#### 3.3. Mitigation measures linked to Generative AI

Q7: Do you agree with the recommended best practices in this section?

Q8: Which risks of Generative AI for electoral processes should additionally be considered in this section?

Q9: What additional evidence-based best practices on risk mitigation for electoral processes related to the creation of Generative AI content should be considered?

Q10: What additional evidence-based best practices on risk mitigation for electoral processes related to the dissemination of Generative AI content should be considered?

Q11: What are best practices for providers of VLOPs and VLOSEs to ensure that their risk mitigation measures keep up with technological developments and progress?

#### **3.4. Cooperation with national authorities, independent experts and civil society organisations**

Q12: Do you agree with the recommended best practices in this section?

Q13: What other mechanisms should be considered to foster more effective collaboration with relevant stakeholders, such as national authorities and civil society organisations?

Q14: Are there any additional resources that could help providers of VLOPs and VLOSEs identify relevant organisations/experts at the national level?

#### **3.5. During an electoral period**

Q15: Do you agree with the recommended best practices in this section?

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Q16: Are there any additional measures that providers of VLOPs and VLOSEs should take specifically during an electoral period?

Q17: How can rapid response mechanisms be improved for handling election-related incidents on VLOPs or VLOSEs?

Q18: What other mechanisms should be considered to foster more effective collaboration with national authorities and civil society organizations?

Q19: Are there any additional resources that help providers of VLOPs and VLOSEs identify relevant organisations/experts at the national level?

### 3.6. After an electoral period

Q20: Do you agree with the recommended best practices in this section?

Q21: What elements should be included in voluntary post-election review by providers of VLOPs or VLOSEs to assess the effectiveness of their risk mitigation strategies?

### 3.7. Specific guidance for the elections to the European Parliament

Q22: What are your views on the best practices proposed in this section?

Q23: What additional mitigation measures should be considered for the elections for the European Parliament present for online platforms?

## 5. CONCLUSION

Q24: What additional feedback or suggestions do you have regarding these guidelines?

Agence Europe