

Question for written answer E-000191/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Actual or foreseeable negative effects of Elon Musk's statements on civic discourse, electoral processes and freedom and pluralism of the media under the DSA

In recent weeks, Elon Musk has made comments that could potentially have an adverse effect on European democracies. Using X, a 'very large online platform' within the meaning of the Digital Services Act (DSA), he has openly supported a right-wing-extremist party, Alternative for Germany (AfD), by both making controversial statements and inviting its leader to a live interview. Elon Musk also suggested that judges ruling on certain migration cases in the Italian courts be removed from office.

Considering Elon Musk's ownership of X, as well as his position as an incoming advisor to president-elect Donald Trump:

1. Does the Commission consider these statements a 'systemic risk' that could have any actual or foreseeable negative effects on the freedom and pluralism of the media, as well as on civic discourse and electoral processes, as per Article 34(1)(b) and (c) of the DSA?
2. What steps does the Commission plan to take regarding the very large online platform's failure to 'mitigate risks' within the meaning of Article 35 of the DSA? Will those steps be taken in this case?
3. What tools is the Commission using to assess X's algorithm for the recommender system, and what are the findings of such assessments?

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