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NOTE

From: Presidency/General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee

No. prev. doc.: 13876/18

Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on promoting **fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services**
- Preparation for the trilogue

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 26 April 2018, the Commission presented a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services¹. The proposal is based on Article 114 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).
2. The proposed Regulation aims to contribute to the proper functioning of the internal market by laying down rules to ensure that business users of online intermediation services, as well as corporate website users in relation to online search engines, are granted appropriate transparency and effective redress possibilities.

¹ Doc. 8413/18 + ADD1.

II. STATE OF PLAY

3. The examination of the proposal by the Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth started on 4 May 2018 and the Council's position on this proposal, which was forged from the outcome of these meetings, was reflected in the text of the General Approach, which was then adopted by the Competitiveness Council in November 2018. On the European Parliament's side, the IMCO report was adopted during the European Parliament (EP) plenary session in December 2018.
5. Work at technical level between the two co-legislators began immediately afterwards and the first informal trilogue was held on 12 December 2018. Now, with the second trilogue on the horizon (scheduled for 28 January 2019), the Presidency would like to explore additional areas where flexibility can be found among Member States in order to facilitate compromise between the co-legislators.
6. Accordingly, the Presidency is hereby presenting its latest compromise text in the annexed 4-column document, which was prepared on the basis of the discussions at technical level, and Member States' positions expressed in three Working Party meetings and sent in writing.
7. The Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER) is invited to focus particularly on the Presidency's suggestions for amendments to the General Approach elaborated below. In addition, for reasons of drafting, legislative quality or regulatory restructuring, other purely cosmetic changes have also been made elsewhere in the text, which are marked in the fourth column.

III. POLITICAL ISSUES

8. Changes suggested by the Presidency with respect to the General Approach:
 - a) **Subject matter and scope** (Article 1): The Presidency suggests to explicitly refer to the exclusion, also in the body of the Regulation, of online payment services and online advertising tools from the scope of this Regulation. The Presidency also suggests to delete the reference to 'trade secrets' in paragraph 4 and to ensure the protection of their disclosure by means of Article 5 in relation to **ranking**.
 - b) **Additional transparency requirements** (Articles 2(10a), 3(1), 5a): Besides the additional transparency requirements, which are to be included in the terms and conditions regarding the information on distribution channels and possible affiliated

programmes, as well as on the ownership and control of intellectual property rights, the Presidency also suggests to include the notion of 'ancillary goods and services' in a separate article and in a new definition

- c) **Predictability of terms and conditions** (Article 3). In light of the EP's position, the new compromise text now ensures additional safeguards for business users in regard to the notice period related to the modifications of the terms and conditions. It also provides for additional exemptions to those requirements regarding the notice period. In paragraph 4, the term "*non-binding*" has been replaced by "*null and void*". Finally, a new change is suggested in paragraph 5a to provide greater visibility for business users providing their goods or services via an online intermediation service.
- d) **Restrictions, suspension and termination** (Article 4, Recital 16). New language has been drafted to include the notion of "*restrictions*" relating to the provision of online intermediation services, which is now set apart from that of "*suspension*" and "*termination*". Besides already existing "*regulatory obligations*" and "*imperative reasons*", additional exemptions have been granted regarding the notice period for termination in order to ensure greater safety and security and also to prevent repeated infringements of terms and conditions by business users.
- e) **Unfair trading practices** (Article 6a and Annex I): The Presidency has not made any textual changes regarding the concept of "*unfair trading practices*" as introduced in the EP's position. However, in the next trilogue, the Presidency will seek clarification on the matter and try to explore ways of reaching a compromise agreement without exceeding the spirit of the General Approach.
- f) **Internal complaint-handling system** (Article 9): The new compromise text suggests additional requirements to the system: free of charge, reasonable time frame, transparency principles and equal treatment. Regarding the public information on the functioning and effectiveness of such a complaint-handling system, the new wording proposes that the online intermediation services verify this data at least once a year and update them accordingly.
- g) **Mediation** (Article 10): The Presidency proposes to move the Council's paragraph 1a on the possibility to chose a mediator not defined in the terms and conditions, out of the operative part of the text, and explain this possibility in one of the existing recitals. In

paragraph 3, the Presidency emphasised the voluntary nature of mediation. In addition, the Presidency proposes to accept the EP's paragraph 4a on "good faith" by including it in a Recital.

- h) **Specialised mediators** (Article 11): In the spirit of compromise, the new text suggests an addition that the setting up of organisations with specialised mediators is to be encouraged by the Commission in close cooperation with the Member States.
- i) **Judicial proceedings** (Article 12): The Presidency suggests to add a requirement upon organisations or associations in paragraph 2(c) that they be transparent about their membership, governance structure and source of financing.
- j) **Codes of conduct** (Article 13): In the spirit of compromise, it is suggested to add a new paragraph 2a in order to encourage the Commission to adopt and implement sector specific codes of conduct where such exist.

IV. CONCLUSION

- 11. The Presidency invites the Member States to be as flexible as possible on the compromise texts of political issues explained in Section II above, with a view to progressing in the negotiations with the EP.
- 12. In light of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to mandate the Presidency to continue negotiations with the EP at the second informal trilogue on 28 January 2019 on the basis of the Presidency compromise suggestions as set out in the last column of the annexed table.

Cell in green: The text can be deemed as already agreed

Cell in yellow: The issue needs further discussion at technical level

Cell in red: The issue needs further discussion in depth at the trialogue meetings

Note: Differences between IMCO's position and the Commission's proposal are highlighted in ***Bold/italics***. **Bold underline** in the Council column indicates where the Council has amended Commission's text. Deletions are marked with a ~~strike through~~. Compromise text in comparison to GA is **highlighted**.

GA = General Approach Text in [brackets] = to be further discussed

	COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL ²	EP AMENDMENTS ³	COUNCIL AMENDMENTS ⁴	COMPROMISE PROPOSALS
1.	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on promoting fairness <u>by means of and</u> transparency for business users of online intermediation services <u>and for corporate website users in relation to online search engines</u>	

² 2018/0112 (COD).

³ A8-0444/2018

⁴ 13876/18

2.	(Text with EEA relevance)	(Text with EEA relevance)	(Text with EEA relevance)	
3.	THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION	THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,	THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION	
4.	Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114 thereof	Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114 thereof	Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114 thereof	
5.	Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,	Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,	Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,	
6.	After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national	After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national	After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national	

	parliaments,	parliaments,	parliaments,	
7.	Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ¹ , _____ ¹ OJ C , , p. .	Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee,	Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee,	
8.	Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions ² _____ ² OJ C , , p. .	Having regard to the opinion of the After consulting the Committee of the Regions,	Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions,	
9.	Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,	Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,	Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,	
10.				<u>Recitals to be drafted in accordance with the agreements</u>

	Whereas:	Whereas:	Whereas:	on the articles.
11.	<p>(1) Online intermediation services are key enablers of entrepreneurship, trade and innovation, which can also improve consumer welfare and which are increasingly used by both the private and public sectors. They offer access to new markets and commercial opportunities allowing undertakings to exploit the benefits of the internal market. They also allow consumers in the Union to exploit those benefits, in particular by increasing their choice of goods and services offered online.</p>	<p>(1) Online intermediation services are key enablers of entrepreneurship <i>and new business models</i>, trade and innovation, which can also improve consumer welfare and which are increasingly used by both the private and public sectors. They offer access to new markets and commercial opportunities allowing undertakings to exploit the benefits of the internal market. They also allow consumers in the Union to exploit those benefits, in particular by increasing their choice of goods and services offered <i>as well as by offering competitive pricing</i> online. <i>However, the potential legal uncertainty that may arise from the emergence of new technologies should be addressed.</i> [Am. 1]</p>	<p>(1) Online intermediation services are key enablers of entrepreneurship, trade and innovation, which can also improve consumer welfare and which are increasingly used by both the private and public sectors. They offer access to new markets and commercial opportunities allowing undertakings to exploit the benefits of the internal market. They also allow consumers in the Union to exploit those benefits, in particular by increasing their choice of goods and services offered online.</p>	
12.	<p>(2) Online intermediation services can be crucial for the commercial</p>	<p>(2) Online intermediation services can be crucial for the commercial</p>	<p>(2) Online intermediation services can be crucial for the commercial</p>	

	<p>success of undertakings who use such services to reach consumers. The growing intermediation of transactions through online intermediation services, fuelled by strong data-driven indirect network effects, lead to an increased dependence of such business users, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, on those services in order for them to reach consumers. Given that increasing dependence, the providers of those services often have superior bargaining power, which enables them to effectively behave unilaterally in a way that can be unfair and that can be harmful to the legitimate interests of their businesses users and, indirectly, also of consumers in the Union.</p>	<p>success of undertakings who use such services to reach consumers. The growing intermediation of transactions through online intermediation services, fuelled by strong data-driven indirect network effects, lead to an increased dependence of such business users, including <i>the self-employed and</i> micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, on those services in order for them to reach consumers. Given that increasing dependence, <i>which could also affect large businesses in addition to microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises</i>, the providers of those services often have superior bargaining power. which enables <i>If this superior bargaining power is misused, it can enable</i> them to effectively behave unilaterally in a way that can be unfair and that can be harmful to the legitimate interests of their businesses users and, indirectly, also <i>but significantly, also to those</i> of consumers in the Union. <i>Consumers have embraced the online platform economy and a competitive, fair, and transparent online ecosystem</i></p>	<p>success of undertakings who use such services to reach consumers. <u>To fully exploit the benefits of the platform economy, it is therefore important that undertakings can trust platforms with which they enter into commercial relationships. This is important mainly because</u> The growing intermediation of transactions through online intermediation services, fuelled by strong data-driven indirect network effects, lead to an increased dependence of such business users, particularly micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, on those services in order for them to reach consumers. Given that increasing dependence, the providers of those services often have superior bargaining power, which enables them to effectively behave unilaterally in a way that can be unfair and that can be harmful to the legitimate interests of their businesses users and, indirectly, also of consumers in the Union.</p>	
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		<p><i>where companies behave responsibly is also essential for consumer welfare. Where dominant online intermediation services become gatekeepers of information, choice and prices, the consumers also suffer. Moreover, lack of transparency and legal uncertainty in the online platform economy, including in business to business relations, could diminish consumer trust in the online economy. This Regulation should improve the fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services, which is ultimately to the benefit of consumers. However, the direct consequences to consumers of new business models and technological developments are addressed in Commission Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 93/13/EEC of 5 April 1993, Directive 98/6/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directive 2005/29/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Directive</i></p>	
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		<p><i>2011/83/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards better enforcement and modernisation of EU consumer protection rules</i>[1]. [Am. 2]</p> <p>[1] COM(2018)0185 final (COD(2018)0090).</p>		
13.	<p>(3) Similarly, online search engines can be important sources of Internet traffic for undertakings which offer goods or services to consumers through websites and can therefore significantly affect the commercial success of such corporate website users offering their goods or services online in the internal market. In this regard, the ranking of websites by providers of online search engines, including of those websites through which corporate website users offer their goods and services to consumers, has an important impact on consumer choice and the commercial success of those corporate website users. Even in the absence of a contractual relationship with corporate website users, providers of online search</p>	<p>(3) Similarly, online search engines can be important sources of Internet traffic for undertakings which offer goods or services to consumers through websites and can therefore significantly affect the commercial success of such corporate website users offering their goods or services online in the internal market. In this regard, the ranking of websites by providers of online search engines, including of those websites through which corporate website users offer their goods and services to consumers, has an important impact on consumer choice and the commercial success of those corporate website users. Even in the absence of a contractual relationship with corporate website users, providers of online search</p>	<p>(3) Similarly, online search engines can be important sources of Internet traffic for undertakings which offer goods or services to consumers through websites and can therefore significantly affect the commercial success of such corporate website users offering their goods or services online in the internal market. In this regard, the ranking of websites by providers of online search engines, including of those websites through which corporate website users offer their goods and services to consumers, has an important impact on consumer choice and the commercial success of those corporate website users. Even in the absence of a contractual relationship with corporate website users, providers of online search</p>	

	<p>engines can therefore effectively behave unilaterally in a way that can be unfair and that can be harmful to the legitimate interests of corporate website users and, indirectly, also of consumers in the Union.</p>	<p>engines can therefore effectively behave unilaterally in a way that can be unfair and <i>disrupt normal competition on the market and</i> that can be harmful to the legitimate interests of corporate website users and, indirectly, also <i>but significantly, also to those of consumers in the Union. [Am. 3]</i></p>	<p>engines can therefore effectively behave unilaterally in a way that can be unfair and that can be harmful to the legitimate interests of corporate website users and, indirectly, also of consumers in the Union.</p>	
13A		<p><i>(3a) In some cases, operating systems may hold a role as intermediaries between business users and consumers. Since the definition of online intermediation services in this Regulation should be understood to be technologically neutral and to capture services regardless of their degree of integration with the software and any hardware used to provide them, where operating systems act as online intermediation services within the meaning of this Regulation, the providers of those operating systems should also be covered by the obligations laid down on providers of online intermediation services in this Regulation. [Am. 4]</i></p>		

14.	<p>(4) The dependence of business users on online intermediation services also leads to a situation in which business users often have limited possibilities to seek redress where unilateral actions of the providers of those services lead to a dispute. In many cases, those providers do not offer accessible and effective internal complaint-handling systems. Existing alternative out-of-court dispute settlement mechanisms can also be ineffective for a variety of reasons, including a lack of specialised mediators and business users' fear of retaliation.</p>	<p>(4) The dependence of business <i>nature of the relationship between</i> business users on <i>and</i> online intermediation services <i>may also lead to situations</i> leads to a situation in which business users often have limited possibilities to seek redress where unilateral actions of the providers of those services lead to a dispute. In many cases, those providers do not offer accessible and effective internal complaint-handling systems. Existing alternative out-of-court dispute settlement mechanisms can also be ineffective for a variety of reasons, including a lack of specialised mediators and business users' fear of retaliation. [Am. 5]</p>	<p>(4) The dependence of business users on online intermediation services also leads to a situation in which business users often have limited possibilities to seek redress where unilateral actions of the providers of those services lead to a dispute. In many cases, those providers do not offer accessible and effective internal complaint-handling systems. Existing alternative out-of-court dispute settlement mechanisms can also be ineffective for a variety of reasons, including a lack of specialised mediators and business users' fear of retaliation.</p>	
15.	<p>(5) Online intermediation services and online search engines, as well as the commercial transactions facilitated by those services, have an intrinsic cross-border potential and are of particular importance for the proper functioning of the Union's internal market in today's economy. The potentially unfair</p>	<p>(5) Online intermediation services and online search engines, as well as the commercial transactions facilitated by those services, have an intrinsic cross-border potential and are of particular importance for the proper functioning of the Union's internal market in today's economy. The potentially unfair</p>	<p>(5) Online intermediation services and online search engines, as well as the commercial transactions facilitated by those services, have an intrinsic cross-border potential and are of particular importance for the proper functioning of the Union's internal market in today's economy. The potentially unfair</p>	

	<p>and harmful trading practices of certain providers of those services in respect of business users and corporate website users hamper the full realisation of that potential and negatively affect the proper functioning of the internal market. In addition, the full realisation of that potential is hampered, and the proper functioning of the internal market is negatively affected, by diverging laws of certain Member States which, with a varying degree of effectiveness, regulate those services, while other Member States are considering adopting such laws.</p>	<p>and harmful trading practices of certain providers of those services, <i>who abuse their position</i> in respect of business users and corporate website users <i>and the lack of adequate redress mechanisms</i> hamper the full realisation of that potential and negatively affect the proper functioning of the internal market <i>and the emergence of new market players</i>. In addition, the full realisation of that potential is hampered, and the proper functioning of the internal market is negatively affected, by diverging laws of certain Member States which, with a varying degree of effectiveness, regulate those services, while other Member States are considering adopting such laws. [Am. 6]</p>	<p>and harmful trading practices of certain providers of those services in respect of business users and corporate website users and the lack of effective redress mechanisms hamper the full realisation of that potential and negatively affect the proper functioning of the internal market. In addition, the full realisation of that potential is hampered, and the proper functioning of the internal market is negatively affected, by diverging laws of certain Member States which, with a varying degree of effectiveness, regulate those services, while other Member States are considering adopting such laws.</p>	
			<p>(5a) A targeted set of mandatory rules on transparency should therefore be established at Union level to ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market by ensuring. In particular, that the business users</p>	

15A			<p>of online intermediation services are <u>should be</u> afforded appropriate transparency as well as effective redress possibilities throughout the Union <u>in order to facilitate cross border business within the Union and thereby improve the proper functioning of the internal market and to address possible emerging fragmentation in the specific areas covered by the provisions of this Regulation.</u> <u>Following a step by step approach, the Commission should evaluate the functioning of these rules, including whether further regulation is needed, within the review process as provided for in this Regulation.</u></p>	
16.	<p>(6) A uniform and targeted set of mandatory rules should therefore be established at Union level to ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market by ensuring, in particular, that the business users of online intermediation services are afforded appropriate transparency as well as effective</p>	<p>(6) A uniform and targeted set of mandatory rules should therefore be established at Union level to ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market by ensuring, in particular, that the business users of online intermediation services are afforded appropriate transparency as well as effective</p>	<p>(6) A uniform and targeted set of mandatory rules should therefore be established at Union level to ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market by ensuring, in particular, that the business users of online intermediation services are afforded appropriate transparency as well as effective</p>	

	<p>redress possibilities throughout the Union. Those rules should also provide for appropriate transparency as regards the ranking of corporate website users in the search results generated by online search engines. At the same, those rules should be such as to safeguard the important innovation potential of the wider online platform economy.</p>	<p>redress possibilities throughout the Union. Those rules should also provide for appropriate <i>incentives to promote fair and proportionate business behaviour and</i> transparency, <i>especially</i> as regards the ranking of corporate website users in the search results generated by online search engines, <i>including voice assistance services</i>. At the same <i>time</i>, those rules should be such as to <i>recognize and</i> safeguard the important innovation potential of the wider online platform economy <i>and allow for healthy competition leading to increased consumer choice</i>. [Am. 7]</p>	<p>redress possibilities throughout the Union. Those rules should also provide for appropriate transparency as regards the ranking of corporate website users in the search results generated by online search engines. At the same <u>time</u>, those rules should be such as to safeguard the important innovation potential of the wider online platform economy. <u>It is appropriate to clarify that this Regulation should not affect national civil law, in particular contract law, such as the rules on the validity, formation, effects or termination of a contract, in so far as the national civil law rules are in conformity with Union Law and to the extent that the relevant aspects are not covered by the provisions of this Regulation. Member States should remain free to apply national laws which prohibit or sanction unilateral conduct or unfair commercial practices.</u></p>	
17.	<p>(7) Since online intermediation services and online search engines typically have a global dimension,</p>	<p>(7) Since online intermediation services and online search engines typically have a global dimension,</p>	<p>(7) Since online intermediation services and online search engines typically have a global dimension,</p>	

<p>this Regulation should apply to providers of those services regardless of whether they are established in a Member State or outside the Union, provided that two cumulative conditions are met. Firstly, the business users or corporate website users should be established in the Union. Secondly, the business users or corporate website users should, through the provision of those services, offer their goods or services to consumers located in the Union at least for part of the transaction. Such consumers should be located in the Union, but do not need to have their place of residence in the Union nor have the nationality of any Member State. Accordingly, this Regulation should not apply where the business users or corporate websites users are not established in the Union or where they are established in the Union but where they use online intermediation services or online search engines to offer goods or services exclusively to consumers located outside the Union or to persons who are not consumers.</p>	<p>this Regulation should apply to providers of those services regardless of whether they are established in a Member State or outside the Union, provided that two cumulative conditions are met. Firstly, the business users or corporate website users should be established in the Union. Secondly, the business users or corporate website users should, through the provision of those services, offer their goods or services to consumers located in the Union at least for part of the transaction. <i>In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1215/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council^[1] and Regulation (EC) No 593/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council^[2], this would mean that the online intermediation services and online search engines have directed activities to consumers located in one or more Member States, irrespective of their location within the Union.</i> Such consumers should be located in the Union, but do not need to have their place of residence in the Union nor have the nationality of</p>	<p>this Regulation should apply to providers of those services regardless of whether they are established in a Member State or outside the Union, provided that two cumulative conditions are met. Firstly, the business users or corporate website users should be established in the Union. Secondly, the business users or corporate website users should, through the provision of those services, offer their goods or services to consumers located in the Union at least for part of the transaction. Such consumers should be located in the Union, but do not need to have their place of residence in the Union nor have the nationality of any Member State. Accordingly, this Regulation should not apply where the business users or corporate websites users are not established in the Union or where they are established in the Union but where they use online intermediation services or online search engines to offer goods or services exclusively to consumers located outside the Union or to persons who are not consumers.</p>	
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		<p>any Member State. Accordingly, this Regulation should not apply where the business users or corporate websites users are not established in the Union or where they are established in the Union but where they use online intermediation services or online search engines to offer goods or services exclusively to consumers located outside the Union or to persons who are not consumers.</p> <p><i>The rules relating to choice of law and choice of court in contractual matters in international and Union law have been conceived in relation to the typical commercial contracts negotiated to the letter between the parties and their legal representatives. It can be questioned to what extent these rules are appropriate in relation to the specific situation of agreements for platforms and in general to agreements in the digital era. This question ought to be given further consideration.</i></p> <p>[Am. 8]</p> <p>[1] Regulation (EU) No 1215/2012 of the European Parliament and of</p>	<p><u>Furthermore, this Regulation should apply irrespective of the law otherwise applicable to a contract.</u></p>
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		<p>the Council of 12 December 2012 on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters, (OJ L 351, 20.12.2012, p. 1).</p> <p>[2] Regulation (EC) No 593/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 on the law applicable to contractual obligations (Rome I), (OJ L 177, 4.7.2008, p. 6).</p>		
18.	<p>(8) A wide variety of business-to-consumer commercial relations are intermediated online by providers operating multi-sided services that are essentially based on the same ecosystem-building business model. In order to capture the relevant services, online intermediation services should be defined in a precise and technologically-neutral manner. In particular, the services should consist of information society services, which are characterised by the fact that they aim to facilitate the initiating of direct transactions between business users and consumers, irrespective</p>	<p>(8) A wide variety of business-to-consumer commercial relations are intermediated online by providers operating multi-sided services that are essentially based on the same ecosystem-building business model. In order to capture the relevant services, online intermediation services should be defined in a precise and technologically-neutral manner. In particular, the services should consist of information society services, which are characterised by the fact that they aim to facilitate the initiating of direct transactions between business users and consumers, irrespective</p>	<p>(8) A wide variety of business-to-consumer commercial relations are intermediated online by providers operating multi-sided services that are essentially based on the same ecosystem-building business model. In order to capture the relevant services, online intermediation services should be defined in a precise and technologically-neutral manner. In particular, the services should consist of information society services, which are characterised by the fact that they aim to facilitate the initiating of direct transactions between business users and consumers, irrespective</p>	<p>GA</p> <p><u>+ additional text in relation to art. 2.2.b) from EP</u></p>

	<p>of whether the transactions are ultimately concluded either online, on the online portal of the provider of the online intermediation services in question or that of the business user, or offline. In addition, the services should be provided on the basis of contractual relationships both between the providers and business users and between the providers and the consumers. Such a contractual relationship should be deemed to exist where both parties concerned express their intention to be bound in an unequivocal and verifiable manner, without an express written agreement necessarily being required.</p>	<p>of whether the transactions are ultimately concluded either online, on the online portal of the provider of the online intermediation services in question or that of the business user, or offline, <i>meaning that there is no requirement for any contractual relationship between the business users and consumers as a precondition for an online intermediation service falling within the scope of this Regulation. Services where the facilitating of the initiating of direct transactions between those business users and consumers is of marginal character only, meaning that even if it might in a limited number of cases be possible to interpret the service as having facilitated the initiation, a direct transaction between certain business users and consumers, should not be included, as this would not be the aim of the service. Where services habitually facilitate such transactions, the facilitating of initiating of direct transactions might not be understood to be of marginal character only.</i> In addition, the services should be provided on the</p>	<p>of whether the transactions are ultimately concluded either online, on the online portal of the provider of the online intermediation services in question or that of the business user, or offline <u>or in fact not at all.</u> In addition, the services should be provided on the basis of contractual relationships between the providers and business users <u>which offer goods or services to consumers</u> and between the providers and the consumers. Such a contractual relationship should be deemed to exist where both parties concerned express their intention to be bound in an unequivocal and verifiable manner <u>on a durable medium,</u> without an express written agreement necessarily being required.</p>	
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		<p>basis of contractual relationships both between the providers and business users and between the providers and the consumers. Such a contractual relationship should be deemed to exist where both parties concerned express their intention to be bound in an unequivocal and verifiable manner, without an express written agreement necessarily being required. <i>Such a contractual relationship between the providers of online intermediation services and consumers should also be deemed to exist in cases where the services are supplied to the consumer against the provision of personal data or other data by the consumer.</i> [Am. 9]</p>		
19.	<p>(9) Examples of online intermediation services covered by this Regulation should consequently include online e-commerce market places, including collaborative ones on which business users are active, online software applications services and online social media services. However, this Regulation should not apply to online</p>	<p>(9) Examples of online intermediation services covered by this Regulation should consequently include online e-commerce market places, including collaborative ones on which business users are active, online software applications services <i>such as application stores, voice assistance services,</i> and online social media services. <i>It</i></p>	<p>(9) Examples of online intermediation services covered by this Regulation should consequently include online e-commerce market places, including collaborative ones on which business users are active, online software applications services, such as application stores, and online social media services, irrespective of the</p>	

	<p>advertising serving tools or online advertising exchanges which are not provided with the aim of facilitating the initiation of direct transactions and which do not involve a contractual relationship with consumers. This Regulation should also not apply to online payment services, since they do not themselves meet the applicable requirements but are rather inherently auxiliary to the transaction for the supply of goods and services to the consumers concerned.</p>	<p><i>should apply to such services regardless of emerging or future developments altering their technological or commercial design, including for example their interaction with software operating systems.</i> However, this Regulation should not apply to online advertising serving tools or online advertising exchanges which are not provided with the aim of facilitating the initiation of direct transactions and which do not involve a contractual relationship with consumers. This Regulation should also not apply to online payment services, since they do not themselves meet the applicable requirements but are rather inherently auxiliary to the transaction for the supply of goods and services to the consumers concerned. [Am. 10]</p>	<p><u>technology used to provide such services. In this sense, online intermediation services could also be provided by means of voice assistant technology. It should also not be relevant whether or not those transactions involve any monetary payment or that transactions are concluded in part offline.</u> However, this Regulation should not apply to <u>peer-to-peer online intermediation services without the presence of business users, pure business-to-business online intermediation services which are not offered to consumers,</u> online advertising serving tools or <u>and</u> online advertising exchanges which are not provided with the aim of facilitating the initiation of direct transactions and which do not involve a contractual relationship with consumers. <u>For the same reason, search engine optimisation software services as well as services which revolve around advertising-blocking software are not covered by this Regulation. Also, technology online intermediation services</u></p>	
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			<p><u>that connect hardware and applications are not covered by this Regulation, as these are not directly connected with the provision of goods or services.</u></p> <p>This Regulation should also not apply to online payment services, since they do not themselves meet the applicable requirements but are rather inherently auxiliary to the transaction for the supply of goods and services to the consumers concerned.</p>	
19A		<p><i>(9a) In certain cases, distinguishing between business users and non-business users of online intermediation services may be complicated. Such a distinction is important, since business users who offer goods or services to consumers should also be under stricter obligations towards consumers. In line with the Commission Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 93/13/EEC of 5 April 1993, Directive 98/6/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directive 2005/29/EC of the European Parliament and of</i></p>		

		<p><i>the Council and Directive 2011/83/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards better enforcement and modernisation of EU consumer protection rules, it should not be in the discretion of the provider of an online intermediation service to distinguish whether a user is a business user or a non-business user. Rather, the users of online intermediation services should have the possibility to express whether they are business users or not, and in the case of business users, fulfil their stricter obligations towards consumers.</i></p> <p>[Am. 11]</p>		
19B		<p><i>(9b) The definition of ancillary operating systems should capture operating systems which are essential for controlling a mobile device, which are closely linked to an online intermediation service and that online intermediation service controls the main channel through which application may be installed, and where the development and updating of that operating system is indirectly or</i></p>		

		<p><i>directly provided or controlled by the provider of the linked online intermediation service. This definition of ancillary operating systems should apply to services regardless of emerging or future developments altering their technological or commercial design, including for example the use of voice control. [Am. 12]</i></p>		
20.	<p>(10) In line with the relevant case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union and in light of the fact that the dependent position of business users has been observed principally in respect of online intermediation services that serve as a gateway to consumers in the form of natural persons, the notion of consumer used to delineate the scope of this Regulation is to be understood as referring solely to natural persons, where they are acting for purposes which are outside their trade, business, craft or profession.</p>	<p>(10) In line with the relevant case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union and in light of the fact that the dependent position of business users has been observed principally in respect of online intermediation services that serve as a gateway to consumers in the form of natural persons, the notion of consumer used to delineate the scope of this Regulation is to be understood as referring solely to natural persons, where they are acting for purposes which are outside their trade, business, craft or profession. <i>For the purposes of this Regulation, therefore, online intermediation services solely directing or targeting offers of goods and services from</i></p>	<p>(10) In line with the relevant case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union and in light of the fact that the dependent position of business users has been observed principally in respect of online intermediation services that serve as a gateway to consumers in the form of natural persons, the notion of consumer used to delineate the scope of this Regulation is to be understood as referring solely to natural persons, where they are acting for purposes which are outside their trade, business, craft or profession.</p>	

		<i>businesses to other businesses are not included in the scope, because there is no direct consequence on consumers. [Am. 13]</i>		
21.	<p>(11) For reasons of consistency, the definition of online search engine used in this Regulation should be aligned with the definition used in Directive (EU) 2016/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council³.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>³ Directive (EU) 2016/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning measures for a high common level of security of network and information systems across the Union (OJ L 194, 19.7.2016, p. 1).</p>	<p>(11) For reasons of consistency, The definition of online search engine used in this Regulation should be aligned with broader than the definition used in Directive (EU) 2016/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council³. Considering the quick pace of innovation, the definition should be technology-neutral. In particular, the definition should be understood to also encompass vocal requests. [Am. 14]</p> <p>_____</p> <p>³ Directive (EU) 2016/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning measures for a high common level of security of network and information systems across the Union (OJ L 194, 19.7.2016, p. 1).</p>	<p>(11) For reasons of consistency, the definition of online search engine used in this Regulation should be aligned with the definition used in Directive (EU) 2016/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council³.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>³ Directive (EU) 2016/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning measures for a high common level of security of network and information systems across the Union (OJ L 194, 19.7.2016, p. 1).</p>	

22.	<p>(12) In order to effectively protect business users where needed, this Regulation should apply where the terms and conditions of a contractual relationship, regardless of their name or form, are not individually negotiated by the parties to them. Whether or not terms and conditions were individually negotiated should be determined on the basis of an overall assessment, whereby the fact that certain provisions thereof may have been individually negotiated is, in itself, not decisive.</p>	<p>(12) In order to effectively protect business users where needed, this Regulation should apply where to the terms and conditions of a contractual relationship between providers of online intermediation services and business users, regardless of their name or form; are not individually negotiated by the parties to them. Whether or not terms and conditions were individually negotiated should be determined on the basis of an overall assessment, whereby the fact that certain provisions thereof may have been individually negotiated is, in itself, not decisive. [Am. 15]</p>	<p>(12) In order to effectively protect business users where needed, this Regulation should apply where the terms and conditions of a contractual relationship, regardless of their name or form, are not <u>unilaterally determined</u> individually negotiated by the <u>provider of online intermediation services</u> parties to them. Whether or not terms and conditions were <u>unilaterally determined</u> individually negotiated should be determined <u>evaluated</u> on the basis of an overall assessment, whereby the fact that certain provisions thereof may have been individually negotiated is, in itself, not decisive.</p>	
22A		<p><i>(12a) Providers of online intermediation services may provide or control other services or software, which could in some cases create a possibility for those software or services to be used to circumvent obligations laid down on providers of online intermediation services in this Regulation. While not extending</i></p>		

		<p><i>the scope of this Regulation and the requirements laid down herein to those software or services, the providers of online intermediation services should not use those software or services to circumvent any obligations laid down on online intermediation services. Control within this Regulation should be understood as being within the meaning of Article 3(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004^[1], that is, that control should be constituted by rights, contracts or any other means which, either separately or in combination and having regard to the considerations of fact or law involved, confer the possibility of exercising decisive influence on an undertaking. This decisive influence could be exercised in particular by ownership, the right to use all or part of the assets on an undertaking, or the rights or contract which confer decisive influence on the composition, voting or decisions of the organs of an undertaking. [Am. 16]</i></p>		
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		<p>[1] Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 of 20 January 2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings (the EC Merger Regulation) (OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1).</p>		
23.	<p>(13) To ensure that the general terms and conditions of a contractual relationship enable business users to determine the commercial conditions for the use, termination and suspension of online intermediation services, and to achieve predictability regarding their business relationship, those terms and conditions should be drafted in clear and unambiguous language which is easily understood by an average business user. Terms and conditions should not be considered to have been drafted in clear and unambiguous language where they are vague, unspecific or lack detail on important commercial issues and thus fail to give business users a reasonable degree of predictability on the most important aspects of the contractual relationship.</p>	<p>(13) To ensure that the general terms and conditions of a contractual relationship enable business users to determine the commercial conditions for the use, termination and suspension of online intermediation services, and to achieve predictability regarding their business relationship, those terms and conditions should be drafted in clear and unambiguous intelligible language which is easily understood by an average business user. Terms and conditions should not be considered to have been drafted in clear and unambiguous intelligible language where they are vague, unspecific or lack detail on important commercial issues and thus fail to give business users a reasonable degree of predictability on the most important aspects of the contractual relationship. <i>Moreover, language that is</i></p>	<p>(13) To ensure that the general terms and conditions of a contractual relationship enable business users to determine the commercial conditions for the use, termination and suspension of online intermediation services, and to achieve predictability regarding their business relationship, those terms and conditions should be drafted in plain and intelligible clear and unambiguous language which is easily understood by an average business user. Terms and conditions should not be considered to have been drafted in plain and intelligible clear and unambiguous language where they are vague, unspecific or lack detail on important commercial issues and thus fail to give business users a reasonable degree of predictability on the most important aspects of the contractual relationship.</p>	

		<p><i>misleading in the choice of phrasing should not be considered clear and intelligible.</i> [Am. 17]</p>		
23A		<p><i>(13a) To ensure not only transparency but also fairness in the relationships between providers of online intermediation services and their business users, the general terms and conditions should also be fair and proportionate taking into consideration the nature of the activities of the provider of the online intermediation service and the business user. Terms and conditions would not be considered to be fair and proportionate where, for example, those terms and conditions grossly deviate from good commercial conduct in the particular economic activity in which the online intermediation service operates, or go against the principles of good faith and fair dealing. In assessing these general requirements, the nature and purpose of the contract, the circumstances of the case and the usages and practices of the commercial activity should also</i></p>		

		<i>be taken into account by the relevant enforcement authorities.</i> [Am. 18]		
23B		<i>(13b) In order to ensure that business users have sufficient clarity regarding where, and to whom, their goods or services are being marketed, providers of online intermediation services should ensure transparency towards their business users regarding any additional channels and potential affiliate programmes that the online intermediation service may use to markets aid goods or services.</i> [Am. 19]		<u>[(13b) In order to ensure that business users have sufficient clarity regarding where, and to whom, their goods or services are being marketed, providers of online intermediation services should ensure transparency towards their business users regarding any additional channels and potential affiliate programmes that the online intermediation service may use to markets aid goods or services.]</u>
24.	(14) Ensuring transparency in the general terms and conditions can be essential to promoting sustainable business relationships and to preventing unfair behaviour to the detriment of business users. Providers of online intermediation services should therefore also ensure that the terms and conditions are easily available at all stages of the contractual	(14) Ensuring transparency in the general terms and conditions can be essential to promoting sustainable business relationships and to preventing unfair behaviour to the detriment of business users. Providers of online intermediation services should therefore also ensure that the terms and conditions are easily available at all stages of the contractual	(14) Ensuring transparency in the general terms and conditions can be essential to promoting sustainable business relationships and to preventing unfair behaviour to the detriment of business users. Providers of online intermediation services should therefore also ensure that the terms and conditions are easily available at all stages of the contractual	

	<p>relationship, including to prospective business users at the pre-contractual phase, and that any modifications to those terms are notified to business users within a set notice period which is reasonable and proportionate in light of the specific circumstances and which is at least 15 days. That notice period should not apply where, and to the extent that, it is waived in an unambiguous manner by the business user concerned or where, and to the extent that, the need to implement the modification without respecting the notice period stems from a legal obligation incumbent on the service provider under Union or national law.</p>	<p>relationship, including to prospective business users at the pre-contractual phase, and that any modifications to those terms <i>and conditions</i> are notified to business users within a set notice period which is reasonable and proportionate in light of the specific circumstances and which is at least 15 days. That <i>and at least 30 days in cases where the modification requires the business user to make significant technical adjustments to its goods or services to comply with the modification. The concept of a modification should not be understood to encompass those changes to terms and conditions which are of a purely administrative nature, such as a change to a phone number or an address of the provider. By way of exception, the notice periods</i> should not apply where, and to the extent that, it is <i>they are</i> waived in an unambiguous manner by the business user concerned or where, and to the extent that, the need to implement the modification without respecting the notice period stems from a legal</p>	<p>relationship, including to prospective business users at the pre-contractual phase, and that any modifications to those terms are notified <u>on a durable medium</u> to business users within a set notice period which is reasonable and proportionate in light of the specific circumstances and which is at least 15 days. That notice period should not apply where, and to the extent that, it is waived in an unambiguous manner by the business user concerned or where, and to the extent that, the need to implement the modification without respecting the notice period stems from a legal obligation incumbent on the service provider under Union or national law. <u>However, proposed editorial changes should not be covered by the term ‘modification’ in as far as they do not alter the content or meaning of terms and conditions. The requirement of notifying proposed modifications on a durable medium, such as through e-mails or other communication systems that allow, inter alia, the receiving</u></p>	
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		<p>obligation incumbent on the service provider under Union or national law, <i>and in cases where the provider acts to address dangers which could harm or pose security problems for the service, to their consumers or to other users, since given the diversity of content that business users distribute through online intermediation services, unforeseen dangers and practices could arise in ways that require immediate action. Business users should be entitled to terminate their agreement within 15 days from the receipt of the notice of any modification which they consider being detrimental to them.</i> [Am. 20]</p>	<p><u>and storing of any type of messages, should enable business users to effectively review these modifications at a later stage.</u></p>	
24A		<p><i>(14a) In general, submitting new or updating goods or services to the online intermediation services should be considered clear affirmative action by the business user. However, since modifications of terms and conditions could in some cases require significant changes from the business user to comply with</i></p>		

		<p><i>the new terms and conditions, the business users should not be obliged to leave their goods and services without updates, for example on content of services, while the business user prepares for complying with the new terms and conditions. As such, in cases where the notice period is 30 days because the modifications to the terms and conditions require the business user to make significant technical adjustments to their goods or services, the notice period should not be considered automatically waived where the business user submits new or updates goods and services. The provider of online intermediation services should expect the modifications to terms and conditions to require the business user to make significant technical adjustments where, for example, entire features of the online intermediation service that business users had access to are removed or added, or where business users may need to re-program their goods and services to be able to continue operating on the platform. In cases where</i></p>		
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		<p><i>multiple changes to terms and conditions are notified to the business users at once, only the change reasonably expected to require significant technical adjustments from the business user should be subject to the 30 days' notice period and to the exception to the automatic waiving of the notice period. [Am. 21]</i></p>		
25.	<p>(15) In order to protect business users it should be possible for a competent court to establish that non-compliant terms and conditions are not binding on the business user concerned, with effects ex nunc. Any such finding by a court should however only concern the specific provisions of the terms and conditions which are not compliant. The remaining provisions should remain valid and enforceable, in as far as they can be severed from the non-compliant provisions. Sudden modifications to existing terms and conditions may significantly disrupt business users' operations. In order to limit such negative effects on business</p>	<p>(15) In order to protect business users and to provide legal certainty for both sides, it should be possible for a competent court to establish that non-compliant terms and conditions are not binding on the business user concerned null and void, with effects ex nunc. Any such finding by a court should however only concern the specific provisions of the terms and conditions which are not compliant. The remaining provisions should remain valid and enforceable, in as far as they can be severed from the non-compliant provisions. Sudden modifications to existing terms and conditions may significantly disrupt business</p>	<p>(15) In order to protect business users it should be possible for a competent court to establish that non-compliant terms and conditions are should not be binding on the business user concerned, with effects <i>ex tunc</i> nunc. Any such finding by a court This should however only concern the specific provisions of the terms and conditions which are not compliant. The remaining provisions should remain valid and enforceable, in as far as they are valid and enforceable under national law and can be severed from the non-compliant provisions. Sudden modifications to existing terms and conditions</p>	<p>(15) In order to protect business users and to provide legal certainty for both sides, it should be possible for a competent court to establish that non-compliant terms and conditions are should not be binding on the business user concerned null and void, with effects <i>ex tunc</i> nunc. Any such finding by a court should however only concern the specific provisions of the terms and conditions which are not compliant. The remaining provisions should remain valid and enforceable, in as far as they [...] can be severed from the non-compliant provisions. Sudden modifications to existing terms and</p>

	<p>users, and to discourage such behaviour, modifications made in contravention of the obligation to provide a set notice period, should therefore be null and void, that is, deemed to have never existed with effects erga omnes and ex tunc.</p>	<p>users' operations. In order to limit such negative effects on business users, and to discourage such behaviour, modifications made in contravention of the obligation to provide a set notice period, should therefore be null and void, that is, deemed to have never existed with effects erga omnes and ex tunc. [Am. 22]</p>	<p>may significantly disrupt business users' operations. In order to limit such negative effects on business users, and to discourage such behaviour, modifications made in contravention of the obligation to provide a set notice period, should therefore be null and void, that is, deemed to have never existed with effects erga omnes and ex tunc. <u>It is appropriate to clarify that the provider of online intermediation services should not rely on or derive claims from any non-compliant terms and conditions, or provisions thereof. Any further review of the content of terms and conditions under national law should remain unaffected.</u></p>	<p>conditions may significantly disrupt business users' operations. In order to limit such negative effects on business users, and to discourage such behaviour, modifications made in contravention of the obligation to provide a set notice period, should therefore be null and void, that is, deemed to have never existed with effects erga omnes and ex tunc.</p>
26.	<p>(16) A provider of online intermediation services can have legitimate reasons to decide to suspend or terminate the provision of its services, in whole or in part, to a given business user, including by delisting individual goods or services of a given business user or effectively removing search results. However, given that such</p>	<p>(16) A provider of online intermediation services can have legitimate reasons to decide to suspend, restrict or terminate the provision of its services, in whole or in part, to a given business user, including by delisting individual goods or services of a given business user or effectively removing search results. It can</p>	<p>(16) A provider of online intermediation services can have legitimate reasons to decide to suspend or terminate the provision of its services, in whole or in part, to a given business user, including by delisting individual goods or services of a given business user or effectively removing search results. However, given that such</p>	

<p>decisions can significantly affect the interests of the business user concerned, they should be properly informed of the reasons thereof. The statement of reasons should allow business users to ascertain whether there is scope to challenge the decision, thereby improving the possibilities for business users to seek effective redress where necessary. In addition, requiring a statement of reasons should help to prevent or remedy any unintended removal of online content provided by business users which the provider incorrectly considers to be illegal content, in line with Commission Recommendation (EU) No 2018/334⁴. The statement of reasons should identify the objective ground or grounds for the decision, based on the grounds that the provider had set out in advance in its terms and conditions, and refer in a proportionate manner to the relevant specific circumstances that led to that decision.</p>	<p><i>also be under a legal obligation to remove certain content, or to suspend, restrict or terminate the provision of its services in whole or in part.</i> However, given that such decisions can significantly affect the interests of the business user concerned, they should be properly informed of the reasons thereof <i>in advance</i> of the <i>suspension, restriction or termination, except for in cases where a provider of online intermediation services is under a legal obligation to suspend, restrict or terminate its services immediately. There could also be cases in which the provider of online intermediation services is not under a legal obligation, such as a product recall initiated by market surveillance authorities, to terminate its services, but where the provider nevertheless has reasonable doubts regarding the safety of a product or service, counterfeiting, fraud, or suitability of the product or service to minors. In such cases, it</i></p>	<p>decisions can significantly affect the interests of the business user concerned, they should be <u>provided</u> properly informed of the reasons thereof, <u>prior to or at the time of the suspension taking effect, with a statement of reasons for that decision on a durable medium</u>. The statement of reasons should allow business users to ascertain whether there is scope to challenge the decision, thereby improving the possibilities for business users to seek effective redress where necessary, <u>including with a view to reinstatement of suspended goods or services</u>. In addition, requiring a statement of reasons should help to prevent or remedy any unintended removal of online content provided by business users which the provider incorrectly considers to be illegal content, in line with Commission Recommendation (EU) No 2018/334⁵. The statement of reasons should identify the objective ground or grounds for</p>	
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⁵ Commission Recommendation (EU) No 2018/334 of 1 March 2018 on measures to effectively tackle illegal content online (OJ L 63, 6.3.2018, p. 50).

	<p>⁴ Commission Recommendation (EU) No 2018/334 of 1 March 2018 on measures to effectively tackle illegal content online (OJ L 63, 6.3.2018, p. 50).</p>	<p><i>should be possible for the provider of the online intermediation service to act immediately to protect consumers. However, in these exceptional cases where services could be suspended, restricted or terminated immediately, the business user should in any case be provided with a statement of reasons for the suspension, restriction or termination.</i> The statement of reasons should allow business users to ascertain whether there is scope to challenge the decision, thereby improving the possibilities for business users to seek effective redress where necessary. In addition, requiring a statement of reasons should help to prevent or remedy any unintended removal of online content provided by business users which the provider incorrectly considers to be illegal content, in line with Commission Recommendation (EU) No 2018/334^[1]. <i>In some cases, the decision of the provider of an online intermediation service is based on notifications by third parties. These notifications can be abused by</i></p>	<p>the decision, based on the grounds that the provider had set out in advance in its terms and conditions, and refer in a proportionate manner to the relevant specific circumstances that led to that decision.</p>	
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		<p><i>them or where a provider of online intermediation services can demonstrate that the business user concerned has repeatedly infringed the applicable terms and conditions, resulting in their suspension, restriction or termination. [Am. 23]</i></p> <p>[1] Commission Recommendation (EU) No 2018/334 of 1 March 2018 on measures to effectively tackle illegal content online (OJ L 63, 6.3.2018, p. 50).</p>		
26A			<p><u>(16a) The termination of the whole of the online intermediation services and the related deletion of data provided for the use of or generated through the provision of online intermediation services represent a loss of essential information, which could have a significant impact on business users and could also impair their ability to properly exercise other rights granted to them by this Regulation. Therefore, the</u></p>	

			<p><u>provider of online intermediation services should provide the business user concerned with a statement of reasons on a durable medium, at least 30 days before the termination of the whole of its online intermediation services enters into effect. However, in cases where a regulatory obligation requires a provider of online intermediation services to terminate the provision of the whole of its online intermediation services to a given business user, this notice period should not apply. Equally, the notice period of 30 days should not apply where a provider of online intermediation services invokes rights of termination under national law in compliance with Union law which allow immediate termination where, taking into account all the circumstances of the specific case and weighing the interests of both parties, it cannot reasonably be expected to continue the contractual relationship until the agreed end</u></p>
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			<p><u>or until the expiry of a notice period. In order to ensure proportionality, providers of online intermediation services should, where reasonable and technically feasible, carry out only in part suspension or termination of their services, such as by means of delisting only specific goods or services of a business user. Suspension and termination, in whole, constitutes the most severe measure.</u></p>	
27.	<p>(17) The ranking of goods and services by the providers of online intermediation services has an important impact on consumer choice and, consequently, on the commercial success of the business users offering those goods and services to consumers. Providers of online intermediation services should therefore outline the main parameters determining ranking beforehand, in order to improve predictability for business users, to allow them to better understand the functioning of the ranking mechanism and to enable</p>	<p>(17) The ranking of goods and services by the providers of online intermediation services has an important impact on consumer choice and, consequently, on the commercial success of the business users offering those goods and services to consumers. Providers of online intermediation services should therefore outline the main parameters determining ranking beforehand, in order to improve predictability for business users, to allow them to better understand the functioning of the ranking mechanism and to enable</p>	<p>(17) The ranking of goods and services by the providers of online intermediation services has an important impact on consumer choice and, consequently, on the commercial success of the business users offering those goods and services to consumers. <u>Ranking refers to the relative prominence of the offers of business users or relevance given to search results as presented, organised or communicated by providers of online intermediation services or by providers of online search</u></p>	

<p>them to compare the ranking practices of various providers. The notion of main parameter should be understood to refer to any general criteria, processes, specific signals incorporated into algorithms or other adjustment or demotion mechanisms used in connection with the ranking. The description of the main parameters determining ranking should also include an explanation of any possibility for business users to actively influence ranking against remuneration, as well as of the relative effects thereof. This description should provide business users with an adequate understanding of how the ranking mechanism takes account of the characteristics of the actual goods or services offered by the business user, and their relevance to the consumers of the specific online intermediation services.</p>	<p>them to compare the ranking practices of various providers. <i>In cases where disclosure of all parameters in the terms and conditions is not technologically possible or would have the effect of disclosing weighting of all individual parameters, only the main parameters and the reasons for their relative importance should be presented.</i> The notion of main parameter should be understood to refer to any general criteria, processes, specific signals incorporated into algorithms or other adjustment or demotion mechanisms used in connection with the ranking. The description of the main parameters determining ranking should also include an explanation of any possibility for business users to actively influence ranking against remuneration, as well as of the relative effects thereof. <i>When displaying the results, the online intermediation service should also disclose close to each ranking whether it has been influenced by differentiated treatment or by any direct or indirect remuneration, contractual or direct ownership</i></p>	<p><u>engines, resulting from the use of algorithmic sequencing, rating or review mechanisms, visual highlights, or other saliency tools, or combinations thereof.</u> Providers of online intermediation services should therefore outline the main parameters determining ranking beforehand, in order to improve predictability for business users, to allow them to better understand the functioning of the ranking mechanism and to enable them to compare the ranking practices of various providers. The notion of main parameter should be understood to refer to any general criteria, processes, specific signals incorporated into algorithms or other adjustment or demotion mechanisms used in connection with the ranking.</p>	
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		<p><i>relation.</i> This description should provide business users with an adequate understanding of how the ranking mechanism takes account of the characteristics of the actual goods or services offered by the business user, and their relevance to the consumers of the specific online intermediation services.</p> <p><i>According to the Commission Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards better enforcement and modernisation of EU consumer protection rules, providers of online intermediation services should be required to provide consumers with information about the parameters affecting the ranking. While the information offered to the consumer should be presented in a clear and comprehensible manner that is suitable to the needs of the consumer, the information offered to the business user and the consumer should, in any event, be similar enough to ensure that both parties who offer and those who search for a good or service are able to take informed decisions based on</i></p>	
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		<i>transparent searches.</i> [Am. 24]		
27A			<p>(17a) The description of the main parameters determining ranking should also include an explanation of any possibility for business users to actively influence ranking against remuneration, as well as of the relative effects thereof.</p> <p><u>Remuneration could in this respect refer to payments made with the main or exclusive aim to improve ranking, as well as indirect remuneration in the form of the acceptance by a business user of additional obligations of any kind which may have this as its practical effect, such as the use of any premium features or ancillary services. The content of the description, including the number and type of main parameters, can accordingly vary strongly depending on the specific online intermediation services or online search engine concerned, but</u> This description should provide business users with an adequate understanding of how the ranking mechanism takes</p>	

			<p>account of the characteristics of the actual goods or services offered by the business user, and their relevance to the consumers of the specific online intermediation services. <u>The indicators used for measuring the quality of goods or services of business users, the use of editors and their ability to influence the ranking of those goods or services, the amplitude of the impact of remuneration on ranking as well as elements that do not or only remotely relate to the product or service itself, such as presentational features of the online offer, could be examples of main parameters that, when included in a general description of the ranking mechanism in plain and intelligible language, should assist business users in obtaining the required adequate understanding of its functioning.</u></p>	
28.	(18) Similarly, the ranking of websites by the providers of online search engines, notably of those websites through which undertakings offer goods and services to consumers, has an	(18) Similarly, the ranking of websites by the providers of online search engines, notably of those websites through which undertakings offer goods and services to consumers, has an	(18) Similarly, the ranking of websites by the providers of online search engines, notably of those websites through which undertakings offer goods and services to consumers, has an	

<p>important impact on consumer choice and the commercial success of corporate website users. Providers of online search engines should therefore provide a description of the main parameters determining the ranking of all indexed websites, including those of corporate website users as well as other websites. In addition to the characteristics of the goods and services and their relevance for consumers, this description should in the case of online search engines also allow corporate website users to obtain an adequate understanding of whether, and if so how and to what extent, certain design characteristics of the website used, such as their optimisation for display on mobile telecommunications devices, is taken into account. In the absence of a contractual relationship between providers of online search engines and corporate website users, that description should be available to the public in an obvious and easily accessible location on the relevant online search engine. To ensure predictability for corporate website</p>	<p>important impact on consumer choice and the commercial success of corporate website users. Providers of online search engines should therefore provide a description of the main parameters determining the ranking of all indexed websites, including those of corporate website users as well as other websites. <i>In cases where disclosure of all parameters in the terms and conditions is not technologically possible or would have the effect of disclosing weighting of all individual parameters, only the main parameters and the reasons for their relative importance should be presented.</i> In addition to the characteristics of the goods and services and their relevance for consumers, this description should in the case of online search engines also allow corporate website users to obtain an adequate understanding of whether, and if so how and to what extent, certain design characteristics of the website used, such as their optimisation for display on mobile telecommunications devices, is taken into account. In the absence</p>	<p>important impact on consumer choice and the commercial success of corporate website users. Providers of online search engines should therefore provide a description of the main parameters determining the ranking of all indexed websites <u>and the relative importance of those main parameters as opposed to other parameters</u>, including those of corporate website users as well as other websites. In addition to the characteristics of the goods and services and their relevance for consumers, this description should in the case of online search engines also allow corporate website users to obtain an adequate understanding of whether, and if so how and to what extent, certain design characteristics of the website used, such as their optimisation for display on mobile telecommunications devices, is taken into account <u>and should also include an explanation of any possibility for business users to actively influence ranking against remuneration, as well as of the relative effects thereof.</u> In the absence of a contractual</p>	
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<p>users, the description should also be kept up to date, including the possibility that any changes to the main parameters should be made easily identifiable. Whilst the providers are under no circumstances required to disclose any trade secrets as defined in Directive (EU) 2016/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵ when complying with this requirement to disclose the main ranking parameters, the description given should at least be based on actual data on the relevance of the ranking parameters used.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁵ Directive (EU) 2016/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on the protection of undisclosed know-how and business information (trade secrets) against their unlawful acquisition, use and disclosure (OJ L 157, 15.6.2016, p. 1).</p>	<p>of a contractual relationship between providers of online search engines and corporate website users, that description should be available to the public in an obvious and easily accessible location on the relevant online search engine. To ensure predictability for corporate website users, the description should also be kept up to date, including the possibility that any changes to the main parameters should be made easily identifiable. Whilst the providers are under no circumstances required to disclose any trade secrets as defined in requirement to disclose ranking parameters should be without prejudice to Directive (EU) 2016/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council^{11} when complying with this requirement to disclose the main ranking parameters, the description given should at least be based on actual data on the relevance of the ranking parameters used. The existence of an up-to-date description of the main parameters would also benefit users other than corporate</p>	<p>relationship between providers of online search engines and corporate website users, that description should be available to the public in an obvious and easily accessible location on the relevant online search engine. <u>Areas of websites that require users to log in or register should not be understood as easily and publicly available in this sense.</u> To ensure predictability for corporate website users, the description should also be kept up to date, including the possibility that any changes to the main parameters should be made easily identifiable.</p>	
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	<p><i>website users of the online search engine. In some cases, providers of online search engines may decide to influence the ranking in a specific case or delist a website from a ranking based on notifications by third parties. Unlike providers of online intermediation services, providers of online search engines cannot due to the lack of any contractual relationship between the parties be expected to notify a corporate website user directly of a delisting or change in ranking due to a notification. Nevertheless, a corporate business user should be able to inspect the notification that has led to the change in ranking or to delisting in the specific case, by investigating the contents of the notice in a publicly accessible online database. This would help to mitigate potential abuses of delisting notifications by competitors. [Am. 25]</i></p> <p>[1] Directive (EU) 2016/943 of the European Parliament and of the</p>		
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		<p>Council of 8 June 2016 on the protection of undisclosed know-how and business information (trade secrets) against their unlawful acquisition, use and disclosure (OJ L 157, 15.6.2016, p. 1).</p>		
28A		<p><i>(18a) In order for the business users to benefit from the information regarding ranking parameters, the results of ranking should reflect the genuine and non-arbitrary application of those parameters and the relative importance of the parameters that the providers of online intermediation services and online search engines disclose. For example, if several business users were in a comparable situation as regards the parameters which the provider has disclosed as those determining ranking, they should be able to anticipate the ranking to reflect their similar situation vis-à-vis these parameters. [Am. 26]</i></p>	<p><u>(18a) Providers of online intermediation services or of online search engines should not be required to disclose the detailed functioning of their ranking mechanisms, including algorithms, under this Regulation. Their ability to act against bad faith manipulation of ranking by third parties, including in the interest of consumers, should equally not be impaired. A general description of the main ranking parameters should safeguard those interests, while providing business users and corporate website users with an adequate understanding of the functioning of ranking in the context of their use of specific online intermediation services or online search engines. To ensure that the objective of this</u></p>	

			<p><u>Regulation is achieved, consideration of the commercial interests of providers of online intermediation services or online search engines should therefore never lead to a refusal to disclose the main parameters determining ranking. In this regard,</u> Whilst the providers are under no circumstances required to disclose any trade secrets as defined in Directive (EU) 2016/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶ when complying with this requirement to disclose the main ranking parameters, the description given should at least be based on actual data on the relevance of the ranking parameters used. <u>Where main parameters or information on their relative importance are considered to be trade secrets, point (b) of Article 1(2) of Directive (EU) 2016/943 should apply.</u></p>	
28B		<i>(18b) Providers of online search</i>		

⁶ Directive (EU) 2016/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on the protection of undisclosed know-how and business information (trade secrets) against their unlawful acquisition, use and disclosure (OJ L 157, 15.6.2016, p. 1).

		<p><i>engines often allow the ranking of search results to be influenced against forms of remuneration paid by corporate website users. Clear details regarding such practice should be made publicly available for corporate website users and consumers to understand the effects of remuneration on ranking. Nevertheless, search results whose placement in the ranking has been influenced by forms of payment should be clearly flagged, making them easily distinguishable from other search results where remuneration was not paid. [Am. 27]</i></p>		
29.	<p>(19) Where a provider of online intermediation services itself offers certain goods or services to consumers through its own online intermediation services, or does so through a business user which it controls, that provider may compete directly with other business users of its online intermediation services which are not controlled by the provider. In such situations, in particular, it is important that the provider of</p>	<p>(19) Where a provider of online intermediation services <i>or a provider of online search engines</i> itself offers certain goods or services to consumers through its own online intermediation services, or does so through a business user which it controls, that provider may compete directly with other business users of its online intermediation services which are not controlled by the provider, <i>which may give the</i></p>	<p>(19) Where a provider of online intermediation services itself offers certain goods or services to consumers through its own online intermediation services, or does so through a business user which it controls, that provider may compete directly with other business users of its online intermediation services which are not controlled by the provider. In such situations, in particular, it is important that the provider of</p>	

	<p>online intermediation services acts in a transparent manner and provides a description of any differentiated treatment, whether through legal, commercial or technical means, that it might give in respect of goods or services it offers itself compared to those offered by business users. To ensure proportionality, this obligation should apply at the level of the overall online intermediation services, rather than at the level of individual goods or services offered through those services.</p>	<p><i>provider an economic incentive and the ability to use its control over the online intermediation service or online search engine to provide technical or economic advantages to its own offering, or those offered through a business user which it controls, which it could deny to competing business users. Such behaviour could undermine fair competition and restrict consumer choice.</i> In such situations, in particular, it is important that the provider of online intermediation services <i>or online search engine</i> acts in a transparent manner and provides a description of any differentiated treatment, whether through legal, commercial or technical means, that it might give in respect of <i>such as default settings, in relation to</i> goods or services it offers itself compared to those offered by business users. To ensure proportionality, this obligation should apply at the level of the overall <i>An</i> online intermediation services, rather than at the level of individual goods or services offered through those services <i>service or online search</i></p>	<p>online intermediation services acts in a transparent manner and provides a description of any differentiated treatment, whether through legal, commercial or technical means, that it might give in respect of goods or services it offers itself compared to those offered by business users. To ensure proportionality, this obligation should apply at the level of the overall online intermediation services, rather than at the level of individual goods or services offered through those services.</p>	
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		<p><i>engine provider's goods or services should be considered to compete with those of its business users where the good or service can be considered as interchangeable or substitutable by consumers using the online intermediation service. [Am. 28]</i></p>		
29A		<p><i>(19a) Nevertheless, any such differentiated treatment on online intermediation services should only be allowed if the provider of online intermediation services is able to objectively justify it in accordance with general principles of Union law such as proportionality, legal certainty and general principles that are inferred from the Charter of Fundamental Rights. Moreover, the differentiated treatment needs to be non-discriminatory towards all other business users that offer goods or services through the online intermediation services, and the differentiated treatment does not prevent consumers from still choosing and using the goods and services of their preference, among those competing goods</i></p>		

		<i>and services that are offered through the online intermediation service. [Am. 29]</i>		
29B		<i>(19b) Certain practices can be conclusively treated as unfair in all circumstances. These practices are listed in Annex I to this proposal. The EU Platform Observatory should continuously monitor the application and effects on the market of this list of practices and recommend updates to the Commission. [Am. 30]</i>		
30.	(20) The ability to access and use data, including personal data, can enable important value creation in the online platform economy. Accordingly, it is important that providers of online intermediation services provide business users with a clear description of the scope, nature and conditions of their access to and use of certain categories of data. The description should be proportionate and might refer to general access conditions, rather than an exhaustive identification of actual data, or categories of data, in order to	(20) The ability to access and use data, including personal data, can enable important value creation in the online platform economy. Accordingly, it is important that providers of online intermediation services provide business users with a clear description of the scope, nature and conditions of their access to and use of certain categories of data. The description should be proportionate and might refer to general access conditions, rather than an exhaustive identification of actual data, or categories of data, in order to	(20) The ability to access and use data, including personal data, can enable important value creation in the online platform economy, <u>both generally as well as for the business users and online intermediation services involved.</u> Accordingly, it is important that providers of online intermediation services provide business users with a clear description of the scope, nature and conditions of their access to and use of certain categories of data. The description should be proportionate and might refer to general access conditions,	

	<p>enable business users to understand whether they can use the data to enhance value creation, including by possibly retaining third-party data services. Processing of personal data should comply with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council.⁶</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁶Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (Text with EEA relevant) (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).</p>	<p>enable business users to understand whether they can use the data to enhance value creation, including by possibly retaining third-party data services. <i>This Regulation requires the online intermediation service providers to be transparent about what data they provide to their business users but does not establish any requirement to disseminate personal or non-personal data to the business users, with the exception of certain data related to business users' ratings and reviews, which the business users should be allowed to receive in an aggregate and anonymised form. In all cases,</i> processing of personal data should comply with <i>the Union legal framework on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data, and on respect for private life and the protection of personal data in electronic communications, in particular</i> Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the</p>	<p>rather than an exhaustive identification of actual data, or categories of data, in order to enable business users to understand whether they can use the data to enhance value creation, including by possibly retaining third-party data services. <u>Such transparency measures could contribute to increased data sharing and enhance, as a key source of innovation and growth, the aims to create a common European data space.</u> Processing of personal data should comply with <u>data protection rules of the Union, notably</u> Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council.⁷</p>	
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⁷ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (Text with EEA relevant) (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

		<p>European Parliament and of the Council [1], Directive (EU) 2016/680 of the European Parliament and of the Council [2] and Directive 2002/58/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council [3]. [Am. 31]</p> <p>[1] Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (Text with EEA relevant) (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).</p> <p>[2] Directive (EU) 2016/680 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by competent authorities for the purposes of the prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences</p>	
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		<p>or the execution of criminal penalties, and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Council Framework Decision 2008/977/JHA (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 89).</p> <p>[3] Directive 2002/58/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 2002 concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy in the electronic communications sector (Directive on privacy and electronic communications) (OJ L 201, 31.7.2002, p. 37).</p>		
30A		<p><i>(20a) In accordance with Regulation 2016/679, a consumer has the right to receive the personal data concerning him or her, which he or she has provided to a controller such as a provider of online intermediation services, in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format and have the right to transmit those data to another controller, such as a business user of a provider of online intermediation services.</i></p>		

		[Am. 32]		
30B		<p><i>(20b) Business users should be able to receive anonymised information regarding their online reputation, meaning ratings and reviews accumulated with one provider of online intermediation services, with the view to enabling business users to get a clearer understanding of their brand value and to enable them to improve their performance on the online platform. Tools should be provided for developing business users' understanding of their reputation and would be the first step to enable greater competition between business users, giving access to a wider and more informed choice to consumers.</i></p> <p>[Am. 33]</p>		
		<p><i>(20c) Several competition authorities both within and outside the Union have opened up investigations or declared their intention to do so concerning</i></p>		

30C

cases where providers of online intermediation services have used their dual position as both a marketplace and a business offering goods or services on the same marketplace to obtain or misuse a dominant position. The online intermediation service provider's access to data generated by the transactions of a business user may allow the online intermediation service provider to compete with the business user on the basis of the data. To ensure fairness, the provider of the online intermediation service should not be allowed to disclose the data generated by the transactions of a business user to third parties for commercial purposes, including within their own corporate structure, without the consent of the business user, except in cases where a provider of online intermediation services would be subject to a legal obligation to disclose data generated by the transactions of a business user.
[Am. 34]

31.	<p>(21) Providers of online intermediation services might in certain cases restrict in the terms and conditions the ability of business users to offer goods or services to consumers under more favourable conditions through other means than through those online intermediation services. In those cases, the providers concerned should set out the grounds for doing so, in particular with reference to the main economic, commercial or legal considerations for the restrictions. This transparency obligation should however not be understood as affecting the assessment of the legality of such restrictions under other acts of Union law or the law of Member States in accordance with Union law, including in the areas of competition and unfair commercial practices, and the application of such laws.</p>	<p><i>(21) Providers of online intermediation services should not restrict the ability of business users to offer the same goods and services to consumers under different or the same conditions through other intermediation services. In certain cases,</i> providers of online intermediation services might in certain cases restrict in the terms and conditions the ability of business users to offer goods or services to consumers under more favourable <i>different</i> conditions through other means than through those online intermediation services. In those cases, the providers concerned should set out the grounds for doing so, in particular with reference to the main economic, commercial or legal considerations for the restrictions. This transparency obligation should however not be understood as affecting the assessment of the legality of such restrictions under other acts of Union law or the law of Member States in accordance with Union law, including in the areas of competition and unfair commercial practices, and the</p>	<p>(21) Providers of online intermediation services might in certain cases restrict in the terms and conditions the ability of business users to offer goods or services to consumers under more favourable conditions through other means than through those online intermediation services. In those cases, the providers concerned should set out the grounds for doing so, in particular with reference to the main economic, commercial or legal considerations for the restrictions. This transparency obligation should however not be understood as affecting the assessment of the legality of such restrictions under other acts of Union law or the law of Member States in accordance with Union law, including in the areas of competition and unfair commercial practices, and the application of such laws.</p>	
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		<p>application of such laws <i>and ensure that the restriction is proportionate. Nevertheless, the restriction of the ability of business users to offer goods or services to consumers under different conditions through other means than through online intermediation services, might be prohibited or limited by the Member States in their national rules adopted in accordance with the Union law.</i> [Am. 35]</p>		
32.	<p>(22) In order to enable business users, including those whose use of the relevant online intermediation services might have been suspended or terminated, to have access to immediate, suitable and effective redress possibilities, providers of online intermediation services should provide for an internal complaint-handling system. That internal complaint-handling system should be aimed at ensuring that a significant proportion of complaints can be solved bilaterally by the provider of the online intermediation services and the relevant business</p>	<p>(22) In order to enable business users, including those whose use of the relevant online intermediation services might have been suspended or terminated, to have access to immediate, suitable and effective redress possibilities, providers of online intermediation services should provide for an internal complaint-handling system. That internal complaint-handling system should be <i>transparent, based on principles of equal treatment, non-discriminatory</i> and aimed at ensuring that a significant proportion of complaints can be</p>	<p>(22) In order to enable business users, including those whose use of the relevant online intermediation services might have been suspended or terminated, to have access to immediate, suitable and effective redress possibilities, providers of online intermediation services should provide for an internal complaint-handling system. That internal complaint-handling system should be aimed at ensuring that a significant proportion of complaints can be solved bilaterally by the provider of the online intermediation services and the relevant business</p>	

	<p>user. In addition, ensuring that providers of online intermediation services publish information on the functioning and effectiveness of their internal complaint-handling system should help business users to understand the types of issues that can arise in the context of the provision of different online intermediation services and the possibility of reaching a quick and effective bilateral resolution.</p>	<p>solved bilaterally by the provider of the online intermediation services and the relevant business user <i>in a reasonable period of time. The online intermediation service providers may maintain the decision they have taken in force during the duration of the complaint. Any attempt to reach an agreement through the internal complaint handling-mechanism does not affect the rights of</i> In addition, ensuring that providers of online intermediation services <i>or business users to initiate judicial proceedings at any time during or after the complaint handling process. In addition, providers of online intermediation services should regularly</i> publish information on the functioning and effectiveness of their internal complaint-handling system should <i>to</i> help business users to understand the <i>main</i> types of issues that can arise in the context of the provision of different online intermediation services and the possibility of reaching a quick and effective bilateral resolution. [Am. 36]</p>	<p>user. In addition, ensuring that providers of online intermediation services publish information on the functioning and effectiveness of their internal complaint-handling system should help business users to understand the types of issues that can arise in the context of the provision of different online intermediation services and the possibility of reaching a quick and effective bilateral resolution.</p>	
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33.	<p>(23) The requirements of this Regulation regarding the internal complaint-handling systems aim at allowing providers of online intermediation services a reasonable degree of flexibility when operating those systems and addressing individual complaints, so as to minimise any administrative burden. In addition, the internal complaint-handling systems should allow providers of online intermediation services to address, where necessary, in a proportionate manner any use in bad faith which certain business users might seek to make of those systems. In cases other than any alleged non-compliance with the legal obligations of this Regulation, the internal complaint-handling systems should moreover not be open to complaints involving only negligible negative effects on the business user concerned. In light of the costs of setting up and operating such systems, it is appropriate to exempt from those obligations any providers of online intermediation</p>	<p>(23) The requirements of this Regulation regarding the internal complaint-handling systems aim at allowing providers of online intermediation services a reasonable degree of flexibility when operating those systems and addressing individual complaints, so as to minimise any administrative burden. In addition, the internal complaint-handling systems should allow providers of online intermediation services to address, where necessary, in a proportionate manner any use in bad faith which certain business users might seek to make of those systems. In cases other than any alleged non-compliance with the legal obligations of this Regulation, the internal complaint-handling systems should moreover not be open to complaints involving only negligible negative effects on the business user concerned. In light of the costs of setting up and operating such systems, it is appropriate to exempt from those obligations any providers of online intermediation</p>	<p>(23) The requirements of this Regulation regarding the internal complaint-handling systems aim at allowing providers of online intermediation services a reasonable degree of flexibility when operating those systems and addressing individual complaints, so as to minimise any administrative burden. In addition, the internal complaint-handling systems should allow providers of online intermediation services to address, where necessary, in a proportionate manner any use in bad faith which certain business users might seek to make of those systems. In cases other than any alleged non-compliance with the legal obligations of this Regulation, the internal complaint-handling systems should moreover not be open to complaints involving only negligible negative effects on the business user concerned. In light of the costs of setting up and operating such systems, it is appropriate to exempt from those obligations any providers of online intermediation</p>	
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	<p>services which constitute small enterprises, in line with the relevant provisions of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC⁷.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁷Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p36).</p>	<p>services which constitute small enterprises, in line with the relevant provisions of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC⁸. [Am. 37]</p>	<p>services which constitute small enterprises, in line with the relevant provisions of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC⁹. <u>The consolidation rules laid down in this Recommendation ensure that any circumvention is prevented. This exemption should not affect the right of such enterprises to set up, on a voluntary basis, an internal complaint handling system that complies with the criteria set out in this Regulation.</u></p>	
33A		<p><i>(23a) The use of the word ‘internal’ should not be understood as preventing the delegation of an internal complaint-handling system to an external service provider or other corporate structure, as long as the operator has full authority and the ability to ensure compliance of the internal complaint-handling system with the requirements in this Regulation.</i></p>		

⁸ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p36).

⁹ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p36).

		[Am. 38]		
34.	<p>(24) Mediation can offer providers of online intermediation services and their business users a means to resolve disputes in a satisfactory manner, without having to use judicial proceedings which can be lengthy and costly. Therefore, providers of online intermediation services should facilitate mediation by, in particular, identifying mediators with which they are willing to engage. Mediators which provide their services from a location outside the Union should only be identified where it is guaranteed that the use of those services does not in any way deprive the business users concerned of any legal protection offered to them under Union law or the law of the Member States, including the requirements of this Regulation and the applicable law regarding protection of personal data and trade secrets. In order to be accessible, fair, and as swift, efficient and effective as possible, those mediators should meet certain set criteria.</p>	<p>(24) Mediation can offer providers of online intermediation services and their business users a means to resolve disputes in a satisfactory manner, without having to use judicial proceedings which can be lengthy and costly. Therefore, providers of online intermediation services should facilitate mediation by, in particular, identifying mediators with which they are willing to engage. Mediators which provide their services from a location outside the Union should only be identified where it is guaranteed that the use of those services does not in any way deprive the business users concerned of any legal protection offered to them under Union law or the law of the Member States, including the requirements of this Regulation and the applicable law regarding protection of personal data and trade secrets. In order to be accessible, fair, and as swift, efficient and effective as possible, those <i>all identified</i> mediators should meet certain set criteria.</p>	<p>(24) Mediation can offer providers of online intermediation services and their business users a means to resolve disputes in a satisfactory manner, without having to use judicial proceedings which can be lengthy and costly. Therefore, providers of online intermediation services should facilitate mediation by, in particular, identifying <u>at least two public or private</u> mediators with which they are willing to engage. <u>The minimum number of mediators to be identified aims at safeguarding the mediators' neutrality.</u> Mediators which provide their services from a location outside the Union should only be identified where it is guaranteed that the use of those services does not in any way deprive the business users concerned of any legal protection offered to them under Union law or the law of the Member States, including the requirements of this Regulation and the applicable law regarding protection of personal data and</p>	

		<p><i>Mediators should be encouraged to resolve disputes as soon as reasonably practicable. [Am. 39]</i></p>	<p>trade secrets. In order to be accessible, fair, and as swift, efficient and effective as possible, those mediators should meet certain set criteria. <u>Nonetheless, providers of online intermediation services and their business users should remain free to jointly identify any mediator of their choice after a dispute has arisen between them. In line with Directive (EU) No 2008/52 the mediation provided for in this Regulation should be a voluntary process in the sense that the parties are themselves in charge of the process and may start and terminate it at any time. Notwithstanding its voluntary nature, providers of online intermediation services should examine in good faith requests to engage in the mediation provided for in this Regulation.</u></p>	
35.	<p>(25) Providers of online intermediation services should bear a reasonable proportion of the total costs of the mediation, taking into account all relevant elements</p>	<p>(25) Providers of online intermediation services should bear a reasonable proportion of the total costs of the mediation, taking into account all relevant elements</p>	<p>(25) Providers of online intermediation services should bear a reasonable proportion of the total costs of the mediation, taking into account all relevant elements</p>	

	<p>of the case at hand. To that aim, the mediator should suggest which proportion is reasonable in the individual case. However, that proportion should never be less than half of those costs.</p>	<p>of the case at hand. To that aim, the mediator should suggest which proportion is reasonable in the individual case. However, <i>for the provider of online intermediation services</i>, that proportion should never be less than half of those costs, <i>except for where the mediator determines that the business user who has brought the case has not acted in good faith.</i> [Am. 40]</p>	<p>of the case at hand. To that aim, the mediator should suggest which proportion is reasonable in the individual case. However, that proportion should never be less than half of those costs. <u>In light of the costs and administrative burden associated with the necessity to identify mediators in terms and conditions, it is appropriate to exempt from that obligation any providers of online intermediation services which constitute small enterprises, in line with the relevant provisions of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC. The consolidation rules laid down in this Recommendation ensure that any circumvention is prevented. Nevertheless, this should not affect the right of such enterprises to identify mediators in their terms and conditions that comply with the criteria set out in this Regulation.</u></p>	
35A		<p><i>(25a) Since the providers of online intermediation services should always be required to</i></p>		

		<p><i>identify mediators with which they are willing to engage, and should be obliged to engage in mediation in good faith, the obligation of mediation should be established in a way that prevents abuse of the mediation system by business users. As such, business users should also be obliged to engage in mediation in good faith. Furthermore, where a business user has brought forward several repeated cases not leading to a resolution of the dispute, or where a business user brings forward a case on a subject on which they have previously acted in bad faith in the mediation process, the provider of the online intermediation service should not, in these exceptional cases, be obliged to engage in mediation with said business user. This exceptional situation should not limit the business user's possibility to bring forward a case for mediation where, as determined by the mediator, the subject matter of the mediation is not related to the previous cases.</i></p> <p>[Am. 41]</p>	
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36.	<p>(26) In order to facilitate the settlement of disputes relating to the provision of online intermediation services using mediation in the Union, the Commission should encourage the setting up of specialised mediation organisations, which are currently lacking. The involvement of mediators having specialist knowledge of online intermediation services and online search engines as well as of the specific industry sectors within which those services are provided should add to the confidence both parties have in the mediation process and should increase the likelihood of that process leading to a swift, just and satisfactory outcome.</p>	<p>(26) In order to facilitate the settlement of disputes relating to the provision of online intermediation services using mediation in the Union, the Commission should, <i>together with the Member States</i>, encourage the setting up of specialised mediation organisations, which are currently lacking. The involvement of mediators having specialist knowledge of online intermediation services and online search engines as well as of the specific industry sectors within which those services are provided should add to the confidence both parties have in the mediation process and should increase the likelihood of that process leading to a swift, just and satisfactory outcome. [Am. 42]</p>	<p>(26) In order to facilitate the settlement of disputes relating to the provision of online intermediation services using mediation in the Union, the Commission should encourage the setting up of specialised mediation organisations, which are currently lacking. The involvement of mediators having specialist knowledge of online intermediation services and online search engines as well as of the specific industry sectors within which those services are provided should add to the confidence both parties have in the mediation process and should increase the likelihood of that process leading to a swift, just and satisfactory outcome.</p>	<p>(26) In order to facilitate the settlement of disputes relating to the provision of online intermediation services using mediation in the Union, the Commission should, together with the Member States, encourage the setting up of specialised mediation organisations, which are currently lacking. The involvement of mediators having specialist knowledge of online intermediation services and online search engines as well as of the specific industry sectors within which those services are provided should add to the confidence both parties have in the mediation process and should increase the likelihood of that process leading to a swift, just and satisfactory outcome.</p>
37.	<p>(27) Various factors, such as limited financial means, a fear of retaliation and exclusive choice of law and forum provisions in terms and conditions, can limit the effectiveness of existing judicial redress possibilities, particularly</p>	<p>(27) Various factors, such as limited financial means, a fear of retaliation and exclusive choice of law and forum provisions in terms and conditions, can limit the effectiveness of existing judicial redress possibilities, particularly</p>	<p>(27) Various factors, such as limited financial means, a fear of retaliation and exclusive choice of law and forum provisions in terms and conditions, can limit the effectiveness of existing judicial redress possibilities, particularly</p>	

<p>those which require business users or corporate website users to act individually and identifiably. To ensure the effective application of this Regulation, organisations, associations representing business users or corporate website users, as well as certain public bodies set-up in Member States, should be granted the possibility to take action before national courts. Such action before national courts should aim to stop or prohibit infringements of the rules set out in this Regulation and to prevent future damage that could undermine sustainable business relationships in the online platform economy. In order to ensure that such organisations or associations exercise that right effectively and in an appropriate manner, they should meet certain criteria. Considering the particular status of the relevant public bodies in Member States where such bodies have been set up, it should only be required that those have been specifically charged, in accordance with the relevant rules of national law, with bringing such actions either in the collective interest of</p>	<p>those which require business users or corporate website users to act individually and identifiably. To ensure the effective application of this Regulation, organisations, associations representing business users or corporate website users, as well as certain public bodies set-up in Member States, should be granted the possibility to take action before national courts. Such action before national courts should aim to stop or prohibit infringements of the rules set out in this Regulation and to prevent future damage that could undermine sustainable business relationships <i>relationship</i> in the online platform economy, <i>including those pertaining to SMEs and microenterprises.</i> In order to ensure that such organisations or associations exercise that right effectively and in an appropriate manner, they should meet certain criteria: Considering the particular status of <i>in particular relating to transparency of funding. Member States should be required to set up or nominate such public bodies.</i> For the relevant public bodies in</p>	<p>those which require business users or corporate website users to act individually and identifiably. To ensure the effective application of this Regulation, organisations, associations representing business users or corporate website users, as well as certain public bodies set-up in Member States, should be granted the possibility to take action before national courts <u>in accordance with national law, including national procedural requirements.</u> Such action before national courts should aim to stop or prohibit infringements of the rules set out in this Regulation and to prevent future damage that could undermine sustainable business relationships in the online platform economy. In order to ensure that such organisations or associations exercise that right effectively and in an appropriate manner they should meet certain criteria. <u>In particular, they must be properly constituted according to the law of a Member State, be of a non-profit making character and pursue their objectives on a sustained basis. These requirements</u></p>	
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	<p>the parties concerned or in the general interest, without there being a need to apply those criteria to such public bodies. Any such actions should in no way affect the rights of the business users and corporate website users to take judicial action on an individual basis.</p>	<p>Member States where such bodies have been set up, it should only be required that those have been specifically charged, in accordance with the relevant rules of national law, with bringing such actions either in the collective interest of the parties concerned or in the general interest, without there being a need to apply those criteria to such public bodies. Any such actions should in no way affect the rights of the business users and corporate website users to take judicial action on an individual basis. [Am. 43]</p>	<p><u>should prevent any ad hoc constitution of organisations or associations for the purpose of a specific action or specific actions, or for the sake of making profits. Furthermore, the full and public disclosure of information on membership, governance structure and finances should prevent any undue influence by any third party providers of financing. In order to avoid a conflict of interest, organisations or associations representing business users or corporate website users should not accept financing from any providers of online intermediation services or of any online search engines.</u></p> <p>Considering the particular status of the relevant public bodies in Member States where such bodies have been set up, it should only be required that those have been specifically charged, in accordance with the relevant rules of national law, with bringing such actions either in the collective interest of the parties concerned or in the general interest, without there being a need to apply those criteria to such public bodies.</p>	
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37A		<p><i>(27a) Breaches of the provisions of this Regulation will in certain instances require a rapid and flexible enforcement. Enforcement bodies set up or nominated by Member States should be responsible for the enforcement of this Regulation in an adequate and effective manner. The enforcement bodies should be established in addition to the procedure for judicial proceedings by representative organisations, associations or public bodies set out in this Regulation. The decisions made by enforcement bodies could be challenged in judicial proceedings according to relevant national legislation. [Am. 44]</i></p>	<p><u>(27a) Organisations, associations and public bodies which, in the view of the Member States, should be qualified to bring an action according to the provisions of this Regulation, should be communicated to the Commission. In the course of such a communication, Member States should make specific reference to the relevant national provisions according to which the organisation, association or public body was constituted and, where appropriate, refer to the relevant public register in which the organisation or association is registered. This additional option of a designation by Member States should provide for a certain level of legal certainty and predictability that business users and corporate website users can rely on. At the same time, it aims at making judicial procedures more efficient and shorter, which seems appropriate in this context. The Commission should ensure the publication of a list of</u></p>	
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37B		<p><i>(27b) A close monitoring of the application of this regulation is necessary. Member States should</i></p>	<p><u>(27b) Different enforcement systems already exist in Member States, which should not be</u></p>	

		<p><i>designate national authorities to require the relevant information, which is necessary for the monitoring and enforcement of this Regulation, from providers of online intermediation services and online search engines. The information gathered by those authorities should be provided to the Commission and to the EU Platform Observatory upon request. [Am. 45]</i></p>	<p><u>obliged to set up new national enforcement bodies. Member States should have the option to entrust existing authorities, including courts, with the enforcement of this Regulation. This Regulation should not oblige Member States to provide for ex officio enforcement or to impose fines.</u></p>	
38.	<p>(28) Codes of conduct, drawn up either by the service providers concerned or by organisations or associations representing them, can contribute to the proper application of this Regulation and should therefore be encouraged. When drawing up such codes of conduct, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, account should be taken of the specific features of the sectors concerned as well as of the specific characteristics of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.</p>	<p>(28) Codes of conduct, drawn up either by the service providers concerned or by organisations or associations representing them, can contribute to the proper application of this Regulation and should therefore be encouraged. When drawing up such codes of conduct, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, account should be taken of the specific features of the sectors concerned as well as of the specific characteristics of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.</p>	<p>(28) Codes of conduct, drawn up either by the service providers concerned or by organisations or associations representing them, can contribute to the proper application of this Regulation and should therefore be encouraged. When drawing up such codes of conduct, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, account should be taken of the specific features of the sectors concerned as well as of the specific characteristics of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. <u>Such codes of conduct should therefore be worded in an objective and non-discriminatory way in order to</u></p>	

			<u>avoid unnecessary entry barriers.</u>	
38A		<i>(28a) For reasons of transparency and accountability, and due to the role and tasks foreseen, the EU Platform Observatory should be granted a role within this Regulation in addition to its establishment as an expert group established by a Commission Decision (EU) 2018/2393. The Observatory should fulfil the tasks granted to it within this Regulation independently and in the public interest and its members should consist of a wide range of independent experts that have proven competence and experience of the online platform economy to ensure this. [Am. 46]</i>		
39.	(29) The Commission should periodically evaluate this Regulation, in particular with a view to determining the need for amendments in light of relevant technological or commercial developments.	(29) The Commission should periodically evaluate this Regulation <i>and closely monitor its effects on the online platform economy</i> , in particular with a view to determining the need for amendments in light of relevant	(29) The Commission should periodically evaluate this Regulation, in particular with a view to determining the need for amendments in light of relevant technological or commercial developments. <u>In order to obtain</u>	

		<p>technological or commercial developments, <i>and following the evaluation, take appropriate measures. As the sector will be developing rapidly over the coming years, it might be appropriate for this Regulation to be followed up by further and more prescriptive legislation where and if the transparency and fairness provisions established in this Regulation would prove to be insufficient to handle future imbalances and unfair trading practices.</i> [Am. 47]</p>	<p><u>a broad view of such developments the evaluation should consider the experiences of Member States and relevant stakeholders.</u></p>	
40.	<p>(30) When providing the information required under this Regulation, account should be taken as much as possible of the particular needs of persons with disabilities, in line with the objectives of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁸.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁸United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), available at:</p>	<p>(30) When providing the information required under this Regulation, account should be taken as much as possible of the particular needs of persons with disabilities, in line with the objectives of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁸.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁸United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), available at:</p>	<p>(30) When providing the information required under this Regulation, account should be taken as much as possible of the particular needs of persons with disabilities, in line with the objectives of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁸.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁸United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), available at: https://www.un.org/development/d</p>	

	https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html	https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html	esa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html	
41.	(31) As the objective of this Regulation, namely to ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, but can rather, by reason of its scale and effects, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective.	(31) As the objective of this Regulation, namely to ensure a clear , fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, but can rather, by reason of its scale and effects, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective. [Am. 48]	(31) As the objective of this Regulation, namely to regulate <u>specific aspects of transparency and redress in order to</u> ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, but can rather, by reason of its scale and effects, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective.	
42.	(32) It is appropriate to clarify that this Regulation should not affect the application of the relevant rules of Union law applicable in the areas of judicial cooperation in	(32) It is appropriate to clarify that this Regulation should not affect the application of the relevant rules of Union law applicable in the areas such as of judicial	(32) It is appropriate to clarify that this Regulation should not affect the application of the relevant rules of Union law applicable in the areas of judicial cooperation in	

	civil matters, competition, consumer protection, electronic commerce and financial services.	cooperation in civil matters, competition, consumer protection, electronic commerce and financial services <i>and is without prejudice to national rules which, in conformity with Union law, regulate unfair commercial practices.</i> [Am. 49]	civil matters, competition, consumer protection, electronic commerce and financial services.	
43.	(33) This Regulation seeks to ensure full respect for the right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial and promote the application of the freedom to provide a business, laid down in Article 47 and Article 16 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union respectively.	(33) This Regulation seeks to ensure full respect for the right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial and promote the application of the freedom to provide a business, laid down in Article 47 and Article 16 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union respectively.	(33) This Regulation seeks to ensure full respect for the right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial and promote the application of the freedom to provide a business, laid down in Article 47 and Article 16 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union respectively.	
	COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL	EP AMENDMENTS	COUNCIL AMENDMENTS	COMPROMISE PROPOSALS
44.	HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:	HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:	HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:	
45.	Article 1	Article 1	Article 1	

	Subject-matter and scope	Subject-matter and scope	Subject-matter and scope	
46.	1. This Regulation lays down rules to ensure that business users of online intermediation services and corporate website users in relation to online search engines are granted appropriate transparency and effective redress possibilities.	1. This Regulation lays down rules to ensure that business users of online intermediation services and corporate website users in relation to online search engines are granted appropriate transparency, <i>fairness</i> , and effective redress possibilities. [Am. 50]	1. <u>The purpose of this Regulation is to contribute to the proper functioning of the internal market by</u> the layings down rules to ensure that business users of online intermediation services and corporate website users in relation to online search engines are granted appropriate transparency and effective redress possibilities.	<u>GA</u>
47.	2. This Regulation shall apply to online intermediation services and online search engines provided, or offered to be provided, to business users and corporate website users, respectively, that have their place of establishment or residence in the Union and that, through online intermediation services or online search engines, offer goods or services to consumers located in the Union, irrespective of the place of establishment or residence of	2. This Regulation shall apply to online intermediation services and online search engines provided, or offered to be provided, to business users and corporate website users, respectively, that have their place of establishment or residence in the Union and that, through online intermediation services or online search engines, offer goods or services to consumers located in the Union, irrespective of the place of establishment or residence of	2. This Regulation shall apply to online intermediation services and online search engines provided, or offered to be provided, to business users and corporate website users, respectively, that have their place of establishment or residence in the Union and that, through online intermediation services or online search engines, offer goods or services to consumers located in the Union, irrespective of the place of establishment or residence of	<u>GA</u>

	the providers of those services.	the providers of those services <i>and irrespective of the law otherwise applicable.</i> [Am. 51]	the providers of those services <u>and irrespective of the law otherwise applicable.</u>	
47A		<i>2a. The obligations set out on the providers of online intermediation services in this Regulation shall apply to providers of ancillary operating systems when an operating system in itself acts as an online intermediation service within the meaning of Article 2(2).</i> [Am. 52]		<u>GA</u>
47B		<i>2b. This Regulation shall not apply to online payment services or to online advertising serving tools or online advertising exchanges which are not provided with the aim of the facilitating the initiation of direct transactions and which do not involve a contractual relationship with consumers.</i> [Am. 53]		<u>2b. This Regulation shall not apply to online payment services or to online advertising tools or online advertising exchanges which are not provided with the aim of the facilitating the initiation of direct transactions and which do not involve a contractual relationship with consumers.</u>
47C		<i>2c. This Regulation shall be without prejudice to Union law, and national rules which, in conformity with Union law, regulate unfair commercial practices.</i> [Am. 54]		<u>GA</u>

47D			<p><u>3. This Regulation shall be without prejudice to national rules which, in conformity with Union law, prohibit or sanction unilateral conduct or unfair commercial practices. This Regulation shall not affect national civil law, in particular contract law, such as the rules on the validity, formation, effects or termination of a contract, in so far as the national civil law rules are in conformity with Union law and to the extent that the relevant aspects are not covered by the provisions of this Regulation.</u></p>	GA
47E			<p><u>4. This Regulation shall be without prejudice to Union law applicable in the areas of judicial cooperation in civil matters, competition, data protection, trade secrets protection, consumer protection, electronic commerce and financial services.</u></p>	<p><u>4. This Regulation shall be without prejudice to Union law applicable in the areas of judicial cooperation in civil matters, competition, data protection, trade secrets, consumer protection, electronic commerce and financial services.</u></p>
48.		Article 2	Article 2	Article 2

	Article 2 Definitions	Definitions	Definitions	Definitions
49.	For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:	For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:	For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:	<u>GA</u>
50.	(1) 'business user' means any natural or legal person which through online intermediation services offers goods or services to consumers for purposes relating to its trade, business, craft or profession;	(1) 'business user' means any natural or legal person which through online intermediation services offers goods or services to consumers for purposes relating to its trade, business, craft or profession, including private individuals personally acting as traders via online intermediation services ; [Am. 55]	(1) 'business user' means any natural or legal person which through online intermediation services offers goods or services to consumers for purposes relating to its trade, business, craft or profession;	<u>GA - to clarify EP concerns in a recital, developing on the notion of natural person acting for commercial purposes.</u>
51.	(2) 'online intermediation services' means services which meet all of the following requirements:	(2) 'online intermediation services' means services which meet all of the following requirements:	(2) 'online intermediation services' means services which meet all of the following requirements:	<u>GA</u>
52.	(a) they constitute information society services within the meaning of Article 1(1)(b) of Directive (EU) No 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the	(a) they constitute information society services within the meaning of Article 1(1)(b) of Directive (EU) No 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the	(a) they constitute information society services within the meaning of Article 1(1)(b) of	<u>GA</u>

	<p>Council⁹;</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁹Directive (EU) 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 September 2015 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical regulations and of rules on Information Society services (OJ L 241, 17.9.2015, p. 1).</p>	<p>Council⁹;</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁹Directive (EU) 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 September 2015 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical regulations and of rules on Information Society services (OJ L 241, 17.9.2015, p. 1).</p>	<p>Directive (EU) No 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹;</p> <p>_____</p> <p>⁹Directive (EU) 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 September 2015 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical regulations and of rules on Information Society services (OJ L 241, 17.9.2015, p. 1).</p>	
53.	<p>(b) they allow business users to offer goods or services to consumers, with a view to facilitating the initiating of direct transactions between those business users and consumers, irrespective of where those transactions are ultimately concluded;</p>	<p>(b) they allow business users to offer goods or services to consumers, with a view to facilitating the initiating of direct transactions between those business users and consumers, irrespective of where those transactions are ultimately concluded, <i>unless the service of facilitating the initiating of direct transactions between those business users and consumers is of marginal character only</i>; [Am. 56]</p>	<p>(b) they allow business users to offer goods or services to consumers, with a view to facilitating the initiating of direct transactions between those business users and consumers, irrespective of where those transactions are ultimately concluded;</p>	<u>GA</u>
54.	<p>(c) they are provided to business users on the basis of contractual relationships between, on the one</p>	<p>(c) they are provided to business users on the basis of contractual relationships between, on the one</p>	<p>(c) they are provided to business users on the basis of contractual</p>	<u>GA</u>

	hand, the provider of those services and, on the other hand, both those business users and the consumers to which those business users offer goods or services;	hand, the provider of those services and, on the other hand, both those business users and the consumers to which those business users offer goods or services;	relationships between, on the one hand, the provider of those services and, on the other hand, both those business users, <u>which offer goods or services to consumers</u> and the consumers to which those business users offer goods or services;	
55.	(3) 'provider of online intermediation services' means any natural or legal person which provides, or which offers to provide, online intermediation services to business users;	(3) 'provider of online intermediation services' means any natural or legal person which provides, or which offers to provide, online intermediation services to business users;	(3) 'provider of online intermediation services' means any natural or legal person which provides, or which offers to provide, online intermediation services to business users;	<u>GA</u>
55A		<i>(3a) 'ancillary operating systems' means software, which meets all of the following requirements:</i>		<u>GA</u>
55B		<i>(a) the ancillary operating system ensures the essential basic operating of a mobile device or a connected speaker;</i>		<u>GA</u>
55C		<i>(b)it is closely linked to an online intermediation service which controls the main channel through which applications can</i>		<u>GA</u>

		<i>be installed on the operating system;</i>		
55D		<i>(c) the development and updating of the operating system is provided or controlled by the provider of the linked online intermediation service, either directly or indirectly; [Am. 57]</i>		<u>GA</u>
55E		<i>(3b) 'provider of ancillary operating systems' means any natural or legal person which provides, or which offers to provide, ancillary operating systems; [Am. 58]</i>		<u>GA</u>
56.	(4) 'consumer' means any natural person who is acting for purposes which are outside his or her trade, business, craft or profession;	(4) 'consumer' means any natural person who is acting for purposes which are outside his or her trade, business, craft or profession;	(4) 'consumer' means any natural person who is acting for purposes which are outside his or her trade, business, craft or profession;	<u>GA</u>
57.	(5) 'online search engine' means a digital service that allows users to perform searches of, in principle, all websites or websites in a particular language on the basis of a query on any subject in the form of a keyword, phrase or other input, and returns links in which information related to the requested content can be found;	(5) 'online search engine' means a digital service that allows users to input queries and perform searches of, in principle, all websites or websites in a particular language on the basis of a query on any subject in the form of a keyword, vocal request , phrase or other input, and returns links output in which information related to the requested content can	(5) 'online search engine' means a digital service that allows users to perform searches of, in principle, all websites or websites in a particular language on the basis of a query on any subject in the form of a keyword, phrase or other input, and returns links results in any format in which information related to the requested content can	(5) 'online search engine' means a digital service that allows users to input queries in order to perform searches of, in principle, all websites or all websites in a particular language on the basis of a query on any subject in the form of a keyword, voice request , phrase or other input, and returns links results in any format in

		be found; [Am. 59]	be found;	which information related to the requested content can be found;
58.	(6) 'provider of online search engine' means any natural or legal person which provides, or which offers to provide, online search engines to consumers;	(6) 'provider of online search engine' means any natural or legal person which provides, or which offers to provide, online search engines to consumers;	(6) 'provider of online search engine' means any natural or legal person which provides, or which offers to provide, online search engines to consumers;	<u>GA</u>
59.	(7) 'corporate website user' means any natural or legal person which uses websites to offer goods or services to consumers for purposes relating to its trade, business, craft or profession;	(7) 'corporate website user' means any natural or legal person which uses websites <i>an online interface, meaning any software and including websites and mobile applications,</i> to offer goods or services to consumers for purposes relating to its trade, business, craft or profession; [Am. 60]	(7) 'corporate website user' means any natural or legal person which uses websites <u>an online interface, meaning any software, including a website or a part thereof and applications, including mobile applications,</u> to offer goods or services to consumers for purposes relating to its trade, business, craft or profession;	<u>GA</u>
60.	(8) 'ranking' means the relative prominence given to the goods or services offered to consumers by business users through online intermediation services, or to websites indexed for consumers by online search engines, as presented, organised or communicated to those consumers	(8) 'ranking' means the relative prominence given to the goods or services offered to consumers by business users through online intermediation services, or to websites indexed for consumers by online search engines, as presented, organised or communicated to those consumers	(8) 'ranking' means the relative prominence given to the goods or services offered to consumers by business users through online intermediation services, or to websites indexed for <u>relevance given to consumers search results</u> by online search engines, as presented, organised or	<u>GA</u>

	by the providers of online intermediation services or by providers of online search engines, respectively, irrespective of the technological means used for such presentation, organisation or communication;	by the providers of online intermediation services or by providers of online search engines, respectively, irrespective of the technological means used for such presentation, organisation or communication; [Am. 61]	communicated to those consumers by the providers of online intermediation services or by providers of online search engines, respectively, irrespective of the technological means used for such presentation, organisation or communication;	
61.	(9) 'control' means ownership of, or the ability to exercise decisive influence over, an undertaking, within the meaning of Article 3(2) of Council Regulation (EC) 139/2004 ¹⁰ ; _____ ¹⁰ Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 of 20 January 2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings (the EC Merger Regulation) (OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1).	(9) 'control' means ownership of, or the ability to exercise decisive influence over, an undertaking, within the meaning of Article 3(2) of Council Regulation (EC) 139/2004 ¹⁰ ; ===== ¹⁰ Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 of 20 January 2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings (the EC Merger Regulation) (OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1). (9) 'control' means ownership of, or the ability to exercise decisive influence over, an undertaking, within the meaning of Article 3(2) of Council Regulation (EC) 139/2004	(9) 'control' means ownership of, or the ability to exercise decisive influence over, an undertaking, within the meaning of Article 3(2) of Council Regulation (EC) 139/2004 ¹⁰ ;	<u>GA</u>
62.	(10) 'terms and conditions' means all terms, conditions, clauses and other information, irrespective of their name or form, which govern	(10) 'terms and conditions' means all terms, conditions, clauses and other information, irrespective of their name or form, which govern	(10) 'terms and conditions' means all terms, and conditions, clauses and other information or specifications , irrespective of their	<u>GA</u>

	the contractual relationship between the provider of online intermediation services and their business users and are unilaterally determined by the provider of online intermediation services.	the contractual relationship between the provider of online intermediation services and their business users and are unilaterally determined by the provider of online intermediation services. [Am. 62]	name or form, which govern the contractual relationship between the provider of online intermediation services and their business users and are unilaterally determined by the provider of online intermediation services.	
62A		<i>(10a) 'ancillary goods and services' means goods and services offered to the consumer prior to the completion of a transaction initiated on the online intermediation service in addition to and as complementary to the primary good or service offered by the business user through the online intermediation service.</i> [Am. 63]		<u>(10a) 'ancillary goods and services' means goods and services offered to the consumer prior to the completion of a transaction initiated on the online intermediation service in addition to and as complementary to the primary good or service offered by the business user through the online intermediation service.</u> <i>The notion of “ancillary goods and services” to be properly exemplified in a recital.</i>
62B		<i>(10b) 'mediation' means any structured process as defined in Article 3(a) of Directive (EU)</i>		<i>See row 62D</i> <i>(Check (10b) against Council text (11))</i>

		<p><i>2008/52 of the European Parliament and the Council</i>[1]; [Am. 64]</p> <p>_____</p> <p>[1] Directive 2008/52/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters (OJ L 136, 24.5.2008, p.3).</p>		
62C		<p><i>(10c) "EU Platform Observatory" means the EU Observatory on the Online Platform Economy established in accordance with Commission Decision C(2018)2393.</i> [Am. 65]</p>		
62D			<p><u>(11) ‘mediation’ means any structured process as defined in Article 3(a) of Directive (EU) 2008/52 of the European Parliament and of the Council on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters.</u></p>	<i>GA</i>
62E			<p><u>(12) ‘durable medium’ means any instrument which enables business users to store information addressed personally to them in a way</u></p>	<i>GA</i>

			<u>accessible for future reference and for a period of time adequate for the purposes of the information and allows the unchanged reproduction of the information stored.</u>	
62F		<i>Article 2 a Anti-circumvention obligations</i>		<u>GA</u>
62G		<i>Providers of online intermediation services shall not use any software or services, including ancillary operating systems, which they provide themselves or they control, to circumvent the obligations laid down on the providers of online intermediation services within this Regulation. [Am. 66]</i>		<u>GA</u>
63.			<i>(row moved up to row 62D -(11) <u>Council definition of ‘mediation’</u> provisionally, to be corrected and renumbered in next version of the 4col.doc.)</i>	

64.			<i>(row moved up to row 62E Council definition of ‘durable medium’ provisionally, to be corrected and renumbered in next version of the 4col.doc.)</i>	
65.	Article 3 Terms and conditions	Article 3 Terms and conditions	Article 3 <u>Predictability of Terms and conditions</u>	Article 3 <u>Predictability of Terms and conditions</u>
64	(1) Providers of online intermediation services shall ensure that their terms and conditions:	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall ensure that their terms and conditions:	(1) Providers of online intermediation services shall ensure that their terms and conditions:	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall ensure that their terms and conditions:
66.		<i>(-a) include only fair and proportionate clauses; [Am. 67]</i>		<i>GA</i>
67.	(a) are drafted in clear and unambiguous language;	(a) are drafted in clear and unambiguous <i>intelligible</i> language; [Am. 68]	(a) are drafted in plain and intelligible clear and unambiguous language;	<i>GA</i>
68.	(b) are easily available for business users at all stages of their commercial relationship with the provider of online intermediation services, including in the pre-	(b) are easily available for business users at all stages of their commercial relationship with the provider of online intermediation services, including in the pre-	(b) are easily available for business users at all stages of their commercial relationship with the provider of online intermediation services, including in the pre-	<i>GA</i>

	contractual stage;	contractual stage;	contractual stage;	
69.	(c) set out the objective grounds for decisions to suspend or terminate, in whole or in part, the provision of their online intermediation services to business users.	(c) set out the objective <i>non-discriminatory</i> grounds for decisions to suspend or terminate <i>or impose any other kind of restriction upon</i> , in whole or in part, the provision of their online intermediation services to business users; [Am. 69]	(c) set out the objective grounds for decisions to suspend or terminate, in whole or in part, the provision of their online intermediation services to business users.	<u>GA</u>
69A		<i>(ca) include information on any additional distribution channels and potential affiliate programmes through which the provider of online intermediation services might distribute goods and services offered by the business user; [Am. 70]</i>		<u>(ca) include information on any additional distribution channels and potential affiliate programmes through which the provider of online intermediation services might distribute goods and services offered by the business user;</u>
69B		<i>(cb) include general information regarding the effects of the terms and conditions on the ownership and control of intellectual property rights. [Am. 71]</i>		<u>(cb) include general information regarding the effects of the terms and conditions on the ownership and control of intellectual property rights.</u>
70.	2. Terms and conditions, or specific provisions thereof, which do not comply with the requirements of paragraph 1 shall	2. Terms and conditions, or specific provisions thereof, which do not comply with the requirements of paragraph 1 shall	2. Terms and conditions, or specific provisions thereof, which do not comply with the requirements of paragraph 1 shall	<u>See row 74</u>

	not be binding on the business user concerned where such non-compliance is established by a competent court.	not be binding on the business user concerned be null and void where such non-compliance is established by a competent court. [Am. 72]	not be binding on the business user concerned where such non-compliance is established by a competent court.	
71.	3. Providers of online intermediation services shall notify to the business users concerned any envisaged modification of their terms and conditions.	3. Providers of online intermediation services shall notify on a durable medium to the business users concerned any envisaged modification of their terms and conditions. [Am. 73]	3. Providers of online intermediation services shall notify on a durable medium to the business users concerned any envisaged proposed modification of their terms and conditions.	<u>GA</u>
72.	The envisaged modifications shall not be implemented before the expiry of a notice period which is reasonable and proportionate to the nature and extent of the envisaged modifications and to their consequences for the business user concerned. That notice period shall be at least 15 days from the date on which the provider of online intermediation services notifies the business users concerned about the envisaged modifications.	The envisaged modifications shall not be implemented before the expiry of a notice period which is reasonable and proportionate to the nature and extent of the envisaged modifications and to their consequences for the business user concerned. That notice period shall be at least 15 days from the date on which the provider of online intermediation services notifies the business users concerned about the envisaged modifications. Where the modifications require the business user to make significant technical adjustments to its goods or services, this period shall be at least 30 days. The business user	The envisaged proposed modifications shall not be implemented before the expiry of a notice period which is reasonable and proportionate to the nature and extent of the envisaged modifications and to their consequences for the business user concerned. That notice period shall be at least 15 days from the date on which the provider of online intermediation services notifies the business users concerned about the envisaged proposed modifications.	The envisaged proposed modifications shall not be implemented before the expiry of a notice period which is reasonable and proportionate to the nature and extent of the envisaged modifications and to their consequences for the business user concerned. That notice period shall be at least 15 days from the date on which the provider of online intermediation services notifies the business users concerned about the envisaged proposed modifications. Providers of online intermediation services shall grant longer periods when this is necessary to allow business users

		<i>shall be allowed to terminate their agreement within 15 days from the receipt of the notice, where such modifications are detrimental to the business user.</i> [Am. 74]		<u>to make technical or commercial adaptations to comply with the modifications.</u> <u>The business user shall be allowed to terminate their agreement within 15 days from the receipt of the notice, unless a shorter period applies to the contract.</u> <u>The business user concerned may, either by means of a written statement or a clear affirmative action, waive the notice period referred to in the second subparagraph at any moment after the notification.</u>
73.	The business user concerned may, either by means of a written statement or a clear affirmative action, waive the notice period referred to in the second subparagraph.	The business user concerned may, either by means of a written statement or a clear affirmative action, waive the notice period referred to in the second subparagraph.	The business user concerned may, either by means of a written statement or a clear affirmative action, waive the notice period referred to in the second subparagraph <u>at any moment after the notification.</u>	The business user concerned may, either by means of a written statement or a clear affirmative action, waive the notice period referred to in the second subparagraph <u>at any moment after the notification.</u>
73A		<i>During the 15 days' notice period, submitting new or updating goods or services on the online intermediation service shall be</i>		<u>During the notice period, submitting new goods or services on the online intermediation service shall be considered clear</u>

		<i>considered clear affirmative action to waive the notice period.</i>		<u>affirmative action to waive the notice period, except for in cases where the reasonable and proportionate notice period is longer than 15 days because the modifications to the terms and conditions require the business user to make significant technical adjustments to its goods or services. In such cases, the notice period shall not be considered automatically waived where the business user submits new goods and services.</u>
73B		<i>In cases where the notice period is 30 days because the modifications to the terms and conditions require the business user to make significant technical adjustments to its goods or services, the notice period shall not be considered automatically waived where the business user submits new or updates goods and services. [Am. 75]</i>		<i>See proposal in row 73a, row 73b would be left empty</i>
74.	4. Modifications to terms and conditions implemented by a provider of online intermediation services contrary to the provisions of paragraph 3 shall be null and void.	4. Modifications to terms and conditions implemented by a provider of online intermediation services contrary to the provisions of paragraph 3 shall be null and void.	3. Modifications to terms and conditions implemented by a provider of online intermediation services contrary to the provisions of paragraph 3 shall be null and void. <u>Terms and conditions, or</u>	3. Modifications to terms and conditions implemented by a provider of online intermediation services contrary to the provisions of paragraph 3 shall be null and void. <u>Terms and conditions, or</u>

			<u>specific provisions thereof, which do not comply with the requirements of paragraph 1 as well as modifications to terms and conditions implemented by a provider of online intermediation services contrary to the provisions of paragraph 2 shall be non-binding on the business user concerned.</u>	<u>specific provisions thereof, which do not comply with the requirements of paragraph 1 as well as modifications to terms and conditions implemented by a provider of online intermediation services contrary to the provisions of paragraph 2 shall be non-binding null and void.</u>
75.	5. Paragraph 3 shall not apply where a provider of online intermediation services is subject to a legal obligation which requires it to modify its terms and conditions in a manner which does not allow it to respect the notice period referred to in the second subparagraph of paragraph 3.	5. The notice periods set out in paragraph 3 shall not apply where a provider of online intermediation services is:	4. Paragraph 3 shall not apply w 4. Where a provider of online intermediation services is subject to a legal regulatory obligation which requires it to modify its terms and conditions in a manner which does not allow it to respect the notice period referred to in the second subparagraph of paragraph 3 2, this notice period shall not apply.	4. The notice period set out in paragraph 3 shall not apply where a provider of online intermediation services:
76.		(a) subject to a legal obligation which requires it to modify its terms and conditions in a manner which does not allow it to respect the notice period periods referred to in the second subparagraph of		(a) is subject to a legal regulatory obligation which requires it to modify its terms and conditions in a manner which does not allow it to respect the notice period referred to in the second

		paragraph 3;		subparagraph of paragraph 3;
76A		<i>(b) addressing unforeseen and imminent danger which could harm or pose security problems for online intermediation services, their consumers or other users, including in connection with fraud, malware, spam, data breaches or other cybersecurity risks. [Am. 76]</i>		(b) has to exceptionally modify their terms and conditions to address an unforeseen and imminent danger related to defending the online intermediation services, their consumers or other business users from fraud, malware, spam, data breaches or other cybersecurity risks.
76B		<i>5a. The providers of online intermediation services shall ensure that the brand attributed to business users and their goods and services is recognizable throughout the entire intermediation process. [Am. 77]</i>		5a. The providers of online intermediation services shall ensure that the identity of the business user providing the goods or services on the online intermediation service is clearly visible.
77.	Article 4 Suspension and termination	Article 4 Suspension, <i>restrictions</i> and termination [Am. 78]	Article 4 Suspension and termination	Article 4 Restrictions , suspension, and termination
78.	1. Where a provider of online intermediation services decides to suspend or terminate, in whole or	1. Where a provider of online intermediation services decides to suspend, <i>restrict</i> or terminate, in	1. Where a provider of online intermediation services decides to suspend or terminate, in whole or	1. Where a provider of online intermediation services decides to suspend or restrict the

	<p>in part, the provision of its online intermediation services to a given business user, it shall provide the business user concerned, without undue delay, with a statement of reasons for that decision.</p>	<p>whole or in part, the provision of its online intermediation services to a given business user, it shall provide <i>inform</i> the business user concerned <i>at least 15 days before implementing that decision, and provide the business user</i>, without undue delay, with a statement of reasons for that decision. [Am. 79]</p>	<p>in part, the provision of its online intermediation services to a given business user, it shall provide the business user concerned, undue delay, with a statement of reasons for that decision.</p> <p><u>1. Where a provider of online intermediation services decides to suspend the provision of its online intermediation services to a given business user in relation to individual goods or services offered by that business user, it shall provide the business user concerned, prior to or at the time of the suspension taking effect, with a statement of reasons for that decision on a durable medium.</u></p>	<p><u>provision of its online intermediation services to a given business user in relation to individual goods or services offered by that business user, it shall provide the business user concerned, prior to or at the time of the suspension or restriction taking effect, with a statement of reasons for that decision on a durable medium.</u></p> <p><u>2. Where a provider of online intermediation services decides to terminate the provision of the whole of its online intermediation services to a given business user, it shall provide the business user concerned, at least 30 days prior to the termination taking effect, with a statement of reasons for that decision on a durable medium.</u></p>
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78A		<i>1a. Paragraph 1 shall not apply where:</i>		<u>See row 79 C</u>
78B		<i>(a) a provider of online intermediation services is subject to a legal obligation to suspend, restrict or terminate, in whole or in part, the provision of its online intermediation services to a given business user;</i>		
78C		<i>(b) a provider of online intermediation services acts to protect consumers on the basis of a reasonable doubt regarding illicit content, the safety of a product or service, counterfeiting, fraud, or suitability of the product or service to minors;</i>		
78D		<i>(c) a provider of online intermediation services can demonstrate that the business user concerned has repeatedly infringed the applicable terms and conditions, resulting in their suspension, restriction or termination.</i>		
78E		<i>In such cases, the business user shall immediately be provided</i>		

		<i>with a statement of reasons. [Am. 80]</i>		
79.	2. The statement of reasons referred to in paragraph 1 shall contain a reference to the specific facts or circumstances that led to the decision of the provider of online intermediation services, as well as a reference to the applicable objective ground or grounds for that decision referred to in Article 3(1)(c).	2. The statement of reasons referred to in paragraph 1 <i>or 1a</i> shall contain a reference to the specific facts or circumstances that led to the decision of the provider of online intermediation services, as well as a reference to the applicable objective <i>non-discriminatory</i> ground or grounds for that decision referred to in Article 3(1)(c). <i>Where the suspension, restriction or termination results from a third party notification, the contents of said notification shall be included in the statement of reasons. [Am. 81]</i>	2. The statement of reasons referred to in paragraph 1 shall contain a reference to the specific facts or circumstances that led to the decision of the provider of online intermediation services, as well as a reference to the applicable grounds for that decision referred to in Article 3(1)(c). <u>2. Where a provider of online intermediation services decides to terminate the provision of the whole of its online intermediation services to a given business user, it shall provide the business user concerned, at least 30 days prior to the termination taking effect, with a statement of reasons for that decision on a durable medium.</u>	<i>See row 79 F and G</i>
79A		<i>2a. Paragraph 2 shall not apply where a provider of online intermediation services is subject to a legal obligation not to provide</i>		

		<p><i>the specific facts or circumstances or the reference to the applicable ground or grounds, or where a provider of online intermediation services can demonstrate that the business user concerned has repeatedly infringed the applicable terms and conditions, resulting in their suspension, restriction or termination. [Am. 82]</i></p>		
79B		<p><i>2b. Termination, restriction and suspension shall be, where possible and proportionate, preceded by a notification and opportunity to clarify or re-establish compliance. Where a suspension, restriction or termination are based on a correctable infringement of terms and conditions and not committed in bad faith, provider of online intermediation services shall seek to reinstate the business user as soon as the non-compliance is corrected. Where a suspension or termination is found to be in error, the business user shall be reinstated without delay and under the same conditions as before the suspension, restriction</i></p>		<p><u>To further discuss with EP and eventually to be placed in a recital</u></p>

		<i>or termination.</i> [Am. 83]		
79C			<u>3. The notice period in paragraph 2 shall not apply where a provider of online intermediation services:</u>	<u>2. The notice period in paragraph 2 shall not apply where a provider of online intermediation services:</u>
79D			<u>(a) is subject to a regulatory obligation which requires it to terminate the provision of the whole of its online intermediation services to a given business user in a manner which does not allow it to respect this notice period, or</u>	<u>(a) is subject to a regulatory obligation which requires it to terminate the provision of the whole of its online intermediation services to a given business user in a manner which does not allow it to respect this notice period, or</u>
79E			<u>(b) exercises a right of termination under an imperative reason pursuant to national law which is in compliance with Union law.</u>	<u>b) exercises a right of termination under an imperative reason pursuant to national law which is in compliance with Union law.</u> <u>c) a provider of online intermediation services acts to protect consumers and other users including in connection with regarding illicit or inappropriate content, the safety of a product or service,</u>

			<p><u>counterfeiting, fraud, malware, spam, data breaches, other cybersecurity risks or suitability of the product or service to minors</u></p> <p><u>d) can demonstrate that the business user concerned has repeatedly infringed the applicable terms and conditions, resulting in their termination of the provision of the whole of the online intermediation services in question.</u></p>
79F		<p><u>The provider of online intermediation services shall provide the business user concerned, without undue delay, with a statement of reasons for that decision on a durable medium.</u></p>	<p><u>In cases where the notice period in paragraph 2 does not apply, the provider of online intermediation services shall provide the business user concerned, without undue delay, with a statement of reasons for that decision on a durable medium.</u></p>
79G		<p><u>4. The statement of reasons referred to in paragraph 1 and 2 shall contain a reference to the specific facts or circumstances</u></p>	<p><u>4. The statement of reasons referred to in paragraph 1 and 2 shall contain a reference to the specific facts or circumstances,</u></p>

			<u>that led to the decision of the provider of online intermediation services, as well as a reference to the applicable grounds for that decision referred to in Article 3(1)(c).</u>	<u>[including content of third party notifications], that led to the decision of the provider of online intermediation services, as well as a reference to the applicable grounds for that decision referred to in Article 3(1)(c).</u>
80.	Article 5 Ranking	Article 5 Ranking	Article 5 Ranking	Article 5 Ranking
81.	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall set out in their terms and conditions the main parameters determining ranking and the reasons for the relative importance of those main parameters as opposed to other parameters.	<i>1. Without prejudice to paragraph 4, providers of online intermediation services shall set out in their terms and conditions the main parameters determining ranking and the reasons for the relative importance of those main parameters as opposed to other parameters. Where disclosure of all parameters in the terms and conditions is not technologically possible or would have the effect of disclosing weighting of all individual parameters, only the main parameters and the reasons for their relative importance shall be presented. [Am. 84]</i>	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall set out in their terms and conditions the main parameters determining ranking and the reasons for the relative importance of those main parameters as opposed to other parameters.	<u>GA</u>

81A		<i>Providers of online intermediation services shall ensure that ranking reflects the non-arbitrary application of the disclosed ranking parameters and their relative importance. [Am. 85]</i>		<u>GA</u>
82.	Where those main parameters include the possibility to influence ranking against any direct or indirect remuneration paid by business users to the provider of online intermediation services concerned, that provider of online intermediation services shall also include in its terms and conditions a description of those possibilities and of the effects of such remuneration on ranking.	Where those main parameters include the possibility to influence ranking against any direct or indirect remuneration paid by business users to the provider of online intermediation services concerned, that provider of online intermediation services shall also include in its terms and conditions a description of those possibilities and of the effects of such remuneration on ranking. [Am. 86]	Where those main parameters include the possibility to influence ranking against any direct or indirect remuneration paid by business users to the provider of online intermediation services concerned, that provider of online intermediation services shall also include in its terms and conditions a description of those possibilities and of the effects of such remuneration on ranking.	<u>GA</u>
82A		<i>When displaying the results, the provider of online intermediation service shall disclose close to each ranking whether and to what extent it has been influenced by differentiated treatment, or by any direct or indirect remuneration, contractual or direct ownership relations. [Am. 87]</i>		<u>GA</u>

83.	2. Providers of online search engines shall set out for corporate website users the main parameters determining ranking, by providing an easily and publicly available description, drafted in clear and unambiguous language on the online search engines of those providers. They shall keep that description up to date.	2. Without prejudice to paragraph 4, providers of online search engines shall set out for corporate website users the main parameters determining ranking and the reasons for the relative importance of those parameters, by providing an easily and publicly available description, drafted in clear and unambiguous intelligible language on the online search engines of those providers. They shall keep that description up to date. Where disclosure of all parameters in the terms and conditions is not technologically possible or would have the effect of disclosing weighting of all individual parameters, only the main parameters and the reasons for their relative importance shall be presented.	2. Providers of online search engines shall set out for corporate website users the main parameters determining ranking and the relative importance of those main parameters as opposed to other parameters; by providing an easily and publicly available description, drafted in plain and intelligible clear and unambiguous language on the online search engines of those providers. They shall keep that description up to date.	<u>GA</u>
83A		Providers of online search engines shall ensure that ranking reflects the non-arbitrary application of the disclosed ranking parameters and their relative importance.		<u>GA</u>
83B		Where the main parameters include the possibility to		<u>GA</u>

		<i>influence ranking against any direct or indirect remuneration paid by business users or corporate website users to the respective provider, that provider shall also set out a description of those possibilities and of the effects of such remuneration on ranking.</i>		
83C		<i>When displaying the results, the provider of online search engine shall disclose close to each ranking whether and to what extent it has been influenced by differentiated treatment, including differentiated positioning and display, or against direct or indirect remuneration, contractual or direct ownership relations.</i> <i>[Am. 88]</i>		<u>GA</u>
83D		<i>2a. Where a provider of an online search engine has altered the ranking order in a specific case or delisted a particular website following a third party notification, the provider shall offer the possibility for the</i>	<i>2a. <u>Where the main parameters include the possibility to influence ranking against any direct or indirect remuneration paid by business users or corporate website users to the respective provider, that</u></i>	<u>GA</u>

		<p><i>corporate website user to inspect the contents of the notice in a publicly accessible online database.</i></p> <p><i>[Am. 89]</i></p>	<p><u>provider shall also set out a description of those possibilities and of the effects of such remuneration on ranking in accordance with the requirements set out in paragraphs 1 and 2.</u></p>	
84.	<p>3. The descriptions referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be sufficient to enable the business users or corporate website users to obtain an adequate understanding of whether, and if so how and to what extent, the ranking mechanism takes account of the following:</p>	<p>3. The descriptions referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be sufficient to enable the business users or corporate website users to obtain an adequate understanding of whether, and if so how and to what extent, the ranking mechanism takes account of the following:</p>	<p>3. The descriptions referred to in paragraphs 1, and 2 and 2a shall be sufficient to enable the business users or corporate website users to obtain an adequate understanding of whether, and if so how and to what extent, the ranking mechanism takes account of the following:</p>	<u>GA</u>
85.	<p>(a) the characteristics of the goods and services offered to consumers through the online intermediation services or the online search engine;</p>	<p>(a) the characteristics of the goods and services offered to consumers through the online intermediation services or the online search engine;</p>	<p>(a) the characteristics of the goods and services offered to consumers through the online intermediation services or the online search engine;</p>	<u>GA</u>
86.	<p>(b) the relevance of those characteristics for those consumers;</p>	<p>(b) the relevance of those characteristics for those consumers;</p>	<p>(b) the relevance of those characteristics for those consumers;</p>	<u>GA</u>

87.	(c) as regards online search engines, the design characteristics of the website used by corporate website users.	(c) as regards online search engines, the design characteristics of the website used by corporate website users.	(c) as regards online search engines, the design characteristics of the website used by corporate website users.	<u>GA</u>
88.	4. Providers of online intermediation services and providers of online search engines shall, when complying with the requirements of this Article, not be required to disclose any trade secrets as defined in Article 2(1) of Directive (EU) 2016/943.	Providers of online intermediation services and providers of online search engines shall, when complying with the requirements of this Article, not be required to disclose any trade secrets as defined in Article 2(1) of <i>information that with reasonable certainty would result in the enabling of deception of consumers through the manipulation of search results. This Article shall be without prejudice to</i> Directive (EU) 2016/943. [Am. 90]	4. Providers of online intermediation services and providers of online search engines shall, when complying with the requirements of this Article, not be required to disclose any trade secrets as defined in Article 2(1) of Directive (EU) 2016/943.	4. Providers of online intermediation services and providers of online search engines shall, when complying with the requirements of this Article, not be required to disclose any trade secrets as defined in Article 2(1) of Directive (EU) 2016/943 nor any information that with reasonable certainty would result in the enabling of deception of consumers or consumer harm through the manipulation of search results.
88A		<i>4a. To facilitate the compliance of providers of online intermediation services and providers of online search engines with and the enforcement of the requirements of this Article, the Commission shall accompany the transparency</i>		4a. To facilitate the compliance of providers of online intermediation services and providers of online search engines with and the enforcement of the requirements of this Article, the Commission shall accompany the transparency requirements set

		<i>requirements set out in this Article by guidelines. [Am. 91]</i>		out in this Article by guidelines. <i>Eventually to be assessed in relation with art. 13 Codes of conduct</i>
88B		<i>Article 5a Ancillary goods and services</i>		Article 5a Ancillary goods and services
88C		<i>1. Where ancillary goods and services, including financial products, are offered to consumers through the online intermediation service, either by the provider of the online intermediation service or by third parties, the providers of the online intermediation service shall set out in their terms and conditions a description of the type of ancillary goods and services offered and a description of whether and under which conditions the business user is also allowed to offer their own ancillary goods and services through the online intermediation service.</i>		<u>1. Where ancillary goods and services, including financial products, are offered to consumers through the online intermediation service, either by the provider of the online intermediation service or by third parties, the providers of the online intermediation service shall set out in their terms and conditions a description of the type of ancillary goods and services offered and a description of whether and under which conditions the business user is also allowed to offer their own ancillary goods and services through the online intermediation service.</u>

88D		<p><i>2. The provider of the online intermediation service shall at the request of a business user provide a list of ancillary goods or services offered as complementary and in addition to the goods or services being offered by the business user. At the time of offering the ancillary goods and services, the providers of online intermediation services shall disclose clearly and visibly who provides the ancillary goods and services.</i></p> <p>[Am. 92]</p>		<p><u>2. The provider of the online intermediation service shall at the request of a business user provide a list of ancillary goods or services offered as complementary and in addition to the goods or services being offered by the business user. At the time of offering the ancillary goods and services, the providers of online intermediation services shall disclose clearly and visibly who provides the ancillary goods and services.</u></p> <p><i>The notion of “ancillary goods and services” to be properly exemplified in a recital</i></p>
89.	<p>Article 6</p> <p>Differentiated treatment</p>	<p>Article 6</p> <p>Differentiated treatment</p>	<p>Article 6</p> <p>Differentiated treatment</p>	<p><u>GA</u></p>
90.	<p>1. Providers of online intermediation services shall include in their terms and conditions a description of any</p>	<p>1. Providers of online intermediation services shall include in their terms and conditions a description of any</p>	<p>1. Providers of online intermediation services shall include in their terms and conditions a description of any</p>	<p><u>GA</u></p>

	differentiated treatment which they give, or may give, in relation to, on the one hand, goods or services offered to consumers through those online intermediation services by either that provider itself or any business users which that provider controls and, on the other hand, other business users.	differentiated treatment which they give, or may give, in relation to, on the one hand, goods or services offered to consumers through those online intermediation services by either that provider itself or any business users which that provider controls and, on the other hand, other business users.	differentiated treatment which they give, or may give, in relation to, on the one hand, goods or services offered to consumers through those online intermediation services by either that provider itself or any business users which that provider controls and, on the other hand, other business users.	
90A.		<i>1a. Providers of online search engines shall set out a description of any differentiated treatment which they give, or may give, in relation to, on the one hand, goods or services offered to consumers through those online search engines by either that provider itself or any corporate website users which that provider controls and, on the other hand, other corporate website users. [Am. 93]</i>		<u>GA</u>
91.	2. The description referred to in paragraph 1 shall cover at least, where applicable, any differentiated treatment through specific measures taken by, or the behaviour of, the provider of the	2. The description referred to in paragraph 1 and 1a shall cover at least, where applicable, any differentiated treatment through specific measures taken by, or the behaviour of, the provider of the	2. The description referred to in paragraph 1 shall cover at least in particular , where applicable, any differentiated treatment through specific measures taken by, or the behaviour of, the provider of the	<u>GA</u>

	online intermediation services relating to any of the following:	online intermediation services or the provider of online search engines relating to any of the following: [Am. 94]	online intermediation services relating to any of the following:	
92.	(a) access that the provider, or that the business users which that provider controls, may have to any personal data or other data, or both, which business users or consumers provide for the use of the online intermediation services concerned or which are generated through the provision of those services;	(a) access that the provider, or that the business users which that provider controls, may have to any personal data or other data, or both, which business users, corporate website users or consumers provide for the use of the online intermediation services or the online search engines concerned or which are generated through the provision of those services; [Am. 95]	(a) access that the provider, or that the business users which that provider controls, may have to any personal data or other data, or both, which business users or consumers provide for the use of the online intermediation services concerned or which are generated through the provision of those services;	<u>GA</u>
93.	(b) ranking;	(b) ranking and pre-configured settings related to goods or services offered to consumers through those online intermediation services by either that provider itself or by any business users which that provider controls, on the one hand, and, other business users, on the other hand; [Am. 96]	(b) ranking;	GA
94.	(c) any direct or indirect remuneration charged for the use of the online intermediation	(c) any direct or indirect remuneration charged for the use of the online intermediation services or online search engines	(c) any direct or indirect remuneration charged for the use of the online intermediation	<u>GA</u>

	services concerned;	concerned <i>or any ancillary services, and any technical or economic benefit that it does not extend to all business users or corporate website users</i> ; [Am. 97]	services concerned;	
95.	(d) access to, or conditions for use of, services that are directly connected or ancillary to the online intermediation services concerned.	(d) access to, or conditions for use of, services <i>or functionalities</i> that are directly connected or ancillary to the online intermediation services or online search engines concerned. [Am. 98]	(d) access to, or conditions for use of , or any direct or indirect remuneration charged for the use of services that are directly connected or ancillary to the online intermediation services concerned.	<u>GA</u>
95A		<i>2a. Providers of online intermediation services shall treat goods or services offered to consumers through those online intermediation services by that provider itself or any business users which that provider controls, on the one hand, and, competing goods or services offered through the online intermediation service by other business users on the other hand, equally, without discrimination, unless such differentiated treatment is applied in a non-discriminatory manner between all other business users and can be objectively justified in accordance with the general</i>		<u>GA</u>

		<i>principles of Union law. Any differentiated treatment shall not prevent consumers' possibility to access and use goods and services of their preference among those that are offered through the online intermediation service. [Am. 99]</i>		
95B		<i>Article 6a Unfair trading practices</i>		<i>To reconsider EP substantive proposal by exploring possible solutions to capture the main concerns (articles and/or recitals) without exceeding the spirit of the General Approach.</i>
95C		<i>Providers of online intermediation services shall not engage in unfair commercial practices as listed in Annex I. This list is without prejudice to other Union law or national law that Member States apply in conformity with Union law and to obligations of providers of online intermediation services stemming from such law. [Am. 100]</i>		
96.	Article 7	Article 7	Article 7	<u>GA</u>

	Access to data	Access to data	Access to data	
97.	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall include in their terms and conditions a description of the technical and contractual access, or absence thereof, of business users to any personal data or other data, or both, which business users or consumers provide for the use of the online intermediation services concerned or which are generated through the provision of those services.	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall include in their terms and conditions a description of the technical and contractual access, or absence thereof, of business users to any personal data or other data, or both, which business users or consumers provide for the use of the online intermediation services concerned or which are generated through the provision of those services.	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall include in their terms and conditions a description of the technical and contractual access, or absence thereof, of business users to any personal data or other data, or both, which business users or consumers provide for the use of the online intermediation services concerned or which are generated through the provision of those services.	<u>GA</u>
97A		<i>1a. Providers of online search engines shall set out a description, available on the online search engines of those providers, of the technical access, or absence thereof, of business users to any personal data or other data, or both, which corporate website users or consumers provide for the use of the online search engines concerned or which are generated through the provision of those</i>		<u>GA</u>

		<i>services.</i> [Am. 101]	
98.	2. Through the description referred to in paragraph 1, providers of online intermediation services shall adequately inform business users at least of the following:	2. Through The description referred to in paragraph 1 <i>or 1a set out by</i> , providers of online intermediation services <i>or providers of online search engines</i> shall <i>be adequate enough to</i> inform business users <i>or corporate website users</i> at least of the following: [Am. 102]	2. Through the description referred to in paragraph 1, providers of online intermediation services shall adequately inform business users at least <u>in particular</u> of the following:
99.	(a) whether the provider of online intermediation services has access to personal data or other data, or both, which business users or consumers provide for the use of those services or which are generated through the provision of those services, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions;	(a) whether the provider of online intermediation services <i>or provider of online search engine</i> has access to personal data or other data, or both, which business users <i>or corporate website users</i> or consumers provide for the use of those services or which are generated through the provision of those services, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions; [Am. 103]	(a) whether the provider of online intermediation services has access to personal data or other data, or both, which business users or consumers provide for the use of those services or which are generated through the provision of those services, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions <u>and if that data is provided to third parties</u> ;
100.9	(b) whether a business user has access to personal data or other data, or both, provided by that business user in connection to his or her use of the online intermediation services concerned	(b) whether a business user <i>or a corporate website user</i> has access to personal data or other data, or both, provided by that business user <i>or a corporate website user</i> in connection to his or her use of the	(b) whether a business user has access to personal data or other data, or both, provided by that business user in connection to his or her use of the online intermediation services concerned

	or generated through the provision of those services to that business user and the consumers of his or her goods or services, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions;	online intermediation services <i>or online search engines</i> concerned or generated through the provision of those services to that business user <i>or a corporate website user</i> and the consumers of his or her goods or services, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions; [Am. 104]	or generated through the provision of those services to that business user and the consumers of his or her goods or services, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions;	
101.9	(c) whether, in addition to point (b), a business user has access to personal data or other data, or both, including in aggregated form, provided by or generated through the provision of the online intermediation services to all of the business users and consumers thereof, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions.	(c) whether, in addition to point (b), a business user <i>or corporate website user</i> has access to personal data or other data, or both, including in aggregated form, provided by or generated through the provision of the online intermediation services <i>or online search engines</i> to all of the business users <i>or corporate website users</i> and consumers thereof, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions. [Am. 105]	(c) whether, in addition to point (b), a business user has access to personal data or other data, or both, including in aggregated form, provided by or generated through the provision of the online intermediation services to all of the business users and consumers thereof, and if so, to which categories of such data and under what conditions.	<u>GA</u>
101A		<i>2a. Business users shall have the right to receive anonymised ratings and reviews or any other anonymised and aggregated data related to their ratings and reviews on the online intermediation service, regardless</i>		<u>GA</u>

		<i>of whether they have provided such data to the provider of online intermediation services themselves, in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format. [Am. 106]</i>		
101B		<i>2b. The provider of the online intermediation service shall not for commercial purposes disclose to third parties, including within their corporate structure, data generated by the transactions of a business user without the explicit consent of the business user. This paragraph shall not apply where a provider of online intermediation services is subject to a legal obligation to disclose data generated by the transactions of a business user. [Am. 107]</i>		<u>GA</u>
101C		<i>2c. This Regulation shall be without prejudice to the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/679. [Am. 108]</i>		<u>GA</u>
102.9	Article 8	Article 8	Article 8 Restrictions to offer different	<u>GA</u>

	Restrictions to offer different conditions through other means	Restrictions to offer different conditions through other means	conditions through other means	
103.1	<p>1. Where, in the provision of their services, providers of online intermediation services restrict the ability of business users to offer the same goods and services to consumers under different conditions through other means than through those services, they shall include grounds for that restriction in their terms and conditions and make those grounds easily available to the public. Those grounds shall include the main economic, commercial or legal considerations for those restrictions.</p>	<p>1. Where, in the provision of their services, Providers of online intermediation services shall not restrict the ability of business users to offer the same goods and services to consumers under different <i>or the same</i> conditions through other <i>online intermediation</i> means than through those services, they shall include grounds for that restriction in their terms and conditions and make those grounds easily available to the public. Those grounds shall include the main economic, commercial or legal considerations for those restrictions. [Am. 109]</p>	<p>1. Where, in the provision of their services, providers of online intermediation services <u>in accordance with national law</u> restrict the ability of business users to offer the same goods and services to consumers under different conditions through other means than through those services, they shall include grounds for that restriction in their terms and conditions and make those grounds easily available to the public. Those grounds shall include the main economic, commercial or legal considerations for those restrictions.</p>	<u>GA</u>
103A		<p><i>1a. For any other restrictions to offer different conditions through other means than those prohibited in paragraph 1, providers of online intermediation services which restrict the ability of business users to offer the same goods and services to consumers</i></p>		<u>GA</u>

		<p><i>under different conditions through other means than through those services shall include grounds for that restriction in their terms and conditions and make those grounds easily available to the public. Those grounds shall include the main economic, commercial or legal considerations for those restrictions. These restrictions shall be proportionate and shall be justified by a legitimate interest of the provider. [Am. 110]</i></p>		
104.	<p>2. The obligation set out in paragraph 1 shall not affect any prohibitions or limitations in respect of the imposition of such restrictions that result from the application of other Union rules or from national rules that are in accordance with Union law and to which the providers of the online intermediation services are subject.</p>	<p>2. The obligation set out <i>Member States may prohibit or limit the restrictions referred to in paragraph 1a or other restrictions except for those referred to</i> in paragraph 1 shall not affect any prohibitions or limitations in respect of the imposition of such restrictions that result from the application of other Union rules or from <i>in their</i> national rules that are <i>adopted</i> in accordance with <i>the</i> Union law and to which the providers of the online intermediation services are subject. [Am. 111]</p>	<p>2. The obligation set out in paragraph 1 shall not affect any prohibitions or limitations in respect of the imposition of such restrictions that result from the application of other Union rules or from national rules that are in accordance with Union law and to which the providers of the online intermediation services are subject.</p>	<p><u>GA</u></p>

105.1	Article 9 Internal complaint-handling system	Article 9 Internal complaint-handling system	Article 9 Internal complaint-handling system	Article 9 Internal complaint-handling system
106.3	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall provide for an internal system for handling the complaints of business users.	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall provide for an internal system for handling the complaints of business users.	1. Providers of online intermediation services shall provide for an internal system for handling the complaints of business users.	<u>GA</u>
107.1	That internal complaint-handling system shall be easily accessible for business users. It shall allow them to lodge complaints directly with the provider concerned regarding any of the following issues:	That internal complaint-handling system shall be easily accessible <i>and free of charge</i> for business users <i>and ensure handling within a reasonable time frame. It shall be based on the principles of transparency and equal treatment.</i> It shall allow them to lodge complaints directly with the provider concerned regarding any of the following issues: [Am. 112]	That internal complaint-handling system shall be easily accessible for business users. It shall allow them to lodge complaints directly with the provider concerned regarding any of the following issues:	That internal complaint-handling system shall be easily accessible and [generally] free of charge for business users and ensure handling within a reasonable time frame. It shall be based on the principles of transparency and equal treatment applied to equal situations, and generally treating complaints in a manner which is proportionate to their importance and complexity. It shall allow them to lodge complaints directly with the provider concerned regarding any of the following issues:

108.1	(a) alleged non-compliance by that provider with any legal obligations laid down in this Regulation which negatively affects the complainant;	(a) alleged non-compliance by that provider with any legal obligations laid down in this Regulation which negatively affects the complainant; [Am. 113]	(a) alleged non-compliance by that provider with any legal obligations laid down in this Regulation which negatively affects the complainant;	(a) alleged non-compliance by that provider with any legal obligations laid down in this Regulation which negatively affects the complainant;
109.1	(b) technological issues which relate directly to the provision of online intermediation services, and which negatively affect the complainant in a non-negligible manner;	(b) technological issues which relate directly to the provision of online intermediation services, and which negatively affect the complainant in a non-negligible manner; [Am. 114]	(b) technological issues which relate directly to the provision of online intermediation services, and which negatively affect the complainant in a non-negligible manner ;	(b) technological issues which relate directly to the provision of online intermediation services, and which affect the complainant [in a non-negligible manner] ;
110.1	(c) measures taken by, or behaviour of, that provider which relate directly to the provision of the online intermediation services, and which negatively affect the complainant in a non-negligible manner.	(c) measures taken by, or behaviour of, that provider which relate directly to the provision of the online intermediation services, and which negatively affect the complainant in a non-negligible manner. [Am. 115]	(c) measures taken by, or behaviour of, that provider which relate directly to the provision of the online intermediation services, and which negatively affect the complainant in a non-negligible manner .	(c) measures taken by, or behaviour of, that provider which relate directly to the provision of the online intermediation services, and which negatively affect the complainant [in a non-negligible manner] .
111.1	2. As part of their internal complaint-handling system, providers of online intermediation services shall:	2. As part of their internal complaint-handling system, providers of online intermediation services shall:	2. As part of their internal complaint-handling system, providers of online intermediation services shall:	2. As part of their internal complaint-handling system, providers of online intermediation services shall:
112.1	(a) duly consider complaints lodged and the follow-up which they may need to give to the	(a) duly consider complaints lodged and the follow-up which they may need to give to the	(a) duly consider complaints lodged and the follow-up which they may need to give to the	(a) duly consider complaints lodged and the follow-up which they may need to give to the

	complaint in order to adequately address the issue raised, in a manner which is proportionate to the importance and complexity of that issue;	complaint in order to adequately address the issue raised, in a manner which is proportionate to the importance and complexity of that issue;	complaint in order to adequately address the issue raised, in a manner which is proportionate to the importance and complexity of that issue;	complaint in order to adequately address the issue raised, in a manner which is proportionate to the importance and complexity of that issue;
113.1	(b) process complaints swiftly and effectively, taking into account the importance and complexity of the issue raised;	(b) process complaints swiftly and effectively, taking into account the importance and complexity of the issue raised, <i>providing in any case a first response within 15 days;</i> [Am. 116]	(b) process complaints swiftly and effectively, taking into account the importance and complexity of the issue raised;	(b) process complaints swiftly and effectively, taking into account the importance and complexity of the issue raised;
114.1	(c) communicate to the complainant the outcome of the internal complaint-handling process, in an individualised manner and drafted in clear and unambiguous language.	(c) communicate to the complainant the outcome of the internal complaint-handling process, in an individualised manner and drafted in clear and unambiguous <i>intelligible</i> language. [Am. 117]	(c) communicate to the complainant the outcome of the internal complaint-handling process, in an individualised manner and drafted in <u>plain and intelligible</u> clear and unambiguous language.	(c) communicate to the complainant the outcome of the internal complaint-handling process, in an individualised manner and drafted in <u>plain and intelligible</u> language.
115.1	3. Providers of online intermediation services shall include in their terms and conditions all relevant information relating to the access to and functioning of their internal complaint-handling system.	3. Providers of online intermediation services shall include in their terms and conditions all relevant information relating to the access to and functioning of their internal complaint-handling system.	3. Providers of online intermediation services shall include <u>provide</u> in their terms and conditions all relevant information relating to the access to and functioning of their internal complaint-handling system.	<u>GA</u>

116.	4. Providers of online intermediation services shall annually establish and make easily available to the public information on the functioning and effectiveness of their internal complaint-handling system.	4. Providers of online intermediation services shall annually establish and make easily available to the public information on the functioning and effectiveness of their internal complaint-handling system. <i>They shall keep that information up to date.</i> [Am. 118]	4. Providers of online intermediation services shall annually establish and make easily available to the public information on the functioning and effectiveness of their internal complaint-handling system.	4. Providers of online intermediation services shall annually establish and make easily available to the public information on the functioning and effectiveness of their internal complaint-handling system. They shall verify the information at least annually and where significant changes are needed, shall update that information.
117.1	That information shall include the total number of complaints lodged, the subject-matter of the complaints, the time period needed to process the complaints and the decision taken on the complaints.	That information shall include the total number of complaints lodged, the subject-matter <i>main types</i> of the complaints, the <i>average</i> time period needed to process the complaints and the decision taken on the <i>aggregated information regarding the outcome of</i> complaints. [Am. 119]	That information shall include the total number of complaints lodged, the subject-matter <i>main types</i> of the complaints, and the <i>average</i> time period needed to process the complaints and the decision taken on the complaints.	That information shall include the total number of complaints lodged, the subject-matter <i>main types</i> of the complaints, the <i>average</i> time period needed to process the complaints and the decision taken on the aggregated information regarding the outcome of complaints.
118.1	5. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to providers of online intermediation services that are small enterprises within the meaning of Article 2 (2) of the Annex to Recommendation 2003/361/EC ¹¹ .	5. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to providers of online intermediation services that are small enterprises within the meaning of Article 2 (2) of the Annex to Recommendation 2003/361/EC ¹¹ . _____ ¹¹ -Commission Recommendation	5. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to providers of online intermediation services that are small enterprises within the meaning of Article 2 (2) of the Annex to Recommendation 2003/361/EC ¹¹ .	<i>Identical texts, lawyer-linguists to assess placing of the footnote</i> 5. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to providers of online intermediation services that are small enterprises within the meaning of Article 2 (2) of the Annex to Recommendation 2003/361/EC ¹¹ .

	<p>_____</p> <p>¹¹ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5/2003, p. 36).</p>	<p>2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5/2003, p. 36).</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>¹¹ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5/2003, p. 36).</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>¹¹ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5/2003, p. 36).</p>
119.1	<p>Article 10</p> <p>Mediation</p>	<p>Article 10</p> <p>Mediation</p>	<p>Article 10</p> <p>Mediation</p>	<p>Article 10</p> <p>Mediation</p>
120.7	<p>1. Providers of online intermediation services shall identify in their terms and conditions one or more mediators with which they are willing to engage to attempt to reach an agreement with business users on the settlement, out of court, of any disputes between the provider and the business user arising in relation to the provision of the online intermediation services concerned, including complaints that could not be resolved by means of the internal complaint-handling system referred to in Article 9.</p>	<p>1. Providers of online intermediation services shall identify in their terms and conditions one or more mediators with which they are willing to engage to attempt to reach an agreement with business users on the settlement, out of court, of any disputes between the provider and the business user arising in relation to the provision of the online intermediation services concerned, including complaints that could not be resolved by means of the internal complaint-handling system referred to in Article 9.</p>	<p>1. Providers of online intermediation services shall identify in their terms and conditions one two or more mediators with which they are willing to engage to attempt to reach an agreement with business users on the settlement, out of court, of any disputes between the provider and the business user arising in relation to the provision of the online intermediation services concerned, including complaints that could not be resolved by means of the internal complaint-handling system referred to in Article 9.</p>	<p><u>GA</u></p>

121.1	Providers of online intermediation services may only identify mediators providing their mediation services from a location outside the Union where it is ensured that the business users concerned are not effectively deprived of the benefit of any legal safeguards laid down in Union law or the law of the Member States as a consequence of the mediators providing those services from outside the Union.	Providers of online intermediation services may only identify mediators providing their mediation services from a location outside the Union where it is ensured that the business users concerned are not effectively deprived of the benefit of any legal safeguards laid down in Union law or the law of the Member States as a consequence of the mediators providing those services from outside the Union.	Providers of online intermediation services may only identify mediators providing their mediation services from a location outside the Union where it is ensured that the business users concerned are not effectively deprived of the benefit of any legal safeguards laid down in Union law or the law of the Member States as a consequence of the mediators providing those services from outside the Union.	<i>GA</i>
121A			<u>1a. Providers of online intermediation services and their business users shall be free to jointly identify any mediator of their choice not identified in the terms and conditions of the provider of online intermediation services concerned after a dispute has arisen between them.</u>	<i>To be placed in a recital</i>
122.1	2. The mediators referred to in paragraph 1 shall meet the following requirements:	2. The mediators referred to in paragraph 1 shall meet the following requirements:	2. The mediators referred to in paragraph 1 shall meet the following requirements:	2. The mediators referred to in paragraph 1 shall meet the following requirements:

123.1	(a) they are impartial and independent;	(a) they are impartial and independent;	(a) they are impartial and independent <u>of both the provider of online intermediation services and the business user concerned;</u>	(a) they are impartial and independent [...];
124.1	(b) their mediation services are affordable for an average business user of the online intermediation services concerned;	(b) their mediation services are affordable for an average business user of the online intermediation services concerned;	(b) their mediation services are affordable for an average a business user of the online intermediation services concerned;	(b) their mediation services are affordable for business users of the online intermediation services concerned;
125.2	(c) they are capable of providing their mediation services in the language of the terms and conditions which govern the contractual relationship between the provider of online intermediation services and the business user concerned;	(c) they are capable of providing their mediation services in the language of the terms and conditions which govern the contractual relationship between the provider of online intermediation services and the business user concerned;	(c) they are capable of providing their mediation services in the language of the terms and conditions which govern the contractual relationship between the provider of online intermediation services and the business user concerned;	(c) they are capable of providing their mediation services in the language of the terms and conditions which govern the contractual relationship between the provider of online intermediation services and the business user concerned;
126.1	(d) they are easily accessible either physically in the place of establishment or residence of the business user, or remotely using communication technologies;	(d) they are easily accessible either physically in the place of establishment or residence of the business user, or remotely using communication technologies;	(d) they are easily accessible either physically in the place of establishment or residence of the business user, or remotely using communication technologies;	(d) they are easily accessible either physically in the place of establishment or residence of the business user, or remotely using communication technologies;

127.1	(e) they are capable of providing their mediation services without undue delay;	(e) they are capable of providing their mediation services without undue delay;	(e) they are capable of providing their mediation services without undue delay;	(e) they are capable of providing their mediation services without undue delay;
128.1	(f) they have a sufficient understanding of general business-to-business commercial relations, allowing them to contribute effectively to the attempt to settle the disputes.	(f) they have a sufficient understanding of general business-to-business commercial relations, allowing them to contribute effectively to the attempt to settle the disputes.	(f) they have a sufficient understanding of general business-to-business commercial relations, allowing them to contribute effectively to the attempt to settle the disputes.	(f) they have a sufficient understanding of general business-to-business commercial relations, allowing them to contribute effectively to the attempt to settle the disputes.
129.6	3. Providers of online intermediation services shall engage in good faith in any attempt to reach an agreement through the mediation of any of the mediators which they identified in accordance with paragraph 1, with a view to reaching an agreement on the settlement of the dispute.	3. Providers of online intermediation services <i>and business users</i> shall engage in good faith in any attempt to reach an agreement through the mediation of any of the mediators which they identified in accordance with paragraph 1, with a view to reaching an agreement on the settlement of the dispute. [Am. 120]	3. Providers of online intermediation services <u>and business users</u> shall engage in good faith in any if they attempt to reach an agreement through the mediation of any of the mediators which they identified in accordance with paragraph 1, with a view to reaching an agreement on the settlement of the dispute.	3. <u>Notwithstanding its voluntary nature</u> , providers of online intermediation services <u>and business users</u> shall engage in good faith <u>throughout any mediation [...] attempts conducted pursuant to this Article.</u>
130.1	4. Providers of online intermediation services shall bear a reasonable proportion of the total costs of mediation in each individual case. A reasonable proportion of those total costs shall be determined, on the basis of a	4. Providers of online intermediation services shall bear a reasonable proportion of the total costs of mediation in each individual case. A reasonable proportion of those total costs shall be determined, on the basis of a	4. Providers of online intermediation services shall bear a reasonable proportion of the total costs of mediation in each individual case. A reasonable proportion of those total costs shall be determined, on the basis of a	<u>GA</u>

	<p>suggestion by the mediator, by taking into account all relevant elements of the case at hand, in particular the relative merits of the claims of the parties to the dispute, the conduct of the parties, as well as the size and financial strength of the parties relative to one another. However, providers of online intermediation services shall in any case bear at least half of the total cost.</p>	<p>suggestion by the mediator, by taking into account all relevant elements of the case at hand, in particular the relative merits of the claims of the parties to the dispute, the conduct of the parties, as well as the size and financial strength of the parties relative to one another. However, providers of online intermediation services shall in any case bear at least half of the total cost, <i>except in cases where the mediator determines that the business user has not acted in good faith or is seeking to abuse the mediation process.</i> [Am. 121]</p>	<p>suggestion by the mediator, by taking into account all relevant elements of the case at hand, in particular the relative merits of the claims of the parties to the dispute, the conduct of the parties, as well as the size and financial strength of the parties relative to one another. However, providers of online intermediation services shall in any case bear at least half of the total cost.</p>	
130A		<p><i>4a. Providers of online intermediation services shall not be obliged to engage in mediation where a business user brings proceedings on a subject in relation to which that business user has previously brought proceedings seeking mediation and it has been determined by the mediator in that case that the business user has not acted in good faith. Providers of online intermediation services shall also not be obliged to engage in mediation with business users who have brought forward to the</i></p>		<p><u>EP AM 122 to be eventually put in a recital</u></p>

		<i>mediator repeated unsuccessful mediation attempts. [Am. 122]</i>		
131.1	5. Any attempt to reach an agreement through mediation on the settlement of a dispute in accordance with this Article shall not affect the rights of the providers of the online intermediation services and of the business users concerned to initiate judicial proceedings at any time during or after the mediation process.	5. Any attempt to reach an agreement through mediation on the settlement of a dispute in accordance with this Article shall not affect the rights of the providers of the online intermediation services and of the business users concerned to initiate judicial proceedings at any time before , during or after the mediation process. [Am. 123]	5. Any attempt to reach an agreement through mediation on the settlement of a dispute in accordance with this Article shall not affect the rights of the providers of the online intermediation services and of the business users concerned to initiate judicial proceedings at any time during or after the mediation process.	5. Any attempt to reach an agreement through mediation on the settlement of a dispute in accordance with this Article shall not affect the rights of the providers of the online intermediation services and of the business users concerned to initiate judicial proceedings at any time before , during or after the mediation process.
131A		<i>5a. Providers of online intermediation services shall establish and make easily available to the public information on the functioning and effectiveness of mediation related to their activities. They shall keep that information up to date. That information shall include the total number of mediation cases, the main types of the mediation cases, the average time period needed to process the mediation cases and aggregated information regarding the</i>		<u>GA</u>

		<i>outcome of mediation cases.</i> [Am. 124]		
131B			<u>5a. The obligation set out in Paragraph 1 shall not apply to providers of online intermediation services that are small enterprises within the meaning of Article 2 (2) of the Annex to Recommendation 2003/361/EC.</u>	<i>GA</i>
132.1	Article 11 Specialised mediators	Article 11 Specialised mediators	Article 11 Specialised mediators	Article 11 Specialised mediators
133.1	The Commission shall encourage providers of online intermediation services as well as organisations and associations representing them to individually or jointly set up one or more organisations providing mediation services which meet the requirements specified in Article 10(2), for the specific purpose of facilitating the out-of-court settlement of disputes with business users arising in relation to the provision of those services,	The Commission <i>and the Member States</i> shall encourage providers of online intermediation services as well as organisations and associations representing them to individually or jointly set up one or more organisations providing mediation services which meet the requirements specified in Article 10(2), for the specific purpose of facilitating the out-of-court settlement of disputes with business users arising in relation to	The Commission shall encourage providers of online intermediation services as well as organisations and associations representing them to individually or jointly set up one or more organisations providing mediation services which meet the requirements specified in Article 10(2), for the specific purpose of facilitating the out-of-court settlement of disputes with business users arising in relation to the provision of those services,	The Commission shall in close cooperation with the Member States encourage providers of online intermediation services as well as organisations and associations representing them to individually or jointly set up one or more organisations providing mediation services which meet the requirements specified in Article 10(2), for the specific purpose of facilitating the out-of-court settlement of disputes with

	taking particular account of the cross-border nature of online intermediation services.	the provision of those services, taking particular account of the cross-border nature of online intermediation services. [Am. 125]	taking particular account of the cross-border nature of online intermediation services.	business users arising in relation to the provision of those services, taking particular account of the cross-border nature of online intermediation services.
134.1	Article 12 Judicial proceedings by representative organisations or associations and by public bodies	Article 12 Judicial proceedings by representative organisations or associations and by public bodies	Article 12 Judicial proceedings by representative organisations or associations and by public bodies	Article 12 Judicial proceedings by representative organisations or associations and by public bodies
135.1	1. Organisations and associations that have a legitimate interest in representing business users or in representing corporate website users, as well as public bodies set up in Member States, shall have the right to take action before national courts in the Union, in accordance with the rules of the law of the Member State where the action is brought, to stop or prohibit any non-compliance by providers of online intermediation services or by providers of online search engines with the relevant requirements laid down in this	1. Organisations and associations that have a legitimate interest in representing business users or in representing corporate website users, as well as public bodies set up in Member States, shall have the right to take action before national courts in the Union, in accordance with the rules of the law of the Member State where the action is brought, to stop or prohibit any non-compliance by providers of online intermediation services or by providers of online search engines with the relevant requirements laid down in this	1. Organisations and associations that have a legitimate interest in representing business users or in representing corporate website users, as well as public bodies set up in Member States, shall have the right to take action before competent national courts in the Union, in accordance with the rules of the law of the Member State where the action is brought, to stop or prohibit any non-compliance by providers of online intermediation services or by providers of online search engines with the relevant requirements laid	<u>GA</u>

	Regulation.	Regulation.	down in this Regulation.	
135A		<i>1a. Member States shall ensure that their relevant public bodies set up a registry of unlawful acts which have been subject to injunction orders before national courts in order to provide a basis for best practice and information to other Member State public bodies or authorities. [Am. 126]</i>		<u>GA</u>
136.1	2. Organisations or associations shall have the right referred to in paragraph 1 only where, at the time of bringing the action, they meet all of the following requirements:	2. Organisations or associations shall have the right referred to in paragraph 1 only where, at the time of bringing the action, they and for the duration of the action, they continue to meet all of the following requirements: [Am. 127]	2. Organisations or associations shall have the right referred to in paragraph 1 only where, at the time of bringing the action, they meet all of the following requirements:	<u>GA</u>
137.1	(a) they are properly constituted according to the law of a Member State;	(a) they are properly constituted according to the law of a Member State;	(a) they are properly constituted according to the law of a Member State;	<u>GA</u>
138.1	(b) they pursue objectives that are in the collective interest of the group of business users or corporate website users that they represent;	(b) they pursue objectives, publicly stated in their statute or other relevant governance document, that are in the collective interest of the group of business users or	(b) they pursue objectives that are in the collective interest of the group of business users or corporate website users that they	<u>GA</u>

		corporate website users that they represent; [Am. 128]	represent <u>on a sustained basis</u> ;	
139.1	(c) they are of a non-profit making character.	(c) they are of a non-profit making character <i>and are transparent about their source of funding.</i> [Am. 129]	(c) they are of a non-profit making character-;	(c) they are of a non-profit making character and are transparent about membership, governance structure and source of financing
139A			<u>(d) their decision-making is not unduly influenced by any third-party providers of financing, and that they do not accept financing from any providers of online intermediation services or of online search engines.</u>	<i>GA</i>
139B			<u>To this end, organisations or associations shall disclose fully and publicly information on the membership, governance structure and finances.</u>	<i>GA</i>
140.1	In Member States where such public bodies have been set up, those public bodies shall have the right referred to in paragraph 1, where they are charged with defending the collective interests	In Member States where such <i>shall set up or nominate</i> public bodies have been set up, <i>for the purposes of this Article.</i> Those public bodies shall have the right referred to in paragraph 1, where they are	<u>2a.</u> In Member States where such public bodies have been set up, those public bodies shall have the right referred to in paragraph 1, where they are charged with defending the collective interests	<i>GA</i>

	of business users or corporate website users or with ensuring compliance with the requirements laid down in this Regulation, in accordance with the national law of the Member State concerned.	charged with defending the collective interests of business users or corporate website users or with ensuring compliance with the requirements laid down in this Regulation, in accordance with the national law of the Member State concerned. [Am. 130]	of business users or corporate website users or with ensuring compliance with the requirements laid down in this Regulation, in accordance with the national law of the Member State concerned.	
140A			<u>2b. Member States may designate:</u>	<i>GA</i>
140B			<u>(a) organisations or associations established in their Member State that meet at least the requirements of paragraph 2 upon their request;</u>	<i>GA</i>
140C			<u>(b) public bodies set up in their Member State that meet the requirements of paragraph 2a,</u>	<i>GA</i>
140D			<u>that are granted the right referred to in paragraph 1 and shall communicate to the Commission their name and</u>	

			<u>purpose.</u>	
140E			<u>2c. The Commission shall draw up a list of the organisations, associations and public bodies according to paragraph 2b, with the specification of their purpose. This list shall be published in the <i>Official Journal of the European Union</i>; changes to this list shall be published without delay and the updated list shall be published every six months.</u>	<i>GA</i>
140F			<u>2d. The courts shall accept this list as proof of the legal capacity of the organisation, association or public body, without prejudice to the right to examine whether the purpose of the claimant justifies its taking action in a specific case.</u>	<i>GA</i>
140G			<u>2e. If a Member State or the Commission raises concerns regarding the compliance by an organisation or association with</u>	<i>GA</i>

			<p><u>the criteria laid down in paragraph 2, or, regarding the compliance by a public body with the criteria laid down in paragraph 2a, the Member State that designated that organisation, association or public body shall investigate the concerns and, where appropriate, revoke the designation if one or more of the criteria are not complied with.</u></p>	
141.1	<p>3. The right referred to in paragraph 1 shall be without prejudice to the rights of business users and corporate website users to individually take action before competent national courts, in accordance with the rules of the law of the Member State where the action is brought, to address any non-compliance by providers of online intermediation services with the relevant requirements laid down in this Regulation.</p>	<p>3. The right referred to in paragraph 1 shall be without prejudice to the rights of business users and corporate website users to individually take action before competent national courts, in accordance with the rules of the law of the Member State where the action is brought, to address any non-compliance by providers of online intermediation services <i>or by providers of online search engines</i> with the relevant requirements laid down in this Regulation. [Am. 131]</p>	<p>3. The right referred to in paragraph 1 shall be without prejudice to the rights of business users and corporate website users to individually take start any action before competent national courts, in accordance with the rules of the law of the Member State where the action is brought, which is based on individual rights and aims at stopping to address any non-compliance by providers of online intermediation services or providers of online search engines with the relevant requirements laid down in this Regulation.</p>	GA

141A		<i>Article 12a Enforcement authorities</i>	<u>Article 12a</u> <u>Enforcement</u>	<u>GA</u>
141B		<i>1. Each Member State shall designate a body or bodies responsible for adequate and effective enforcement of this Regulation. The body responsible for the effective enforcement of this Regulation may be the same body as referred to in Article 12.</i>	<u>Member States shall lay down the rules setting out the penalties applicable to infringements of the provisions of this Regulation and shall ensure that they are implemented. The penalties provided for shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive.</u>	<u>GA</u>
141C		<i>2. Member States shall lay down the rules setting out the measures applicable to infringements of the provisions of this Regulation and shall ensure that they are implemented. The measures provided for shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive.</i>		<u>GA</u>
141D		<i>3. The measures referred to in paragraph 2 shall be communicated to the Commission and made publicly available on the Commission's website.</i> [Am. 132]		<u>GA</u>

141E		<i>Article 12b Monitoring</i>		<u>GA</u>
141F		<i>Member States shall closely monitor the application of this Regulation and shall designate national authorities to require providers of online intermediation services and online search engines to submit relevant information necessary for the monitoring and enforcement of this Regulation by the body or bodies referred to in Article 12a. The information gathered by those authorities shall be provided to the Commission and to the EU Platform Observatory upon request. [Am. 133]</i>		<u>GA</u>
142.1	Article 13 Codes of conduct	Article 13 Codes of conduct	Article 13 Codes of conduct	<u>GA</u>

143.1	1. The Commission shall encourage the drawing up of codes of conduct by providers of online intermediation services and by organisations and associations representing them, intended to contribute to the proper application of this Regulation, taking account of the specific features of the various sectors in which online intermediation services are provided, as well as of the specific characteristics of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.	1. The Commission shall encourage the drawing up of codes of conduct by providers of online intermediation services and by organisations and associations representing them, <i>together with business users including SMEs and microenterprises and their representative organisations</i> , intended to contribute to the proper application of this Regulation, taking account of the specific features of the various sectors in which online intermediation services are provided, as well as of the specific characteristics of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. [Am. 134]	1. The Commission shall encourage the drawing up of codes of conduct by providers of online intermediation services and by organisations and associations representing them, <u>that are</u> intended intended to contribute to the proper application of this Regulation, taking account of the specific features of the various sectors in which online intermediation services are provided, as well as of the specific characteristics of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.	<u>GA</u>
144.1	2. The Commission shall encourage the drawing up of codes of conduct by providers of online search engines and by organisations and associations representing them, intended to contribute to the proper application of Article 5(2) and (3).	2. The Commission shall encourage the drawing up of codes of conduct by providers of online search engines and by organisations and associations representing them, intended to contribute to the proper application of Article 5(2) and (3).	2. The Commission shall encourage the drawing up of codes of conduct by providers of online search engines and by organisations and associations representing them, <u>that are specifically</u> intended to contribute to the proper application of Article 5(2) and (3).	<u>GA</u>

144A		<p><i>2a. Where an online intermediation service is primarily involved in one single sector where a sector specific code of conduct exists and is widely used, the Commission shall encourage the provider of the online intermediation service to adopt and implement the sector specific code of conduct. [Am. 135]</i></p>		<p><u>2a. The Commission shall encourage the providers of the online intermediation service to adopt and implement sector specific codes of conducts, where such sector specific codes of conduct exist and are widely used.</u></p>
144B		<p><i>Article 13 a EU Platform Observatory</i></p>		
144C		<p><i>In addition to those set out in Article 2 of Commission Decision C(2018) 2393, the EU Platform Observatory shall have the following tasks:</i></p>		
144D		<p><i>(a) monitoring and evaluating the implementation of this Regulation and in particular analysing the effects of Annex I on the market, taking into account the jurisprudence of Union and national courts; and</i></p>		

144E		<i>(b) making recommendations in accordance with Article 14 to the European Commission for the review of this Regulation. [Am. 136]</i>		
145.2	Article 14 Review	Article 14 Review	Article 14 Review	<u>GA</u>
146.3	1. By [<i>date: three years after the date of entry into force</i>], and subsequently every three years, the Commission shall evaluate this Regulation and report to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee.	1. By ... [<i>date: three years 18 months after the date of entry into force application</i>], and subsequently every three years, the Commission shall evaluate this Regulation and report to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee. [Am. 137]	1. By [<i>date: three years after the date of entry into force</i>], and subsequently every three years, the Commission shall evaluate this Regulation and report to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee.	<u>GA</u>
147.1	2. The first evaluation of this Regulation shall be carried out, in particular, with a view to assessing the compliance with, and impact on the online platform economy of, the obligations laid down in Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8, and whether	2. The first evaluation of this Regulation shall be carried out, in particular, with a view to <i>the following:</i>	2. The first evaluation of this Regulation shall be carried out, in particular, with a view to assessing the compliance with, and impact on the online platform economy of, the obligations laid down in Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8, and whether	<u>GA</u>

	additional rules, including regarding enforcement, may be required to ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market.		additional rules, including regarding enforcement, may be required to ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market.	
148.		<i>(a) assessing the compliance with, and impact on the online platform economy of, the obligations laid down in Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8 3 to 8;</i>		<u>GA</u>
148A		<i>(b) assessing the impact and effectiveness of any established codes of conduct to improve fairness and transparency;</i>		<u>GA</u>
148B		<i>(c) investigating further the problems caused by the dependence of business users on online intermediation services, and problems caused by unfair trading practices by providers of online intermediation services, and to determine further to which extent those practices continue to be widespread;</i>		<u>GA</u>
148C		<i>(d) investigating whether the competition between goods or services offered by a business user and goods or services offered or controlled by a provider of online</i>		<u>GA</u>

		<i>intermediation services constitutes fair competition and whether providers of online intermediation services misuse privileged data in this regard;</i>	
148D		<i>(e) assessing the effect of this Regulation on any possible imbalances in the relationships between providers of operating systems and their business users;</i>	<u>GA</u>
148E		<i>(f) assessing whether the scope of the Regulation, especially as regards the definition of ‘business user’, is suitable in that it does not encourage bogus self-employment;</i>	<u>GA</u>
148F		<i>(g) reviewing, following recommendations from the Platform Observatory in accordance with Article 13a, the list of unfair commercial practices in Annex I;</i>	<u>GA</u>
149.		<i>The evaluation shall establish and whether additional rules, including regarding enforcement, may be required to ensure a fair, predictable, sustainable and trusted online business environment within the internal market. Following the evaluation, the</i>	<u>GA</u>

		<i>Commission shall take appropriate measures, which may include legislative proposals.</i> [Am. 138]		
150.1	3. Member States shall provide any relevant information that the Commission may require for the purposes of drawing up the report referred to in paragraph 1.	3. Member States shall provide any relevant information that the Commission may require for the purposes of drawing up the report referred to in paragraph 1.	3. Member States shall provide any relevant information they have that the Commission may require for the purposes of drawing up the report referred to in paragraph 1.	<u>GA</u>
151.1	4. In carrying out the evaluation of this Regulation, the Commission shall take into account the opinions and reports presented to it by the group of experts for the Observatory on the Online Platform Economy established in accordance with the Commission Decision C(2018)2393. It shall also take into account the content and functioning of any codes of conduct referred to in Article 13, where appropriate.	4. In carrying out the evaluation of this Regulation, the Commission shall take into account the opinions and reports presented to it by the group of experts for the EU Platform Observatory established in accordance with the Commission Decision C(2018)2393. It shall also take into account the content and functioning of any codes of conduct referred to in Article 13, where appropriate. and having regard to the additional tasks of the EU Platform Observatory as established in Article 13a. [Am. 139]	4. In carrying out the evaluation of this Regulation, the Commission shall take into account inter alia the opinions and reports presented to it by the group of experts for the Observatory on the Online Platform Economy established in accordance with the Commission Decision C(2018)2393. <u>The Commission shall ensure that the opinions of the Member States and the relevant stakeholders are duly taken into account in the preparation of the evaluation report.</u> It shall also take into account the content and functioning of any codes of conduct referred to in Article 13, where appropriate.	<u>GA</u>

152.1	Article 15 Entry into force and application	Article 15 Entry into force and application	Article 15 Entry into force and application	<u>GA</u>
153.8	1. This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.	1. This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the <i>Official Journal of the European Union</i> .	1. This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.	Identical text (EC, EP, Council), pending agreement on the whole article to be indicated as GREEN
154.1	2. It shall apply from [date: six months following the day of its publication].	2. It shall apply from ... [date: six nine months following the day of its publication]. [Am. 140]	2. It shall apply from [date: six twelve months following the day of its publication].	<u>GA</u>
155.1	This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.	This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.	This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.	Identical text (EC, EP, Council), pending agreement on the whole article to be indicated as GREEN
156.1	Done at Brussels,	Done at...,	Done at Brussels,	
157.1	For the European Parliament For the Council	For the European Parliament For the Council	For the European Parliament For the Council	Identical text (EC, EP, Council), pending agreement on the whole article to be indicated as GREEN

158.1	The President The President	The President The President	The President The President	
	COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL	EP AMENDMENTS	COUNCIL AMENDMENTS	COMPROMISE PROPOSALS
159.		<i>Annex I</i> <i>Commercial practices to be regarded as unfair in all circumstances</i>		<u>See art. 6(a)</u>
160.		<i>(a) Imposing clauses unilaterally on the business users with the purpose of transferring liability to them in a way that contradicts the obligations on online intermediation services established in Articles 12 to 15 of Directive 2000/31/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹;</i> <hr/> <i>⁹ Directive 2000/31/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2000 on certain legal aspects of information society services, in particular electronic commerce, in the Internal Market ('Directive on electronic commerce') (OJ L 178,</i>		

		<i>17.7.2000, p. 1).</i>		
161.		<i>(b) Proposing retroactive contract clauses which are to the detriment of the business;</i>		
162.		<i>(c) Maintaining the legal right to use the business user's information beyond what was specified in the contract after the contract between the online intermediary service provider and the business user has expired;</i>		
163.		<i>(d) Maintaining any clauses or pursuing any practices which make it unduly difficult for a business user to exercise its contractual right to terminate its relationship with an online intermediation service provider or which unfairly discourages a business user from terminating an agreement;</i>		
164.		<i>(e) Interfering in the commercial relationship between competing business users and consumers outside of those activities that are initiated on the online intermediation service. [Am. 141]</i>		