

Meeting conclusions

Participants	<p><u>Visitors' delegation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED], CEO Google and Alphabet • [REDACTED] Google • [REDACTED] Google • [REDACTED] Google <p><u>COM:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margrethe Vestager, Executive Vice-President for Europe in the Digital Age • Werner Stengg, Member of Cabinet EVP Vestager • Penelope Papandropoulos, Member of Cabinet EVP Vestager • Michele Piergiovanni, Member of Cabinet EVP Vestager • [REDACTED] (note-taker SG.A.4) • [REDACTED] (note-taker COMP.C.3)
Issues raised & follow-up	<p><i>On the Digital Services Act (DSA)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EVP Vestager informed that the DSA negotiations are on track for adoption during the French Presidency. Maintaining this pace means that the rules could become effective on 1 January 2023 and companies would need to be ready. Some voices at the European Parliament are advocating a ban on targeted ads, whereas the Commission proposal is asking for users to be informed and able to opt out. The question of responsibilities regarding consumer rights is also still being discussed. • [REDACTED] explained that Google and Android are beginning already to prepare for the rules (working on metrics, transparency and getting ready for new processes), but some of the rules are still moving targets. Google is ranking qualitative information better and has extended this approach to Youtube. For example, COVID-19 information from leading health organisations ranks better. Google is also ranking better journalistic content. Within the DSA negotiations Google is concerned about discussions on misinformation and the possibility of a blanket ban on targeted advertising. Such a ban, [REDACTED] argued, would be detrimental also to SMEs. <p><i>On the implementation of the copyright directive</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is also a perceived disappointment on the side of the publishers, EVP Vestager said, on the time that it takes for the implementation of the copyright directive when it comes to neighbouring rights. The Google CEO explained that his company is very engaged on working with publishers (also in France where some deals with large publishers associations have been signed) but the outcome of the negotiations also depends on the publishers. <p><i>On the Digital Markets Act (DMA) and interoperability/sideload</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED] said that Android embraced interoperability but is exposed to competitors' allegations pointing to lack of privacy. His company, he argued, is striving to strike a balance, giving people more choice. According to a malware study that Google has conducted, less than

	<p>1% of Android devices had security issues (but Android is subject to more security inspections because of its openness). He expressed hope that legal safeguards in the DMA would guarantee privacy and user experience on the one hand and effective competition on the other (the learnings from the judgement on Google Shopping can serve as an example).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EVP Vestager suggested that the company should share the findings of the study with the Commission. Some of the DMA deadlines will be strict. The Commission wishes for the obligations to be as specific as possible and will provide some guidance. <p>On the interoperability of different messaging services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EVP Vestager said that interoperability of different messaging services is a strong wish of Members of the European Parliament. Google, [REDACTED] replied, has been working for 5 years on the RCS (“Rich Communications Services”), a protocol/open standard that should normally work. Google is trying to get other messaging providers on board as well. <p>On the EU-US Trade and Technology Council (TCC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED] expressed his gratitude for the EU-US cooperation within the TTC. If governments with shared values have a strong voice, this will help – companies too – to defend free speech. EVP Vestager said that there was a very constructive atmosphere at the first meeting in Pittsburg. The working groups are focused on concrete topics, which is encouraging. She inquired about the debate in the US on the semiconductors’ sector. • [REDACTED] replied that the semiconductors supply chain is a key issue for the US Administration as well. The TTC is the right vehicle to discuss this. Google is making silicon as a company and would like to contribute. [REDACTED] argued that the perspective should be a multilateral one. There are important aspects of the supply chain in Europe as well.
Note-taker	[REDACTED] (SG.A.4)
Copies	Anthony WHELAN (CAB-VON DER LEYEN); Michael WIMMER, [REDACTED] Elisabeth WERNER, [REDACTED] (SG); Filomena CHIRICO (CAB-BRETON); Gerard DE GRAAF, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (DG CNECT), SG.A.4.