

Out of  
scope

## EU's Breton to TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew: " With younger audiences comes greater responsibility "

Brussels, 19 January 2023

With a few months left for online platforms to comply with the new EU Digital Services Act (DSA), today EU digital chief Thierry Breton and TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew had a frank exchange about the company's implementation plans.

Commissioner Thierry Breton told Shou Zi Chew:

*"With younger audiences comes greater responsibility. It is not acceptable that behind seemingly fun and harmless features, it takes users seconds to access harmful and sometimes even life-threatening content.*

*I am also concerned about allegations of spying on journalists and transfer of personal data outside of Europe.*

*With millions of young users in Europe, TikTok has a special responsibility to ensure that their content is safe.*

*I have very explicitly conveyed to TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew the need to step up efforts to comply with EU legislation on data protection, copyright and online platforms – notably the Digital Services Act (DSA), which will create a safer digital space.*

*The DSA includes dissuasive sanctions including a ban in the EU in case of repeated serious breaches threatening the life or safety of people.*

*We will not hesitate to adopt the full scope of sanctions to protect our citizens if audits do not show full compliance.*

*I strongly encourage TikTok to bring its business in line with the DSA well ahead of 1 September 2023.”*

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**Background:** The Digital Services Act (DSA), which entered into force in November 2022, creates comprehensive new obligations for online platforms to reduce harmful content and counter risks online. Designed as a single, uniform set of rules for the EU, these rules will give users new protections and businesses legal certainty across the whole Single Market. The DSA obligations are expected to apply to very large online platforms at the latest on 1 September 2023. In case of non-compliance, companies face fines of up to 6% of global turnover, enhanced supervision and even a ban on operating in the EU Single Market in case of repeated serious breaches threatening people’s life or safety.