Subject: Urgent | EU Digital Chief Thierry Breton to Google's Sundar Pichai: Let's be proactive and work on an “AI Pact” ahead of the EU AI Act

EU Digital Chief Thierry Breton to Google's Sundar Pichai:

Let's be proactive and work on an “AI Pact” ahead of the EU AI Act

Brussels, 24 May 2023

Today EU Digital Chief Commissioner Thierry Breton held a productive and comprehensive meeting with Alphabet/Google CEO Sundar Pichai covering the following topics falling under Commissioner Thierry Breton’s portfolio:

Digital Services Act (DSA): preparedness for 25 August compliance deadline and disinformation (case of Slovakia elections and the need to urgently act on YouTube)

Digital Markets Act (DMA): next steps in implementation

Data Act: discussion on cloud market

AI Act: launch of an “AI Pact” involving all major European and non-European AI actors on a voluntary basis ahead of the legal deadline of the AI Act

Commissioner Breton said: “There is no time to lose in the AI race to build a safe online environment”.

Commissioner Breton added:

“We expect technology in Europe to respect all of our rules, on data protection, online safety, and artificial intelligence. In Europe, it’s not pick and choose.”
I am pleased that Sundar Pichai recognises this, and that he is committed to complying with all EU rules.

The GDPR is in place. The DSA and DMA are being implemented. Negotiations on the AI Act are approaching the final stage and I call on the European Parliament and Council to adopt the framework before the end of the year.

Sundar and I agreed that we cannot afford to wait until AI regulation actually becomes applicable, and to work together with all AI developers to already develop an AI Pact on a voluntary basis ahead of the legal deadline.

I also welcome Sundar’s commitment to step up the fight against disinformation ahead of elections in Europe.”