Vice-President Jourová met the representatives of Facebook, Google, TikTok, Twitter and YouTube about the urgency of addressing coronavirus vaccines disinformation.

VP thanked companies for their engagement but warned that disinformation stays abundant and vaccine diplomacy is accompanied by propaganda waves by foreign actors. She asked what platforms could do to strengthen the actions to have less toxic content, and how we could facilitate cooperation between public authorities and online platforms in order to identify disinformation in a better way and promote health announcements from the authorities. VJ also underlined the need to work against disinformation in all MS and languages. Finally, she announced she would discuss the matter further with Member States.

DOT Europe agreed with the importance of platforms' actions but noted that platforms are dependent on receiving the authoritative information to be promoted highlighted the role of media in explaining the importance of vaccination.

Facebook pointed to the need for content from health authorities and suggested to facilitate contact with ECDC.

Google offered once again ad grants and agreed that information from public authorities is needed to allow their services to be used well (e.g. maps on access to vaccines). YouTube added their emphasis on enforcement.
TikTok spoke about innovative methods to provide information about vaccines, as well as labelling, deepening cooperation with fact-checkers, and removing most toxic content.

Commission raised the issue of repeated evidence on manifestly toxic content still circulating online even after being spotted by trusted flaggers.