

**From:** [REDACTED]@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** mercredi 23 juin 2021 12:10  
**To:** EC PRESIDENT VDL  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] WHELAN Anthony (CAB-VON DER LEYEN)  
**Subject:** [Joint-letter] Digital Services Act and the future of the Open Internet  
**Attachments:** Joint Letter - Open Internet - Digital Services Act - June 2021.pdf

Dear President von der Leyen,

We hope this email finds you well.

This morning [Automattic](#), [Jodel](#), [Seznam](#), [Twitter](#), and [Vimeo](#), published a joint letter ([available here](#)) highlighting the unique opportunity the Digital Services Act (DSA) represents to build on the laws that laid a foundation for the flourishing of the Open Internet.

We're writing to you today as a group of small and mid-sized digital companies to advocate on a few key points:

- **Digital Single Market Under Threat:** The signatories are calling for the EU institutions to defend the core purpose of the DSM: it is one market with one set of rules. Anything less harms the EU both as a location for business, a global competitor, and as an ally of the global and open Internet.
- **International Precedent of the DSA:** The models and penalties we enact in Europe will be exported across the world to service political agendas of all kinds, including those that would oppress fundamental rights, journalism, and activism.
- **Illegal Content and Flexibility on Enforcement:** Overly rigid and intensive proposals (such as those set out in Articles 14 to 21 of the DSA) risk setting regulatory barriers that only a handful of companies have the resources to meet. We call on the EU to clarify what constitutes illegal content and to adopt the principle that actual knowledge of illegality is only obtained by intermediaries if it comes through a legally defined judicial process.
- **The Reality of the Internet Ecosystem & Very Large Online Platforms:** The DSA should recognise that the Internet is more than a handful of companies. We call on policymakers to reflect this by including more precision in the criteria for very large online platforms (VLOPS) in Chapter 3, Section 4.

- **Transparency:** We commit to continue increasing transparency around policy enforcement and data access to empower research and more disclosures around coordinated efforts to manipulate platforms. It is also necessary that we have flexible and differentiated requirements across all sectors. Horizontal requirements will only create an apples to oranges comparison between organisations large and small, centralised and decentralised.

We welcome your comments and feedback on our [joint letter](#) and the opportunity to discuss our approach further with you.

Best regards,  
Automattic  
Jodel  
Seznam  
Twitter

Vimeo

(Signatory contacts in cc)