

PRESS RELEASE

EDiMA laments the hijacking of the NIS Directive

Brussels, 8 December 2015 - EDiMA recognizes that some improvements were made to the legislative text on the Network and Information Security (NIS) Directive over the last months but laments that this legislative piece has been misused as a political vehicle to address an unfounded need to ‘regulate platforms’ as was pointed out by MEP Schwab when the text was agreed upon last night. This Directive is the first proposal to be finalised under the Digital Single Market Strategy yet completely bypassed the Principles of Better Regulation.

“The need for a solid NIS Directive is something that EDiMA has always encouraged and worked towards- but alas the political push to include Digital Service Providers, despite the Commission being in the process of analysing whether there is a need for any further regulation regarding the activities carried out by online platforms, has led to these definitions becoming a de facto reference to all EU laws. Taking into account the definitions of the NIS Directive is inevitable if the EU acquis is to be maintained as a consistent and non-contradictory body of laws. This is the first legislative piece to be finalised as part of the Digital Single Market Strategy and is a prime example of the fact that despite the European Commission’s best efforts to follow the Better Regulation principles by analysing the situation before adding more legislation- these have been disregarded entirely” said EDiMA Director General – Siada El Ramly.

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* EDiMA is the European trade association representing online platforms. It is an alliance of new media and Internet companies whose members include Airbnb, Allegro Group, Amazon EU, Apple, eBay, Expedia, Facebook, Google, King, LinkedIn, Microsoft, Netflix, PayPal, TripAdvisor, Twitter, Yahoo! Europe, Yelp. EDiMA’s members provide Internet and new media platforms offering European consumers a wide range of online services, including e-content, media, e-commerce, communications and information/search services.