

PRESS RELEASE

EDiMA dismayed at rushed agreement on the Regulation to prevent the dissemination of terrorist content online

Brussels, 6th December 2018 – EDiMA* is disappointed by today's agreement in the Justice and Home Affairs Council on the Regulation to prevent the dissemination of terrorist content.

“This piece of legislation is of utmost importance yet the Presidency chose to rush the examination of this text, putting an emphasis on time at the expense of quality. As the file became a political priority, technical and legal improvements to the text were neglected. The text adopted by the Council today will complicate the work of hosting service providers and national competent authorities alike, preventing the swift conduction of investigations. Fundamental rights safeguards are almost non-existent and smaller players will need to apply measures that only a few big ones can afford. If we want this Regulation to reach its goal and actually provide for a safer online environment in the EU, it still needs to be significantly amended.” said Siada El Ramly EDiMA Director General.

The resulting text is alas going to lead to more legal uncertainty and set obligations that are not practicable; the scope of the Regulation is still encompassing providers technically unable to comply, there is no further clarity on definitions and the imposition of proactive measures will have a seriously negative impact on European citizens' fundamental rights.

EDiMA will continue to input into the debate and calls on the European Parliament to effectively tackle this Regulation's shortcomings.

For more information and for the report, contact:

+32 2 626 1990

info@edima-eu.org

Ends

* EDiMA is the European trade association representing online platforms and other innovative businesses. It is an alliance of new media and Internet companies whose members include Airbnb, Allegro, Amazon EU, Apple, eBay, Expedia, Facebook, Google, King, Microsoft, Mozilla, Oath, OLX, Snap Inc., TripAdvisor, Twitter, Veon Digital and 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.