

## PRESS RELEASE

### Time limit not feasible: EDiMA on the approval of the Parliament position on the Terrorist Content Regulation

**Brussels, 17 April 2019 – The report of the LIBE committee on the Terrorist Content Regulation, endorsed today in Plenary by the European Parliament, will have unintended consequences. EDiMA\*, the trade association representing online platforms and other innovative tech companies, says that despite the improvements made to the Commission’s text, the Regulation will still be detrimental to both European users’ fundamental rights and the internet ecosystem.**

Terrorist content is unequivocally unacceptable offline and online, and EDiMA supports the aim of this Regulation in fighting it more effectively. The association is concerned however that some of its provisions could be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to comply with for the vast majority of hosting service providers.

“The Parliament’s position makes the infeasible requirement of a one-hour time limit from receipt of a removal order to take down content, no matter the size and means of the platform targeted,” said Siada El Ramly, EDiMA Director General.

“While we welcome the improvements that have been made to the initial text, we regret that this extremely short deadline is still in place, as it is likely to foster the over-removal of lawful content and harm the freedom of expression and fundamental rights of European users. In addition, the Regulation fails to be proportionate and will hurt small European online businesses who cannot operate the 24/7 service required to comply with this rigid deadline.”

EDiMA’s members already cooperate and work together with governments, regulators, and academic experts to do their utmost to remove and prevent the dissemination of terrorist content. However, they are deeply concerned about the controversial and rigid provisions of this Regulation, such as its article 4. We note in particular that the amendment to reject this one-hour timeline was only rejected by three votes during the Plenary session, highlighting how divided Parliament is on the issue.

The file will now move into trilogue negotiations between the Parliament, Commission, and Council. EDiMA calls on the institutions to further improve the text and make sure it positively contributes to the fight against terrorist content online, while safeguarding fundamental rights and the European online ecosystem.

For more information contact:  
+32 2 626 1990  
[info@edima-eu.org](mailto: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, OLX, Snap Inc., TripAdvisor, Twitter, Veon Digital, Verizon Media 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.