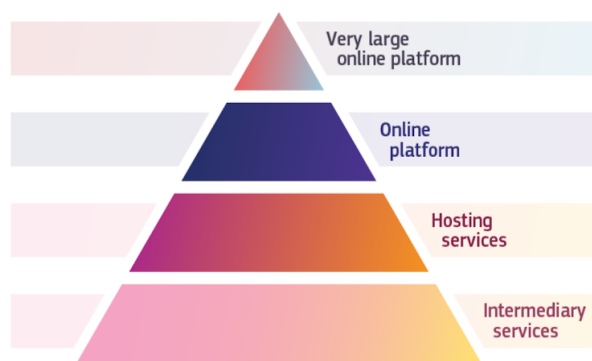# The Digital Services Act (DSA).

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The Digital Services Act (DSA).

Avisi Managed Environment' Comprehensive Approach

Applicable:

Which providers are covered?

The DSA includes rules for online intermediary services, which millions of Europeans use every day.
The obligations of different online players match their role, size and impact in the online ecosystem.

- **Very large online platforms and search engines** pose particular risks in the dissemination of illegal content and societal harms. Specific rules are foreseen for platforms reaching more than 10% of 450 million consumers in Europe. The list of designated platforms is available on DSA: Very large online platforms and search engines.
- **Online platforms** bring together sellers and consumers such as online marketplaces, app stores, collaborative economy platforms and social media platforms.
- **Hosting services** such as cloud and web hosting services (also including online platforms).
- **Intermediary services** offering network infrastructure: Internet access providers and domain name registrars (also including hosting services).

When: August 2023 and will apply to all platforms from February 2024

The Digital Services Act (DSA).

Introduction

The DSA is a regulation in EU law that aims to create a safer digital space where the fundamental rights of users are protected and to establish a level playing field for businesses. Here's an overview of its key aspects:

- **Scope and Purpose**: The DSA applies to a wide range of online services, from social networks and content-sharing platforms to marketplaces and app stores. Its main goal is to tackle illegal content, ensure transparent advertising, and combat the spread of disinformation online.
- **Key Goals**: The DSA is designed to protect consumers' fundamental rights online, foster innovation and growth, and facilitate scaling up for smaller platforms, SMEs, and startups. It emphasizes rebalancing the roles of users, platforms, and public authorities according to European values, with a focus on citizens' rights and well-being.
- **Rules for Large Platforms**: Very large online platforms (VLOPs) and very large online search engines (VLOSEs) that have more than 45 million monthly active users in the EU are subject to specific rules due to their significant role in disseminating content and their potential societal impact. The regulation includes provisions for these entities to control the spread of illegal content and societal harms.
- **Enforcement**: The DSA entered into force for very large platforms in August 2023 and will apply to all platforms from February 2024. The European Commission, along with national authorities, is responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance. For VLOPs and VLOSEs, the Commission takes a more direct role in enforcement.
- **Impact on Society**: The legislation aims for greater democratic control and oversight over systemic platforms, aiming to mitigate risks such as manipulation or disinformation.

The DSA has been received with mixed reactions. Some view it as setting a high standard for regulation, while others express concerns about its rigidity, potential impact on freedom of speech, and burdens on tech companies. The European media sector largely welcomes the DSA for increasing transparency of online platforms' recommendation system.

For detailed information, including the specific obligations and the full scope of the DSA, you can visit the official European Commission website on the Digital Services Act here.

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The Digital Services Act (DSA).

DSA Compliance and Beyond with the Avisi Managed Environment

The Avisi Managed Environment (AME), which is built upon Kubernetes, can support compliance with the Digital Services Act (DSA) in several ways:

1. **Security and Compliance Certifications**: AME's platform is ISO 27001 and ISO 27701 certified and provides security hardening based on CISA guidelines. Such certifications and security practices align with the DSA's emphasis on protecting users' fundamental rights and ensuring platform security.
2. **Data Governance**: The platform's compliance with standards like ISO 27001, ISO 27701 and SOC 2 Type II indicates robust data governance, which is crucial for the DSA's requirements related to data protection and management of user information.
3. **Scalability and Reliability**: AME provides scalability and reliability for services, which can be critical for handling the large user bases that VLOPs and VLOSEs service under the DSA. The ability to scale and ensure uptime is essential for compliance, especially when managing risks associated with illegal content and disinformation.
4. **Monitoring and Reporting**: With integrated monitoring and logging using tools like Prometheus and Loki, AME can help platforms detect and act upon illegal content or harmful activities online. This aligns with the DSA's requirements for active content management and risk mitigation.
5. **Auditing and Transparency**: AME supports audit logging by default in all clusters. This could help platforms maintain the necessary records to demonstrate compliance with the DSA's transparency and auditing requirements.
6. **User and Access Management**: AME's support for identity management, Single Sign-on (SSO), and Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) can help platforms comply with the DSA's user safety provisions by ensuring secure and verified access control.
7. **Infrastructure Management**: By providing automated cluster management and patching, AME can help maintain the integrity and security of the infrastructure, which is important for the DSA's goal of mitigating systemic risks.
8. **Interoperability Across Clouds**: Since AME supports multiple cloud providers, it provides the flexibility needed to comply with the DSA's regulations across different jurisdictions within the EU, ensuring that services are continuously available and resilient.

The Digital Services Act (DSA).

Conclusion

Avisi Managed Environment represents an ideal choice for businesses seeking to comply with DSA while ensuring operational excellence and security. Its combination of robust security features, proactive customer service, and a community-focused approach positions it as a leader in fostering a secure, efficient, and resilient digital ecosystem in the IT sector.

AME's features that emphasize security, compliance, data governance, and robust infrastructure management are likely to be beneficial for platforms needing to comply with the DSA's requirements. Our advice is that each platform must assess specific DSA obligations against AME's capabilities to ensure full compliance.

Adopting Avisi Managed Environment is more than a strategic decision; it's a commitment to a higher standard of digital operations and community responsibility.

Our advice is that each platform must assess specific DSA obligations against AME's capabilities to ensure full compliance.

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