



## Commission opens proceedings to assist Google in complying with interoperability and online search data sharing obligations under the Digital Markets Act

Brussels, 27 January 2026

Today, the European Commission has started two sets of specification proceedings to assist Google in complying with its obligations under the Digital Markets Act ('DMA'). The specification proceedings formalise the Commission's regulatory dialogue with Google on certain areas of its compliance with two DMA obligations.

The first set of proceedings concerns Google's obligation under Article 6(7) of the DMA to provide third-party developers with free and effective interoperability with hardware and software features controlled by Google's Android operating system. Today's proceedings focus on features used by Google's own Artificial Intelligence ('AI') services, such as Gemini. The Commission intends to specify how Google should grant third-party AI service providers equally effective access to the same features as those available to Google's own services. The aim is to ensure that third-party providers have an equal opportunity to innovate and compete in the rapidly evolving AI landscape on smart mobile devices.

The second set of proceedings concerns Google's obligation under Article 6(11) of the DMA to grant third-party providers of online search engines access to anonymised ranking, query, click and view data held by Google Search on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory ('FRAND') terms. These proceedings focus on the scope of data, the anonymisation method, the conditions of access, and the eligibility of AI chatbot providers to access the data. Effective compliance and access to a useful dataset will allow third-party providers of online search engines to optimise their services and offer users genuine alternatives to Google Search.

### Next steps

The Commission will conclude the proceedings **within six months of their opening**. Within the upcoming three months the Commission will communicate its preliminary findings to Google setting out the draft measures it intends to impose on Google to effectively comply with the DMA. Non-confidential summaries of preliminary findings and the envisaged measures will be published to enable third parties to provide comments.

These proceedings, which by their nature do not take a position on compliance with the DMA, are without prejudice to the powers of the Commission to adopt a decision finding non-compliance with any of the obligations laid down in the DMA by a gatekeeper, including the possibility to impose fines or periodic penalty payments.

### Background

The DMA aims to ensure contestable and fair markets in the digital sector. It regulates gatekeepers, which are large digital platforms that provide an important gateway between business users and consumers, whose position can grant them the power to create a bottleneck in the digital economy.

On [6 September 2023](#), the European Commission designated Google Inc.'s Google Search, Google Play, Google Maps, YouTube, Google Android operating system, Google Chrome, Google Shopping and its online advertising services as core platform services. Google has had to fully comply with all applicable DMA obligations in respect of the designated services since [7 March 2024](#).

The Commission has published an [annual report](#) on the implementation of the DMA and the progress made towards achieving its objectives.

Quote(s):

*"Artificial Intelligence tools are transforming the way we seek and receive online information on our smartphones and even how we interact with our devices. This creates new opportunities. We want to maximise the potential and the benefits of this profound technological shift by making sure the playing field is open and fair, not tilted in favour of the largest few. With today's proceedings we want to help Google by explaining in more detail how it should comply with its interoperability and online search data sharing obligations under the Digital Markets Act."*

Teresa Ribera, Executive Vice-President for Clean, Just and Competitive Transition

*"Millions of Europeans rely daily on online search engines, and increasingly on AI services. Today's proceedings under the Digital Markets Act will provide guidance to Google to ensure that third-party online search engines and AI providers enjoy the same access to search data and Android operating system as Google's own services, like Google Search or Gemini. Our goal is to keep the AI market open, unlock competition on the merits and promote innovation, to the benefit of consumers and businesses."*

Henna Virkkunen, Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy

Press contacts:

[Ricardo CARDOSO](#) (+32 2 29 80100)

[Thomas REGNIER](#) (+32 2 29 91099)

[Paula Clara RITTER-MOSCHUTZ](#) (+32 2 29 64083)

[Patricia POROPAT](#) (+32 2 29 80485)

General public inquiries: [Europe Direct](#) by phone [00 800 67 89 10 11](#) or by [email](#)