

## EU's Digital Markets Act: Opportunity engine for startups

December 2023 Eoghan O'Neill Platforms Directorate, European Commission





# DIGITAL Markets Act



## DMA is not a proposal or a wishlist

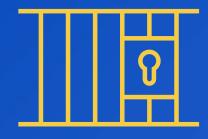
# DMA is confirmed as EU law



## Scope of Digital Markets Act (DMA)







Identification of large online platforms as "gatekeepers" in digital markets

Compliance starts
7 March 2024



### Scope of Digital Markets Act (DMA)

Regulation (EU) 2022/1925 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2022 on contestable and fair markets in the digital sector and amending Directives (EU) 2019/1937 and (EU) 2020/1828 (Digital Markets Act) (Text with EEA relevance)

### Six Gatekeepers Designated (announced Sept



2023)



#### **Core Platform Services**

**Alphabet** 

Amazon

**Apple** 

**ByteDance** 

Meta

Microsoft

**Social Network** 

TikTok
Facebook
Instagram
LinkedIn

N-IICS

WhatsApp Messenger

**Browser** 

Chrome Safari **Intermediation** 

Google Maps
Google Play
Google Shopping
Amazon Marketplace
Apple App Store
Meta Marketplace

<u>Video Sharing</u> YouTube Ads

Google Amazon Meta

Search

**Google Search** 

**Operating System** 

Google Android iOS
Windows PC OS



# Does DMA bring new obligations to startups / SMEs? NONE



# DMA only brings opportunities for startups / SMEs



## Exhibit A

Data portability



### Exhibit A – Data portability

Articles 6.9 & 6.10

Starting March 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 end-users will be empowered to port their data elsewhere Promoting multi-homing & user switching

Giving competitors & new entrants a chance to:

- capture a new stream of demand and
  - propose competitive offers

Enabling **business-users** to secure "free of charge… effective, high-quality, continuous and real-time access to, and use of, aggregated and non-aggregated data" generated by their apps.

Opens up potential for a new data-driven economy. Key? Incentivising users with new service offerings



## Exhibit B

"Ranking, Query, Click and View" data



# Exhibit B: 'Ranking, Query, Click & View' data

Article 6.11

New and emerging companies in the search engine space will be able to...





Secure anonymised "ranking, query, click and view" data from any search engine designated as a gatekeeper Data that relates to both **free and paid search data**generated by users

Goal? Help new and emerging search engines improve their performance on par with the biggest players



## Exhibit C

Provisions (...7 of them...) relevant to gatekeeper app stores



#### Conditions of access for biz users

Article 6.12

#### Gatekeepers shall:

"...apply fair, reasonable and nondiscriminatory general conditions of access for business users". "...publish general conditions of access, including an alternative dispute settlement mechanism"

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- 2
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- 6
- 7



### Side-loading & 3rd party app stores

Article 6.4

Gatekeepers "shall allow and technically enable the installation and effective use" on their OS of...





Third-party "software application stores"

'Side Loading': "Third-party software applications.... accessed by means other than the relevant core platform services..."

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#### Direct communication with users

Articles 5.4 & 5.5

DMA addresses the intermediary role app stores have once an app is downloaded

#### Article 5.4

Business users <u>CAN</u> communicate with users of their app outside the app store

#### Article 5.5

End users \_\_\_\_ access content they have purchased outside context of app store

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# Usage of alternative payment systems, browser engines / id services



Article 5.7

Gatekeepers shall <u>not</u> require end- and businessusers to use / offer / interoperate with that gatekeepers':



Web browser engine



Payment system (for in-app purchases)



Identification service

















European Commission

Article 6.5

When it comes to ranking of apps in an app store:

Gatekeepers shall not favour their own products/services compared to "similar services or products of a 3rd party"

Transparent, fair, and nondiscriminatory conditions should be applied to all rankings

#### **Provisions**













7



# Gatekeeper use of data generated on their platform by business users

Article 6.2

When in competition with business users...

gatekeepers cannot

...use data generated by those business users on their platform

(e.g. to develop new competing apps/services/products).

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## **Exhibit D**

# Interoperability of messaging apps (N-IICS)



# Exhibit D: Messaging appinteroperability (1/3)

Starting March 7<sup>th</sup> 2024, Gatekeepers will have to publish the reference offer, explaining the terms under which it will provide interoperability



Third Parties can then <u>request</u> interoperability **on basis of reference offer** 



# Exhibit D: Messaging appinteroperability (2/3)

# Reference offer: What must it include?

## Gatekeeper messaging apps need to offer interoperability for:

- end-to-end text messaging between two individual end users
- sharing between two <u>individual</u> end users of
  - Images
  - voice messages
  - videos
  - other files

When can this interoperability happen?

Within 3 months of having received a reasonable request from a third-party messaging service



# Exhibit D: Messaging appinteroperability (3/3)

Over time, reference offers need to expand....

Starting ~September 2025 designated messaging apps must offer:

1

Interoperable end-to-end text messaging within groups of individual end-users (including sharing of images, voice messages, videos & other files)

Starting ~September 2027

messaging apps must offer:

2

Interoperable end-to-end voice and video calls between users (individual and groups)



# The landscape in the EU – especially for startups with data in their DNA – is about to undergo a radical, unprecedented shift



## All-inclusive process

- → Pre-compliance discussions are on-going with Gatekeepers
- → Input will be sought from all relevant stakeholders once we have relatively stable and mature compliance proposals from gatekeepers.



# Seizing Opportunities in the DMA World

## INVESTORS



Reevaluate your strategies



Ensure portfolio readiness

#### INNOVATOR S



Identify market opportunities



Adapt your offerings

The time to start getting ready is <u>now</u>.

Not 7 March 2024.



# Regulatory action alone is NOT enough. Investors and innovators? You have your part to play

The ball is in YOUR court to seize the opportunities.