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Press Release

ERGA adopts Proposals Aimed at Strengthening the Digital Services Act (DSA) with Respect to Online Content Regulation

ERGA firmly believes that online content regulation requires tailored rules and bodies. Therefore, ERGA published a [common statement](#) in March 2021, outlining aspects of the DSA Proposal which it welcomed or wished to be clarified. Having had time to discuss the DSA proposal in more detail, the European media regulators have now adopted a more detailed position paper on 'Proposals aimed at strengthening the Digital Services Act (DSA) with respect to online content regulation'. In this newly published paper, ERGA intends to articulate a set of constructive and pragmatic proposals on the DSA, based on its experience and in-depth analyses. The group now aims to provide solutions for the issues it identified in its first statement. It seeks to ensure that the elements of the DSA that relate to online content regulation take into account the following objectives:

1. **Clarify and tailor the rules of the DSA** to the specific needs of online content regulation, regarding both services in scope and the responsibilities and roles of national regulatory authorities (NRAs);
2. **Secure and optimise the interplay between the DSA and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD)** thereby alleviating implementation risks;
3. **Create an appropriate enforcement structure for the rules of the DSA relating to systemic online content moderation**, at both European and national levels and taking into account sectoral specificities;
4. **Foster cooperation between national regulatory authorities for online content regulation** and give suitable powers to all of them, relying on the strength **of a sectoral network**.

ERGA stands ready to further engage in reflections and exchanges with the European Commission and the co-legislators in the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union.

"Nothing less than the future of online regulation is what we talk about these days. Only if we have an effective and in the end efficient regulation, we can protect our European values. The DSA proposal has this potential if it makes use of the well-established structures that already exist today and integrates them in its ambitious and important mission", comments Dr Tobias Schmid, Chair of ERGA.

The full ERGA Proposals Paper on the European Commission's Proposal for a Digital Services Act (DSA) is now available for download:

<https://erga-online.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2021.06.25-ERGA-DSA-Paper-final.pdf>

About ERGA:

The European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services (ERGA) consists of the national regulatory authorities in the field of audiovisual media services. ERGA advises the European Commission and facilitates cooperation between the regulatory bodies in the EU. Dr Tobias Schmid, Director of the Media Authority of North Rhine-Westphalia, is the current Chairperson of ERGA.