

Opposition to the Anti-terrorism Censorship Regulation

3 December 2018

Mr. President,

Using the pretext of the fight against online radicalisation, you are supporting a proposition from the European Commission for a Regulation imposing new obligations to all actors of the Internet: services hosting websites, blogs and videos, forum and social networks, press websites, email and messaging providers...

While the European Commission and your government do not demonstrate in a convincing way the effectiveness nor the necessity of these obligations to fight against terrorism, you wish to force all actors of the Internet to act on content whose dangerousness have not been assessed by a judge, and in a very short period of time.

These obligations are extremely dangerous for the entire European digital ecosystem. Indeed, the economic, human and technological means required to comply with these obligations are beyond the reach of almost all the actors of the Internet: very few will be able to answer 24/7 and within one hour to removal requests issued by any Member State. In a similar way, surveillance measures and automated censorship that national authorities will be able to impose are totally impracticable. Thereby, to comply with these new constraints, small and medium-sized economic actors will outsource the execution of these obligations to the few Web giants that, because of their financial power, will be able to support it, Google and Facebook firstly. This outsourcing will lead to an economic and technical dependence that would highly damage the whole European digital economy.

Non-profit and collaborative organisations will have no other choice but to close down their activities.

This Regulation will therefore dramatically reduce Europe's digital diversity and will submit the rest to a handful of companies which are already in a near-monopolistic situation, and whose hegemony should be disputed rather than reinforced.

Finally, this Regulation would lead to mass surveillance of our online exchanges and to private and automated censorship of information, contrary to the humanist project that you intend to promote at the European level.

We, actors of this ecosystem and defenders of fundamental liberties, ask you to renounce to this project.

Signatories:

- [Alsace Réseau Neutre](#)
- [April](#)
- [Aquilenet](#)
- [Bee Home](#)
- [Le CECIL](#)
- [Devloprog](#)
- [Digital Courage](#)
- [FAImaison](#)
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- [FFDN](#)
- [Framasoft](#)
- [Franciliens](#)
- [Globenet](#)
- [Hadoly](#)
- [Hoga](#)
- [Human Rights Watch](#)
- [Illyse](#)
- [Iloth](#)
- [IndieHosters](#)
- [La mère Zaclys](#)
- [Labomedia](#)
- [Lautrenet](#)
- [Marsnet](#)
- [Mediapart](#)
- [Nebulae](#)
- Observatoire des Libertés et du Numérique (signataires : CECIL, Creis-Terminal, Globenet, LQDN, SM)
- [Open Rights Group](#)
- [Outils libres](#)
- [Ouvaton](#)
- [Panoptikon](#)
- [Paquerettes](#)
- [Parinux](#)
- [Picasoft](#)
- [ProtonMail](#)
- [Rézine](#)
- [Statewatch](#)
- [Syndicat de la magistrature](#)
- [Syndicat national des journalistes](#)
- [Creis - Terminal](#)
- [Toile-Libre](#)
- [Vhost](#)
- [Wikimedia France](#)
- [Witness](#)
- [Xnet](#)