

President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen,
Vice-President of the European Commission Teresa Ribera,
Vice-President of the European Commission Henna Virkkunen,
Member of the European Commission Ekaterina Zaharieva,
Berlaymont Building,
Rue de la Loi 200,
1049 Brussels, Belgium

June 25, 2025

Negotiations With the USA: No Entanglement With the Digital Markets Act

Dear President von der Leyen,
dear Vice-President Ribera,
dear Vice-President Virkkunen,
dear Commissioner Zaharieva,

We are following with deep concern recent reports that the U.S. Trade Representative has proposed a temporary suspension of the Digital Markets Act (DMA) enforcement for U.S. digital companies as part of a bilateral dialogue with the European Union.

Such a step would call into question the status of the DMA as democratically adopted and binding EU law, setting a far-reaching precedent. The selective suspension of European rules for U.S. companies would seriously undermine confidence in the enforceability of EU legislation and in the European Single Market as a reliable and rules-based economic area.

The DMA is not a geopolitical manoeuvre and must not be allowed to become one. It is an appropriate instrument for addressing structural imbalances in digital markets. For start-ups and scale-ups in Europe, it is an elementary tool to ensure fair competitive conditions, market access and thus innovation.

If the EU wants to promote European tech champions, it cannot at the same time undermine the key regulatory foundations for fair digital markets. With the EU Start-up and Scale-up Strategy, the Commission has itself set the ambition to create better growth conditions for innovative companies. The 2024 Draghi Report likewise underscores the DMA's importance for a competitive digital economy in Europe. Conceding in the context of trade negotiations would undermine these objectives and the very policies only recently launched to strengthen Europe's competitiveness.

We are fully aware of the political complexity surrounding the ongoing talks with the United States. Precisely for this reason, clarity and a firm stance are now essential. We therefore urge you: do not allow the enforcement of the DMA to be weakened or delayed. Trade negotiations must not be conflated with the application of existing law. This includes avoiding dialogue formats that are clearly intended to stall or undermine the enforcement of binding EU legislation.

Europe now has the opportunity to demonstrate that it stands by its rules and takes its strategic objectives seriously. We, the undersigned representatives of the digital and start-up ecosystem 'Made in Europe', fully support you in this endeavour.

Signed by:

