

EMEA Tech Regulation: Key Takeaways

Digital Markets Act (DMA)

What You Need to Know

- The Commission has created a new “**Digital Markets Act**” regime, which provides a comprehensive regulatory framework for so-called "gatekeepers". This regime imposes a set of strict rules which are intended to open up markets and ensure fairness to users.
- **Gatekeepers** are large digital platforms which operate “core platform services” such as online intermediation services, operating systems or web browsers, and which are important gateways for business users to reach end-users.
- The **new rules** will force gatekeepers, for example, to share data with rivals and to ensure interoperability with hardware or software features of the platform. They also prohibit those firms from giving preferential treatment to their own businesses over competing third-party rivals in certain areas.
- The **aim of the DMA** is to open up “core platform services to greater competition”, to prevent gatekeepers from leveraging their position into neighboring markets and to protect users from unfair practices.

Our cross-disciplinary team is advising on the impact of the DMA, helping our client to navigate this new regulatory landscape.

Why Does It Matter?

- For the handful of companies that will be designated as gatekeepers, the DMA could require significant adjustments to both the design of their services and the relationship with the users of their eco-system.
- The DMA may also affect many companies that fall outside its scope, as they may be given greater rights or, at times, may no longer be able to rely on a gatekeeper’s service.
- Given these potentially significant changes, companies should ensure that they review in advance how the DMA is going to impact their business.

Why Covington?

Combining our competition, technology regulatory and privacy capabilities, our cross-disciplinary team is advising on the impact of the DMA helping our client to navigate this new regulatory landscape.

For more information, please reach out to Christian Ahlborn, Kevin Coates, Dan Cooper, or another member of our team.



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