



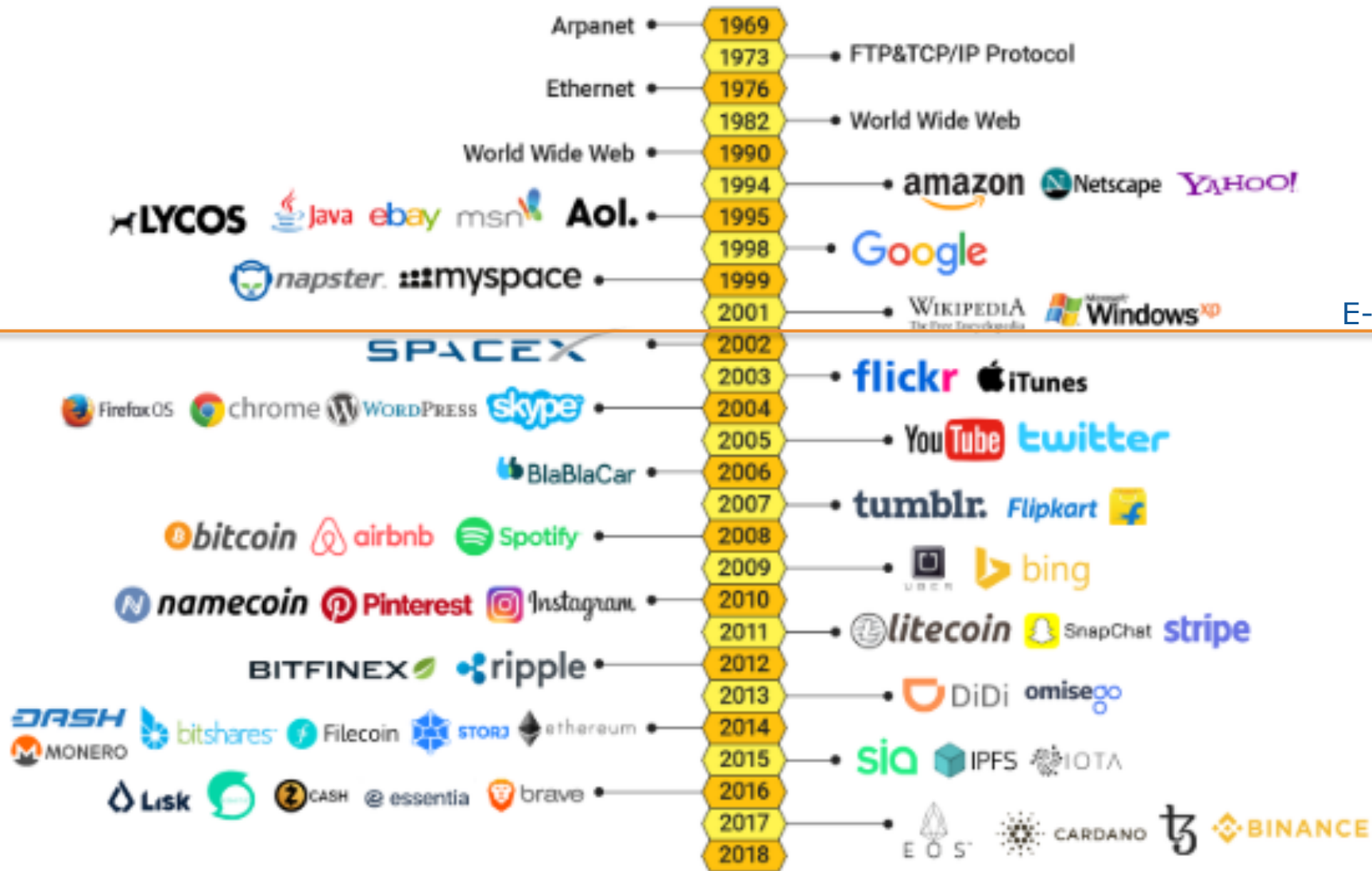
Digital Services Act package

Process and timeline

RIPE NCC

8 June 2020

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eCommerce & Platforms Unit



E-Commerce Directive
adopted in the EU

SHAPING EUROPE'S DIGITAL FUTURE

1

New and revised rules to deepen the Internal Market for Digital Services, by increasing and harmonising the responsibilities of online platforms and information service providers and reinforce the oversight over platforms' content policies in the EU.

2

Ex-ante rules to ensure that markets characterised by large platforms with significant network effects acting as gatekeepers, remain fair and contestable for innovators, businesses, and new market entrants.

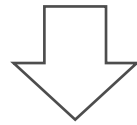
Commission's Communication on Shaping Europe's Digital Future, 19 February 2020
https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication-shaping-europes-digital-future-feb2020_en_4.pdf



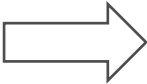

Deepening the Internal Market and clarifying responsibilities for digital services

Context:

- The **digital world is evolving**, new ways to communicate, shop or access information online are constantly developing and new services are emerging



new **benefits** but also new **challenges** and risks to EU citizens (e.g. non-compliant goods, fundamental freedoms, etc.)

- Increasing **concerns on platform accountability**  **Member States start regulating** separately for user safety  **fragmentation** of the single market - only **large platforms** can effectively comply with different national laws

- Lack of **platform oversight and effective cooperation** between competent authorities across the EU

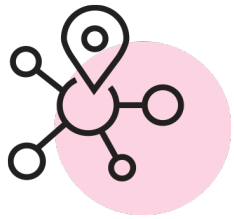
Objectives:



Ensure that **European (SME) platforms can scale up** across the Single Market by harmonising rules and procedures and reducing administrative burdens



Make the **internet safer for users** by **modernising rules and making platforms act more responsibility** - propose a regulatory framework that balances safety and security with fundamental rights and freedoms



Increase accountability and facilitate **better oversight** and effective and responsive **administrative cooperation** between competent authorities in the Member States



Ex-ante rules for a fair and competitive environment of platform markets

Context

Online platforms

Bringing benefits for consumers and innovation as well as market efficiencies

BUT

Large online platforms

continue setting the rules of the game within the platform and leverage their advantages (data, consumer base, etc.)

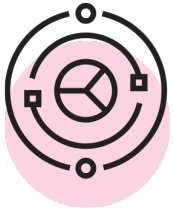
AND

These large players act as **gatekeepers** leading to increased dependency and limited bargaining powers

Objectives



Address **unfair practices** that prevent companies dependant on large online platforms acting as gatekeepers to compete

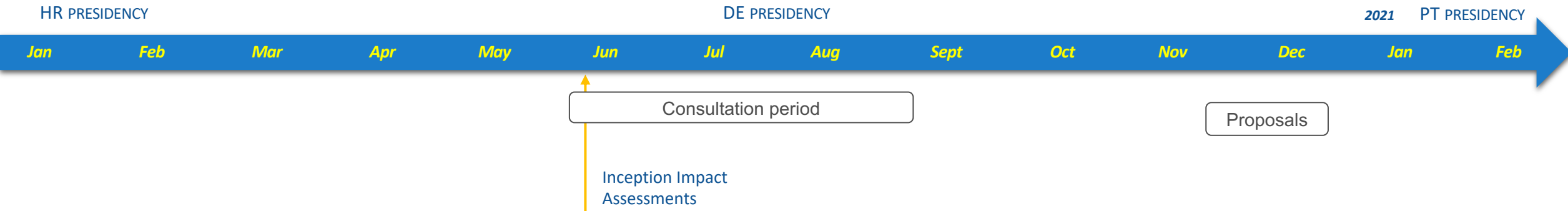


Make sure that innovative European SMEs can **contest markets** characterized by large online platforms acting as gatekeepers



Make sure that European SMEs **can innovate** across the online platform ecosystems in the Single Market

Process leading to the Commission proposals



- Preparatory work, following Better Regulation steps for evidence-based policies, including an open public consultation and an impact assessment process
- Targeted consultation for the Member States
- Several relevant separate work-streams on-going on complementary initiatives
- Workshops and engagement opportunities – some already completed, others still to take place

Stakeholder consultation

Exploring more broadly challenges and opportunities in the online environment:

- I. How to effectively keep users safer online?**
- II. Reviewing the liability regime of digital services acting as intermediaries?**
- III. What issues derive from the gatekeeper power of digital platforms?**
- IV. Other emerging issues and opportunities, including online advertising and smart contracts**
- V. How to address challenges around the situation of self-employed individuals offering services through online platforms?**
- VI. What governance to reinforce ow to complete the Single Market for digital services?**

Stakeholder consultation – possibly relevant parts to RIPE NCC members

- Measures to tackle illegal content
- Measures to tackle potentially harmful content
- Question on usage of WHOIS information
- Cooperation of Member States/National Authorities

[Link to the open public consultation](#)

Thank you!



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