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European laws must be enforced and not subjected to US interference

The European Consumer Organisation (BEUC) regrets the announcements made by the US Administration on February 21 to investigate and threaten trade retaliation for European legislation that safeguards European consumers and ensures the openness and contestability of its digital markets.

The EU's tech laws are essential to address the overwhelming power of Big Tech giants. The Digital Services Act creates a safer, more predictable and trusted online environment where consumers are less exposed to dangerous and illegal products from rogue traders, while the Digital Markets Act opens up markets to more competition from tech challengers and creates more choice for consumers.

Agustín Reyna, Director General of BEUC, commented:

“The EU must stand firm and enforce laws adopted by its sovereign and democratic institutions. These laws are crucial for the better functioning of digital markets and services in the EU. It is extremely worrying to see the US Administration threatening trade retaliation in response to lobbying by Big Tech companies. Let's be clear- the rules on how companies, regardless of their nationality, should behave towards 450 million European consumers must be decided in Europe. The EU is founded on the rule of law and that must be respected.”

Notes to editors

BEUC's Director General Agustin Reyna is available for comment on this developing story and journalists are welcome to contact BEUC for interviews.

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