

LAW
AMENDING ARTICLES 2, 48 AND 50 OF REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA LAW NO 1-1418 ON
PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC
AND SUPPLEMENTING THE LAW
WITH ARTICLE 52¹

2024

No

Vilnius

Article 1 Amendment to Article 2

1. Article 2 shall be supplemented with a new paragraph 25 as follows:

‘25. “Manipulation of online social media service platform accounts” means a method of increasing dissemination of the content of an online social media platform’s accounts with the aim of artificially increasing the number of views, comments, shares, likes, followers and/or subscribers of the accounts by means of automatically managed or automatically controlled accounts or groups thereof, in order for algorithms to prioritise this content, thereby making it available to a large number of end-users of the online social media service.’

2. The former paragraphs 25 through 87 of Article 2 shall be treated as paragraphs 26 through 88, respectively.

3. Article 2(88) shall be amended to read as follows:

‘88. Other terms used in this law shall be understood as defined in the Republic of Lithuania Law on Alcohol Control, the Republic of Lithuania Gambling Law, the Law on Electronic Communications, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Pharmacy, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Information Society Services, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Cyber Security, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Cinema, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Competition, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Charity and Sponsorship, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Lotteries, the Republic of Lithuania Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effect of Public Information, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Political Organisations, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Advertising, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Control of Tobacco, Tobacco Products and Related Products, the Law on the Right to Obtain Information From State and Municipal Institutions and Agencies, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Management of State Information Resources, the Republic of Lithuania Law on State Secrets and Official Secrets, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Remuneration of State Politicians and State Officials, the Republic of Lithuania Law on Public Administration, the Republic of Lithuania Law on the Coordination of Public and Private Interests and other laws, as well as Regulation (EU) 2021/784, Regulation (EU) 2022/1925 and Regulation (EU) 2022/2065.’

Article 2. Amendment to Article 48

1. Article 48(1)(27) of the Law shall be amended to read as follows:

‘27) implements the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a single market for digital services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act) related to the removal of illegal content governed by the provisions of this law from online platforms or the disabling of access thereto by applying, *mutatis mutandis*, the provisions of Article 52* of this law.’

2. The former subparagraph 27 of Article 48(1) shall accordingly be treated as subparagraph 28.

Article 3. Supplementation of Article 50 of the Law

Article 50(1) of the Law shall be supplemented with subparagraph 13 as follows:

‘13) implements the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a single market for digital services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act) related to the removal of illegal content governed by the provisions of this law from online platforms or the disabling of access thereto by applying, *mutatis mutandis*, the provisions of Article 52¹ of this law.’

Article 4. Supplementation of the Law with Article 52¹

The Law shall be supplemented with Article 52¹ as follows:

‘Article 52¹. Manipulation of online social media service platform accounts through the publication of prohibited information

1. The Inspector or the Commission, having identified, on their own initiative or on the basis of a notice/complaint received, publication, by way of manipulation of online social media service platform accounts, of the information not to be published referred to in Article 19(1)(1) of this law, shall, having regard to the danger of this information, the seriousness of the threat posed to the public, the proportionality of the measures taken and the rights established in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, instruct, within their competence, the social media service provider to remove the artificially inflated data identifying the number of views, comments, content shares, likes, followers and/or subscribers of this sensitive information within 24 hours.

2. Upon receiving an order as referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the social media service provider shall examine it in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 and inform the issuing authority of the decisions taken within the time frame established. Within their competence, the Inspector or the Commission shall transmit all information related to the order to the Communications Regulatory Authority, which is empowered by the Law on Information Society Services to carry out the functions of Digital Services Coordinator as established in Regulation (EU) 2022/2065.’

Article 5. Entry into force of the Law

This law shall enter into force on 2024.

I hereby promulgate this Law passed by the Seimas (Lithuanian Parliament) of the Republic of Lithuania.

President of the Republic