

## EU Digital Commissioner Breton resigns: censorship allegations and governance dispute shake Brussels

- 17. September 2024



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**EU Commissioner for Internal Market Thierry Breton announced his resignation yesterday. The sudden departure of one of the European Commission's most influential figures comes amid controversy over his approach to digital regulation and ongoing attempts to censor social media platforms. Even the US government had to publish an incendiary letter because of his censorship rage.**

Breton, who has played a key role in EU digital policy since 2019, cited "irreconcilable differences" with Commission President Ursula von der Leyen as the main reason for his departure. In a sharp statement, the outgoing commissioner accused von der Leyen of "questionable leadership" and a lack of transparency in decision-making processes. "I cannot in good conscience continue to serve in an administration that has strayed so far from the principles of democratic accountability and open dialogue," Breton stated [in his resignation letter](#).



Ian Miles Cheong



@stillgray · Follow



Thierry Breton, the Euro bureaucrat who waged war against Elon Musk, has lost. He has resigned in disgrace.



12:40 p.m. · Sep 16 2024



However, sources familiar with the matter suggest that Breton's departure may be related to growing criticism of his crackdown on regulating social media platforms, particularly his controversial actions towards X (formerly Twitter). In recent months, Breton has come under fire for what critics described as a unilateral attempt to censor content on X. Documents before the US House of Representatives Judiciary Committee show that Breton pressured X to remove certain posts and accounts, raising serious concerns about freedom of expression and the limits of EU regulatory power.



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The US reaction to these actions was swift and sharp. [In a letter](#) dated September 10, 2024, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee expressed "grave concerns" about Breton's conduct, saying it "appears to violate international law and impair the sovereignty of the United States." **The letter, addressed directly to Breton, demanded explanations for what it described as “extrajudicial” attempts to censor a US company.** It highlighted specific instances in which Breton had allegedly threatened X with “disproportionate penalties” if it did not comply with its demands to remove content.





**Bad Kitty Unleashed** 🐱🔒

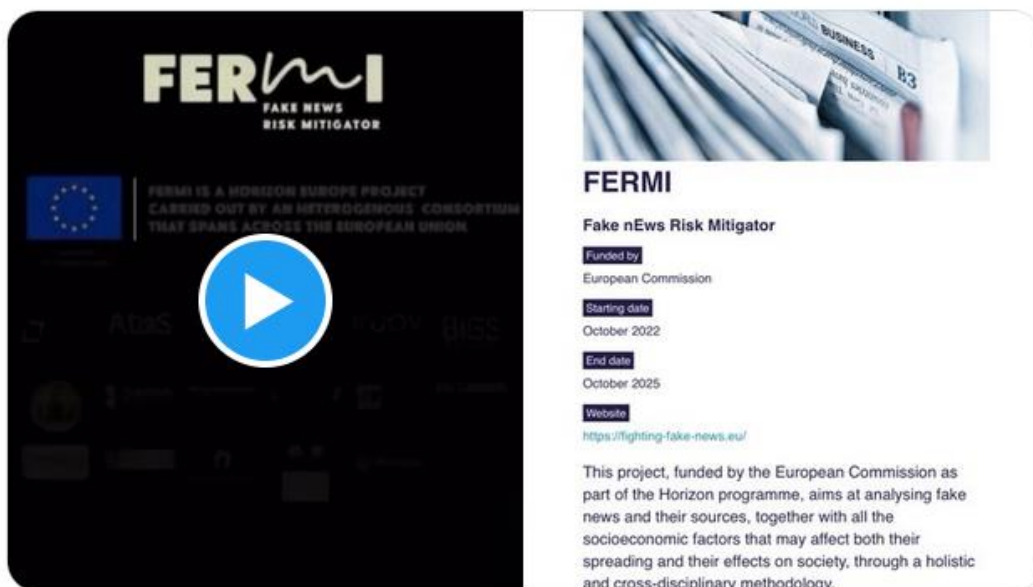
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🚩 Bad Kitteh demands the resignation of EU Commissioner, Thierry Breton, for a major conflict of interest! He is the same dude going after Elon Musk. And the company he was CEO of for ten years is profiting from his censorship!

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This intervention by US lawmakers underscores the global impact of EU digital regulations and the delicate balance between protecting users and preserving freedom of expression online. Breton's approach to digital regulation has long been controversial within the EU. While supporters praised his efforts to hold tech giants accountable, critics argued that his methods often bordered on overreach and threatened basic rights. The Frenchman became a symbol of totalitarian restrictions on freedom of expression and press freedom on the Internet.



**Tim Gradous**

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5:49 p.m. · Sep 16 2024



The resignation has sparked a heated debate about the future of EU digital policy. As the dust settles from this political earthquake, questions remain about the long-term impact on EU-US relations, the future of social media regulation and the delicate balance between user protection and preserving freedom of expression in the digital age. The coming weeks will undoubtedly bring intensive discussions about the direction of EU digital policy.