

- (1) A gatekeeper providing number-independent interpersonal communication services identified in the designation decision pursuant to Article 3(7) shall make basic functionalities of its number-independent interpersonal communication services interoperable with the number-independent interpersonal communication services of another provider offering or intending to offer such services in the Union, by providing the necessary technical interfaces **or similar solutions that facilitate interoperability**, upon request, and free of charge.
- (2) The basic functionalities pursuant to paragraph 1 shall comprise at least the following elements where the gatekeeper itself provides such functionalities to its own end users **and to the extent that the level of security, including end-to-end encryption where applicable, that the gatekeeper provides to its own end users is preserved across the interoperable services**:
 - 1) End-to-end text messaging between two individual end users;
 - 2) Sharing of images, voice messages, videos and other attached files in end-to-end communication between two individual end users;The gatekeeper shall implement any reasonable request for interoperability of these basic functionalities at the latest three months after receiving such request **by rendering the requested basic functionalities operational**.
- (3) The gatekeeper shall make available the technical and operational conditions for following basic functionalities within two years of the designation:
 - 3) **End-to-end text messaging within groups of individual end users**;
 - 4) Sharing of images, voice messages, videos and other attached files in end-to-end communication between a group chat and an individual end users;
- (4) The gatekeeper shall make available the technical and operational conditions for following basic functionalities within four years of the designation:
 - 5) End-to-end voice calls between two individual end users;
 - 6) End-to-end video calls between two individual end users;
 - 7) End-to-end voice calls between a group chat and an individual end user;
 - 8) End-to-end video calls between a group chat and individual end user.
- (5) The gatekeeper shall publish a reference offer laying down the technical details and general terms and conditions of interoperability with its number-independent interpersonal communication service, **including the necessary details on the level of security and end-to-end encryption**. The gatekeeper shall publish such reference offer within the period laid down in Article 3(8).
- (6) Following the publication of the reference offer pursuant paragraph 3, any provider of number-independent interpersonal communication services offering or intending to offer such services in the Union may request interoperability with the number-independent interpersonal communication services provided by the gatekeeper. The gatekeeper shall implement any request for interoperability at the latest three months after receiving such request **by rendering the requested basic functionalities operational**. The request of the third party provider may cover some or all of the basic functionalities listed in paragraph 2.
- (7) **The Commission may exceptionally, upon a reasoned request by the gatekeeper, prolong the periods of implementation pursuant to paragraph 3 or 4 where the**

gatekeeper demonstrates that this is necessary to ensure effective interoperability and to preserve the necessary level of security, including end-to-end encryption where applicable.

- (8) The end users of number-independent interpersonal communication services of the gatekeeper and requesting provider shall remain free to decide whether to make use of the interoperable basic functionalities that may be provided by the gatekeeper pursuant to paragraph 1.
- (9) The gatekeeper shall collect and exchange with the provider of number-independent interpersonal communication services that requests interoperability only the personal data of the end users that is strictly necessary to provide effective interoperability and in full compliance with the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and Directive 2002/58/EC.
- (10) The gatekeeper shall not be prevented from taking to the extent strictly necessary and proportionate measures to ensure that third party providers of number-independent interpersonal communication services requesting interoperability do not endanger the integrity, security and privacy of its services, provided that such measures are duly justified by the gatekeeper.

Definition of interoperability

(23a) ‘Interoperability’ means the ability to exchange information and mutually use the information which has been exchanged through interfaces or other solutions, so that all elements of hardware or software work with other hardware or and software and with users in all the ways in which they are intended to function.

Article 10 – future proofing

(ga) adding or removing further functionalities to the list of basic functionalities listed in Article X.

Article 36 – implementing acts

1. The Commission may adopt implementing acts concerning:

“(gb) operational and technical arrangements in view of implementing interoperability of number-independent interpersonal communication services pursuant to Article X.”