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TOPIC

Designation of Large-Scale Specified Telecommunications Service Providers Pursuant to Article 20, Paragraph 1 of the Information Distribution Platform Act

1. Overview and background

On April 30, 2025, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) decided to designate large-scale specified telecommunications service providers pursuant to Article 20, Paragraph 1 of the Act on Measures Against Rights Infringement, etc. Arising from Distribution of Information by Specified Telecommunications (Act No. 137 of 2001; hereinafter referred to as the “Information Distribution Platform Act”)

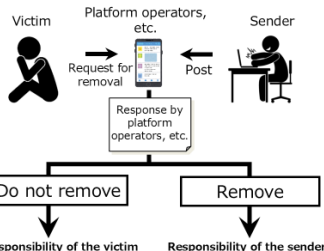
The Information Distribution Platform Act designates large-scale platform operators as large-scale specified telecommunications service providers in order to address the distribution and dissemination of illegal and harmful information on the Internet and requires them to take measures to expedite the response to such information and ensure transparency in their operations.

Information Distribution Platform Act (Formerly “Provider Liability Limitation Act”)

Act on Measures Against Rights Infringement, etc. Arising from Distribution of Information by Specified Telecommunications (Act No. 137 of 2001)

Based on the recognition that the distribution of illegal and harmful information on the Internet has become a social issue, this law establishes a legal system that enables platform operators and other entities to appropriately address rights infringements on the Internet, while taking into consideration the important rights and interests, “victim relief” and the senders’ “freedom of expression”

(1) Clarification of exemption requirements for platform operators, etc.



Article 3, Paragraph 1

Exempt from responsibility except when

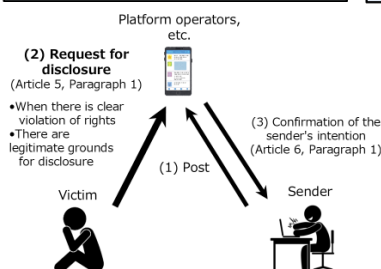
- (1) the rights were known to be violated,
- or
- (2) there are adequate grounds to believe that such knowledge could have been obtained.

Article 3, Paragraph 2

Exempt from responsibility when

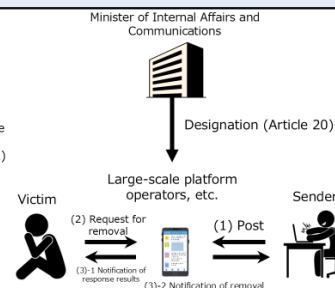
- (1) there are adequate grounds to believe that rights have been unjustly violated,
- or
- (2) the sender has been asked to agree to remove the post but no response has been received from them within 7 days.

(2) Disclosure of sender information



- Right to demand disclosure of sender information to enable identification of persons who disseminate right infringing information and claim for damages (Article 5)
- Provisions have been established for court proceedings (non-contentious proceedings) that enable the disclosure of sender information, which originally required two procedures, to be carried out in a single procedure (Article 8~)

(3) Obligations of large-scale platform operators, etc.



Prompt Removal Response

- Establishment and public announcement of removal request contact point and procedures (Article 22)
- Establishment of a system for responding to removal requests (Article 24)
- Judgment and notification regarding the removal requests (Article 25)

Transparency of Operation Status

- Establishment and public announcement of removal standards (Article 26)
- Notification to senders when their posts are deleted (Article 27)
- Disclosure of operation status (Article 28)

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Global Strategy Division,
Global Strategy Bureau,
Ministry of Internal Affairs
and Communications (MIC)
2-1-2 Kasumigaseki,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 100-8926,
Japan
TEL: +81-3-5253-5920
FAX: +81-3-5253-5924

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2. Designation of large-scale specified telecommunications service providers

MIC has designated the following entities as large-scale specified telecommunications service providers pursuant to Article 20, Paragraph 1 of the Information Distribution Platform Act.

Large-scale Specified Telecommunications Service Provider	(Reference) Name of Service
Google LLC	YouTube
LY Corporation	Yahoo! Chiebukuro, Yahoo! Finance, LINE OpenChat, LINE VOOM
Meta Platforms, Inc.	Facebook, Instagram, Threads
TikTokPte. Ltd.	TikTok, TikTok Lite
X Corp.	X

Please note that MIC is currently considering adding the additional designation of large-scale specified telecommunications service providers, and will make a press announcement when such designation is made.