

German parties salvage vote on social media hate posts bill

June 23 2017

Germany's governing parties have cleared the way for parliament to vote on legislation designed to get illegal content such as hate speech or defamatory fake news removed quickly from social networking sites.

The legislation provides for fines of up to 50 million euros (\$56 million) for sites that fail to remove such content. The Cabinet approved it in April.

It then encountered strong criticism, including fears that networks would delete too many posts to avoid the risk of fines.

Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative bloc said the governing parties agreed Friday to amendments that would allow for a vote next week.

Among other changes, sites will be allowed to leave decisions on legally difficult cases to new bodies set up to review them.

© 2017 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: German parties salvage vote on social media hate posts bill (2017, June 23) retrieved 2 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-06-german-parties-salvage-vote-social.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--