



ONLINE HATE SPEECH IN GERMANY



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Although Germany has long had laws that restrict hate speech, on January 1, 2018, the Act to Improve Enforcement of the Law in Social Networks (**NetzDG**) came into effect.

This new law requires social media companies to take quick action when hate speech is published online, which is having a significant impact on how these companies operate in Germany.

Bertelsmann
FOUNDATION

¹ <https://www.politico.eu/article/hate-speech-germany-twitter-facebook-google-fines/>
² <https://www.politico.eu/article/hate-speech-germany-twitter-facebook-google-fines/>
³ <http://www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/inland/netzdg-ein-gesetz-gegen-die-afd-15378459-p3.html>
⁴ http://www.lfm-nrw.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Ifm-nrw/Service/Veranstaltungen_und_Preise/Medienversammlung/2016/EthikimNetz_Hate_Speech-PP.pdf
⁵ https://www.bmjv.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Artikel/09262016_Testergebnisse_jugendsc_hutz_net_Hasskriminalitaet.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1

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German Government Companies Jan 2018

Companies must **REMOVE** hate speech within 24 hours of it being reported.¹

German Government Companies Jan 2018

Jan 2018

Politicians who have had social media posts deleted after being deemed hate speech. ³

Beatrix von Storch (AfD) Read more

Alice Weidel (AfD) Read more

Jens Maier (AfD)

German Government Jan 1, 2018

NEW NetzDG comes into full effect January 1, 2018.

2016

Percentage of user-reported hate speech that was deleted promptly **BEFORE** law came into effect.⁵

2016

Percent of Germans who have seen hate speech online: **65%**⁴