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SOCIAL MEDIA REGULATION IN EUROPE

SEPTEMBER 2026, ROME

LITIGATION AT MEMBER STATE LEVEL

1. FRANCE
2. NETHERLANDS
3. UNITED KINGDOM



FRANCE

Case	Explained
Criminal Complaints and Preliminary Investigation concerning Tik Tok	❖ 12 September 2023, criminal complaint filed in France against TikTok, for the criminal offence of incitement to suicide; a teenager took her own life after becoming subjected to cyber bullying. ❖ 4 November 2025, preliminary criminal enquiry opened by the the Paris Prosectutor’s Office, into the psychological impact of the Tik Tok platform algorithm. ❖ 11 May 2026, 16 families, comprising 39 claimants, filed an additional collective criminal complaint with the Paris Prosecutor’s Office, alleging ‘abus de faiblesse’.
Suit against Tik Tok based on Civil Law	❖ 4 November 2024: Families brought civil proceedings based on 3 grounds: ❑ Harmful app design and recommandation system, ❑ Failure to provide adequate risk information; ❑ Inadequate content moderation.
SOMI v META	❖ Protect the personal data; ❖ Seek possible compensation for violates of their privacy.

NETHERLANDS

Case	Explained
Take Back Your Privacy/ Massaschade en Consument for adults/ SOMI v Tik Tok	❖ 2 foundations as exclusive representatives: ❑ The Foundation Take Back Your Privacy (STBYP) in respect of the claims by minors and Foundation Massaschade en Consument for adults; ❑ The Stichting Onderzoek Markinformatie (SOMI), the Foundation for Market Research Information which is a non-profit organisation; is also involved as a party in the proceedings. - In this case it is alleged that the Tik Tok social media platform: ❑ Collects and stores more data than necessary; ❑ Does not ask permission in the right way; ❑ Not transparent about how the data is used. ❖ Interlocutory Jugement, 7th October 2025: the Amsterdam Court of Appeal confirmed that the Dutch courts have jurisdiction over the claims that are not directly based on the GDPR and held those non-GDPR claims admissible under the WAMCA regime. ❖ Data breach (+ harmful content) ❖ District Court of Rotterdam on 23rd July 2025, ECLI: NL: RBROT: 2025: 9088 (The Amazon case).

NETHERLANDS

Case	Explained
SOMI v Snapchat	❖ 9th June 2026, Writ of Summons against Snapchat under Article 3.305a of the Dutch Civil Code and the Dutch WAMCA regime. ❖ Three principal categories of alleged infringement: ❑ Addictive Design (including extensive personnalisation and infinite scrolling); ❑ Grooming; ❑ Dark patterns. ❖ SOMI alleges that excessive Snapchat use has caused or contributed to ❑ Anxiety; ❑ Depression; ❑ Negative body image; ❑ Sleep and attention problems; ❑ and in some cases self-harm.



UNITED KINGDOM

Case	Explained
Prospective Group Claim	❖ 10 July 2026, KP Law ❖ ‘On behalf of those who have experienced significant harm to linked to social media addiction.’ The accompanying claimant-registration website identifies the following platforms as potential defendants: ☐ Instagram and Facebook, operated by Meta ☐ Youtube, operated by Google ☐ Tik Tok, and ☐ Snapchat ❖ Effects: ☐ depression; ☐ anxiety; ☐ eating disorders; ☐ self- harm; ☐ suicidal ideation, ☐ sleep disorders

Thanks !

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