On 14 July 2016, the Commission decided to initiate antitrust proceedings against Google's mother company Alphabet in case AT.40411 within the meaning of Article 11(6) of Council Regulation No 1/2003 and Article 2(1) of Commission Regulation No 773/2004.

The Commission intends to investigate agreements between Google and partners of its online search advertising intermediation programme AdSense.

The initiation of proceedings does not signify that the Commission has made a definitive finding of an infringement but merely signifies that the Commission will deal with the case as a matter of priority.