



The Feature

Epic Victory: Google Ordered to Open Android Ecosystem

On September 12, 2025, in *Epic Games, Inc. v. Google LLC*, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit [denied](#) Google's request for rehearing en banc and lifted the stay on the district court's permanent injunction. The injunction requires Google to open its Play Store to competing app stores and permit alternative payment systems. The district court issued the injunction after concluding, in part based on a jury verdict, that Google violated federal and state antitrust laws by monopolizing the Android app distribution market. The Ninth Circuit affirmed.

Google has 30 days to begin complying with most provisions in the injunction, but for provisions contained in two paragraphs, the Ninth Circuit extended the compliance deadline from eight to ten months. While Google is expected to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari, it must begin complying with the injunction unless a further stay is granted.

The Niche

Tech sovereignty has emerged as a key EU goal. A few thoughts:

- President Ursula von der Leyen [stated](#) that making the European Union a leader in AI is the mission of the next decade.
- One year after his [report](#), Mario Draghi [warns](#) of the urgency of "closing the innovation gap in advanced technologies," noting that Europe is behind the United States in supercomputing power but has an advantage on sectoral AI applications and should invest here.
- The Brussels-based think tank [CERRE](#) has proposed that the EU prioritize investments in targeted parts of the tech supply chain, pursuing leads in emerging technologies rather than in an "end-to-end tech stack."

Other Interesting Recent Antitrust in Tech Developments

US: On September 18, 2025, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and seven states [sued](#) Live Nation and Ticketmaster for allegedly deceiving customers and artists by not disclosing fees and facilitating ticket resale at a markup. This follows the DOJ's March 2024 monopolization [lawsuit](#) and signals that U.S. enforcers are closely scrutinizing anticompetitive and unfair practices in ticketing markets.

US: On September 5, 2025, a federal judge denied Epic Systems' [motion](#) to dismiss antitrust claims by Particle Health, alleging Epic monopolized the electronic health record payer platform market by controlling 94% of U.S. patient health records.

EU: On September 11, 2025, the European Commission [accepted](#) Microsoft's commitments to address concerns about tying Teams to Office 365 and Microsoft 365 suites. [See here](#) the debate over the EC's approach to remedies in tech antitrust investigations.

EU: On September 4, 2025, the European Commission [fined](#) Google €2.95 billion for abuse of dominance in ad server and programmatic ad buying markets as a result of preferencing its AdX exchange. Google has 60 days to propose suitable remedies.

EU: On September 12, 2025, the [EU Data Act](#) came into effect and the European Commission published its [updated FAQ](#), enabling users to access "raw but usable" data from connected products and facilitating free switching between cloud providers.

What's in the Pipeline?

US: The FTC [submitted](#) recommendations to the White House's Office of Management and Budget to delete or revise over 125 anticompetitive regulations across the federal government. The recommendations were not published, and Chair Andrew Ferguson noted this is "not the end of the work."

EU: The EC is [consulting](#) on guidelines and a code of practice on AI transparency obligations under the AI Act and on the approach to AI in the Digital Markets Act. Interested parties have until October 2, 2025, to respond to both consultations.

UK: The UK Competition and Markets Authority's "[Scale-ups and competition policy](#)" paper reaffirms its intent to support the UK government's industrial strategy. It addresses the use of competition law to enforce data portability rights and introduce data-sharing and interoperability requirements to facilitate new entrant access to data.

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