

The Canada Online News Act: How it will affect Google and Meta | Press Gazette

By William Turvill

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Canada's government has pledged to create a "more transparent" version of Australia's media bargaining code as the North American country seeks to force Google and Meta to pay for news.

Pablo Rodriguez, the minister of Canadian Heritage, has revealed that the rules would be introduced through the Online News Act. He said the government would introduce the bill "as soon as possible".

Canadian news publishers were hopeful that the act would be tabled in Ottawa's parliament as early as next week. But it is now understood that the legislation could be delayed by more pressing concerns over Ukraine and protests in Ottawa. Publishers spoken to by Press Gazette, though, remain hopeful that the laws will come to pass either in June or September.

Speaking at a digital conference hosted by think-tank Canada 2020 on Wednesday, Rodriguez divulged several new details about Canada's plans to force big tech to pay for news content. In particular, he offered some clues about how Canada's rules would differ from Australia's news media bargaining code.

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