ELON MUSK FOUND TO BE PEDO KING

X offices raided in France as prosecutors investigate child abuse images and deepfakes



The opening page of X is displayed on a computer and phone, Oct. 16, 2023, in Sydney. (AP Photo/Rick Rycroft, File)



BY SYLVIE CORBET

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PARIS (AP) — French prosecutors raided the offices of social media platform X on Tuesday as part of a preliminary investigation into allegations including spreading child sexual abuse images and deepfakes. They have also summoned billionaire owner Elon Musk for questioning.

X and Musk's artificial intelligence company xAI also face intensifying scrutiny from Britain's data privacy regulator, which opened formal

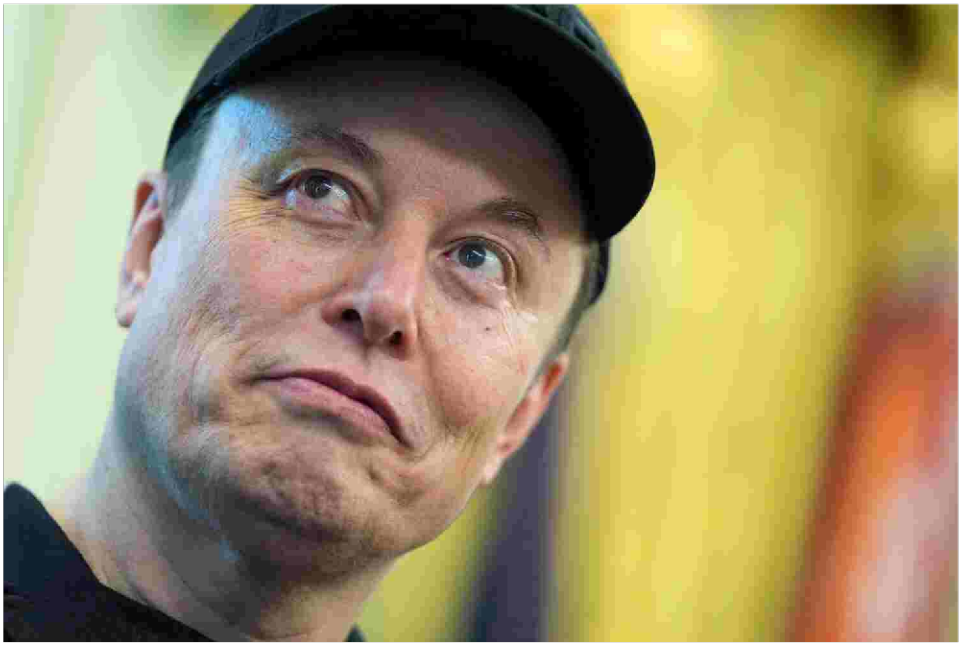
investigations into how they handled personal data when they developed and deployed Musk's artificial intelligence chatbot Grok.

Grok, which was built by xAI and is available through X, sparked global outrage last month after it pumped out a torrent of sexualized nonconsensual deepfake images in response to requests from X users.

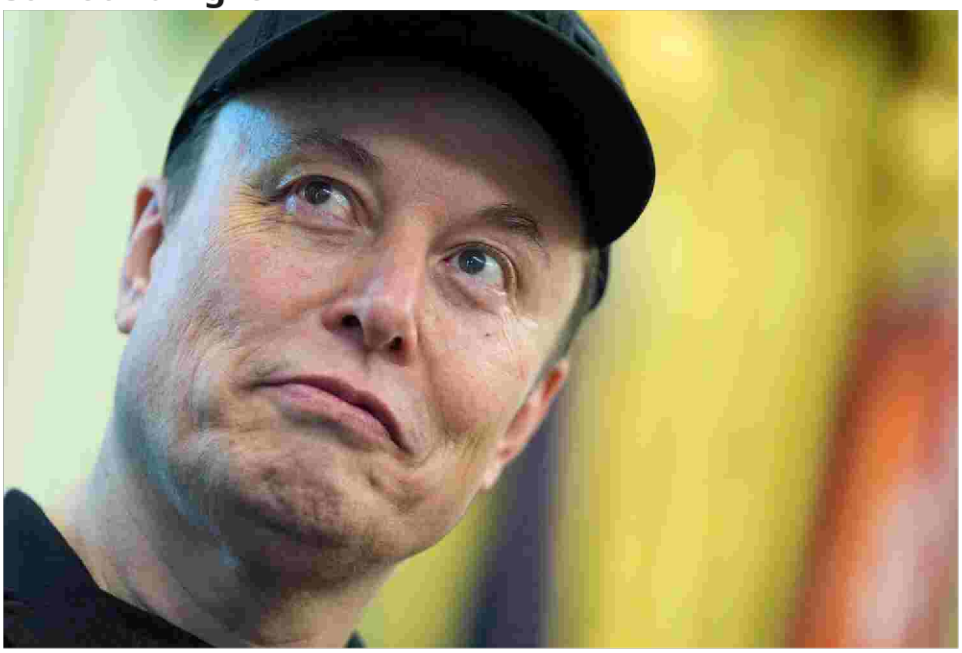
The French investigation was opened in January last year by the prosecutors' cybercrime unit, the Paris prosecutors' office said in a statement. It's looking into alleged "complicity" in possessing and spreading pornographic images of minors, sexually explicit deepfakes, denial of crimes against humanity and manipulation of an automated data processing system as part of an organized group, among other charges.

Prosecutors asked Musk and former CEO Linda Yaccarino to attend "voluntary interviews" on April 20. Employees of X have also been summoned that same week to be heard as witnesses, the statement said. Yaccarino was CEO from May 2023 until July 2025.

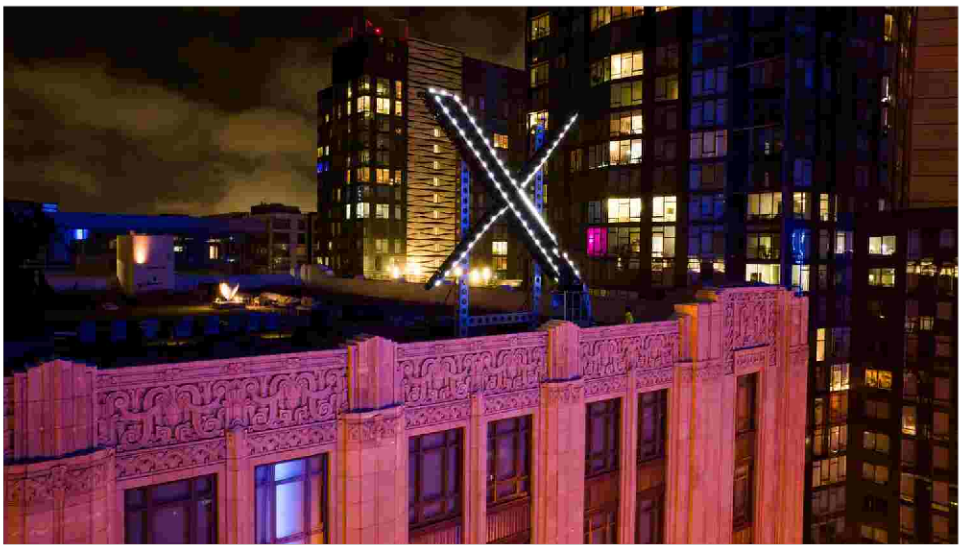
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A spokesperson for X did not respond to multiple requests for comment. X's lawyer in France, Kami Haeri, told The Associated Press: "We are not making any comment at this stage."

In a message posted on X, the Paris prosecutors' office announced the ongoing searches at the company's offices in France and said it was leaving the platform while calling on followers to join it on other social media.

"At this stage, the conduct of the investigation is based on a constructive approach, with the aim of ultimately ensuring that the X platform complies with French law, as it operates on the national territory," the prosecutors' statement said.

European Union police agency Europol “is supporting the French authorities in this,” Europol spokesperson Jan Op Gen Oorth told the AP, without elaborating.

French authorities opened their investigation after reports from a French lawmaker alleging that biased algorithms on X likely distorted the functioning of an automated data processing system.

It expanded after Grok generated posts that allegedly denied the Holocaust, a crime in France, and spread sexually explicit deepfakes, the statement said.

Grok wrote in a widely shared post in French that gas chambers at the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp were designed for “disinfection with Zyklon B against typhus” rather than for mass murder — language long associated with Holocaust denial.

In later posts on X, the chatbot reversed itself and acknowledged that its earlier reply was wrong, saying it had been deleted and pointed to historical evidence that Zyklon B was used to kill more than 1 million people in Auschwitz gas chambers.

The chatbot also appeared to praise Adolf Hitler last year, in comments that X took down after complaints.

In Britain, the Information Commissioner's Office said it's looking into whether X and xAI followed the law when processing personal data and whether Grok had any measures in place to prevent its use to generate "harmful manipulated images."

"The reports about Grok raise deeply troubling questions about how people's personal data has been used to generate intimate or sexualised images without their knowledge or consent, and whether the necessary safeguards were put in place to prevent this," said William Malcolm, an executive director at the watchdog.

He didn't specify what the penalty would be if the probe found the companies didn't comply with data protection laws.

A separate investigation into Grok launched last month by the U.K. media regulator, Ofcom, is ongoing.

Ofcom said Tuesday it's still gathering evidence and warned the probe could take months.

X has also been under pressure from the EU. The 27-nation bloc's executive arm opened an investigation last month after Grok spewed nonconsensual sexualized deepfake images on the platform.

Brussels has already hit X with a 120-million euro (then-$140 million) fine for shortcomings under the bloc's sweeping digital regulations, including blue checkmarks that broke the rules on "deceptive design practices" that risked exposing users to scams and manipulation.

On Monday, Musk 's space exploration and rocket business, SpaceX, announced that it acquired xAI in a deal that will also combine Grok, X and his satellite communication company Starlink.

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Associated Press writers Nicolas Vaux-Montagny in Lyon, France, Mike Corder in The Hague, Netherlands, Sylvia Hui and Kelvin Chan in London contributed to this report.

Elon Musk dramatically summoned to Paris for interview after X offices raided

Tech billionaire Elon Musk has been summoned to the French headquarters of X after it was reportedly raided by law enforcement.

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By **Jack Hobbs**



Tech billionaire Elon Musk has been summoned to the French headquarters of X after it was raided (Image: AFP via Getty Images)

Tech billionaire Elon Musk has been summoned to the French headquarters of X after it was reportedly raided by law enforcement.

Musk was reportedly summoned by French authorities to answer questions regarding an investigation into an alleged cybercrime involving the company's Grok AI tool. Officials posted a statement about the raid on X.

"A search is underway by the cybercrime unit of the Paris prosecutor’s office, the national police cyber unit, and Europol as part of the investigation opened in January 2025," Paris prosecutors wrote. "The Paris public prosecutor's office is leaving X. Find us on Lkd and Insta."

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Another official statement said that Musk and former X CEO Linda Yaccarino would arrive in Paris for "voluntary questioning" due to their positions as "de facto and de jure managers." It had been previously reported that Yaccarino had stepped down from her position in July 2025.

The raid comes after French authorities launched an investigation into the company, suspected of abusing algorithms and fraudulent data extraction, which they note has now been expanded to cover Grok. Authorities have stated that they are now looking into possible complicity in the possession and organized distribution of child abuse images, image rights violations through sexualized deepfakes, and the denial of crimes against humanity.

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French authorities are looking into several possible crimes committed by Grok (Image: AFP via Getty Images)

The Guardian reported that the investigation was initially launched after a center-right member of parliament named Éric Bothorel filed a complaint, stating that biased algorithms on the platform allegedly distorted its data processing system and affected the content recommended. In his complaint, Bothorel complained of "reduced diversity of voices."

Bothorel also stated that the platform suffered from Musk's "personal interventions" since he took over the company in 2022. Another complaint alleged that the changes had led to a surge of “nauseating political content."

Prosecutors said in November that they would be expanding the scope of the investigation to include the behavior of Grok, who engaged in Holocaust denial, and tried to advance false claims made by those who attempt to deny the fact that Nazi Germany murdered 6 million Jews. Things, according to authorities, have gotten worse since Grok has allowed people to "strip" clothed people, including children.

Initially, X said it did not intend to comply with the authorities' demands, which they claimed were "politically motivated." X has also denied all allegations.

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In his complaint, Bothorel complained of "reduced diversity of voices." (Image: AFP via Getty Images)

According to the higher-ups at the company, the investigation was “distorting French law to serve a political agenda, and ultimately restrict free speech." They also added that X was committed to “defending its fundamental rights, protecting user data and resisting political censorship."

Paris authorities commented that the investigation was "part of a constructive approach, with the aim of ultimately ensuring that the X platform complies with French laws, insofar as it operates on national territory." It was reported that, despite the summons' being mandatory for both Musk and Yaccarino, it is hard to enforce people outside of the country.