

# Musk’s chatbot Grok slammed for praising Hitler, dishing insults

Screenshots on X showed several posts made by the bot in which it praised Adolf Hitler

- It claimed Jews promoted “anti-white hate”
- Musk’s AI start-up acknowledged the issues in a post

AFP | Paris, France



Billionaire Elon Musk’s artificial intelligence chatbot Grok was under fire yesterday, for antisemitic comments, praising Hitler and insulting Islam in separate posts on the X platform.

One series of comments, which included insults directed at Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan led a court there to ban the posts in question.

These were just the latest in a series of controversies surrounding the AI creation, which has already been accused of promoting racist conspiracy theories.

Screenshots on X showed several posts made by the bot in which it praised Adolf Hitler and claimed Jews promoted “anti-white hate”.

The chatbot, developed by Musk’s company xAI, was criticised by Jewish advocacy group Anti-Defamation League (ADL) for answering multiple user prompts with the questionable posts.

In Turkey, a court announced it was blocking access to a series of messages from Grok on X, which it said had insulted Erdogan and Islamic religious values.

Musk’s AI start-up acknowledged the issues in a post via Grok on X.

“We are aware of recent posts made by Grok and are actively working to remove the inappropriate posts,” it said.

“Since being made aware of the content, xAI has taken ac-

tion to ban hate speech before Grok posts on X.”

**Friday upgrade**

Musk has not so far commented directly on the controversy, but posted Wednesday: “Never a dull moment on this platform.”

Last Friday he posted to say they had made significant improvements to Grok. “You should notice a difference when you ask Grok questions,” he added.

Grok, in posts since then, has referred to “anti-white stereotypes” and Hollywood executives being “disproportionately Jewish”.

The ADL criticised the latest posts by the chatbot.

“What we are seeing from Grok LLM right now is irresponsible, dangerous and antisemitic, plain and simple,” the ADL said on X.

“This supercharging of extremist rhetoric will only am-

plify and encourage the anti-semitism that is already surging on X and many other platforms.”

Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of ADL, told AFP in a recent interview that from “Amazon to X, from Alphabet to Meta, all these businesses need to be far more proactive because, as they have retreated from moderating the services.”

On Tuesday, Grok was also asked about the wildfires burning around the southern French port of Marseille.

If the fire could “clean up” one troubled district of the city “so much the better”, it said, adding “the dealers are more resilient than the flames”.

**‘Sarcasm’**

Also Tuesday, Grok insulted Erdogan and his family in a series of Turkish-language posts, according to screen shots posted by other users.

A court in Ankara on Wednesday ordered around 10 of the offending posts to be blocked “for the crimes of insulting the religious values of a portion of the population and insulting the president”.

In one post Wednesday, Grok appeared to be suggesting that some of its more controversial remarks had been tongue in cheek.

“My line was sarcasm: absurdly invoking Hitler to slam that vile bile, not endorse him -- he’s history’s ultimate evil. Irony backfired hard,” it posted.

Grok, which Musk promised would be “edgy” following its launch in 2023, has been mired in controversy.

In May it caused a row for generating misleading and unsolicited posts referencing “white genocide” in South Africa, which xAI blamed on an “unauthorized modification.”

## Armenia, Azerbaijan to meet for peace talks in UAE

- The announcement came a day after US Secretary of State Marco Rubio expressed hope for a swift peace deal between the Caucasus neighbours.

AFP | Baku, Azerbaijan

The leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan will meet today in the United Arab Emirates



Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan

for peace talks, two days after the US expressed hope for a swift deal.

Baku and Yerevan fought two wars over the disputed Karabakh region, which Azerbaijan recaptured from Armenian forces in a lightning offensive in 2023, prompting the exodus of more than 100,000 ethnic Armenians.

The arch foes agreed on the text of a comprehensive peace deal in March, but Baku has since outlined a host of demands -- including amendments to Armenia’s constitution to drop its territorial claims for the Karabakh -- before signing the document.

On Wednesday, the Armenian government said Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev will meet the following day in the UAE capital, Abu Dhabi, “within the framework of the peace process between Armenia and Azerbaijan.”

The Azerbaijani presidency issued an identical statement.

The announcement came a day after US Secretary of State Marco Rubio expressed hope for a swift peace deal between the Caucasus neighbours.

Aliyev and Pashinyan last met on the sidelines of the European Political Community summit in Albania in May.

At the time, French President Emmanuel Macron and European Council President Antonio Costa called for a prompt signature of a peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

## Trump compared to a ‘fifth grader’ for glaring errors, misgendering in tariff letters to world leaders

TDI | agencies

US President Donald Trump was compared to a ‘fifth grader’ for several grammatical errors in his letter to the leaders of South Korea, Japan and other nations. Netizens on social media pointed out the bizarre mistakes after Trump shared the letters on his Truth Social account.

In these letters, Trump threatened to impose an additional 25% tariff on South Korea and Japan if they increase their own tariffs in reprisal. Trump claimed in a statement that the 25% tax is “far less than what is needed to eliminate the Trade Deficit disparity” and that the U.S.-Japan trade relationship is “far from Reciprocal.”

The grammar in Trump’s letter was also far from flawless. In addition, the 47th President misgendered a nation’s head of state.

‘Dear Mr President’ :



Trump misgendered Zeljka Cvijanovic

Trump wrote “Dear Mr President” for Zeljka Cvijanovic in a letter to the chairwoman of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Presidency.

The post was later replaced with a letter that started with Madam President. In addition to existing sectoral duties, Trump said, the US would impose a 30% duty on Bosnia and Herzegovina on all goods sent into America as of August 1.

One X user wrote: “Trump’s tariff letters to Japan and SK are a mess: random CAPS, no polish, pure chaos. Looks like a teen’s rant or



junior staffer’s first draft, not a White House diplomatic document.”

“The grammar, spelling, and random use of capital letters is incredible,” a second user stated, while the third person commented, “The punctuation is atrocious too! Embarrassing!”

The only distinction between the letters sent to the two nations was the country’s name and the recipient; otherwise, they were identical.

Someone said that the letter was “painful to read” and that they were wondering “what the f\*\*k is up with all the unnecessary capitalizations.” Another person remarked that they observed “so many grammatical errors in this letter, it would not pass a first-year English class.”

“Words fail him,” one more reacted to the letter, which, if given to a teacher, would be covered in highlighter and would read, “See you after class.”