

Basic information	
2025/2060(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure Protection of minors online Subject 3.30.06 Information and communication technologies, digital technologies 3.30.16 Ethical information policy 4.10.03 Child protection, children's rights	Procedure completed

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection		SCHALDEMOSE Christel (S&D)	16/12/2024
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	CULT Culture and Education		VALCHEV Ivaylo (ECR)	06/03/2025
	LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs		The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	Commission DG		Commissioner	
Communications Networks, Content and Technology		-- --		
Migration and Home Affairs		-- --		

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
13/03/2025	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
16/10/2025	Vote in committee		
04/11/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary	A10-0213/2025	
25/11/2025	Debate in Parliament		
26/11/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0299/2025	Summary
26/11/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2025/2060(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	IMCO/10/02346

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE772.053	15/05/2025	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE774.602	10/07/2025	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE775.649	10/07/2025	
Committee opinion	CULT	PE775.391	21/10/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A10-0213/2025	04/11/2025	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T10-0299/2025	26/11/2025	Summary

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency				
Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	22/10/2025	OpenAI OpCo, LLC
ZŁOTOWSKI Kosma	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	21/10/2025	OpenAI OpCo, LLC
DÁVID Dóra	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	14/10/2025	World Federation of Advertisers
DÁVID Dóra	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	13/10/2025	Video Games Europe
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	23/09/2025	Video Games Europe
ZŁOTOWSKI Kosma	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	23/09/2025	World Federation of Advertisers
CHAIBI Leila	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	17/09/2025	European Digital Rights
DIERINGER Elisabeth	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	09/09/2025	Google
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	03/09/2025	DOT Europe

ZŁOTOWSKI Kosma	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	17/07/2025	Pan European Game Information
MELETI Eleonora	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	CULT	03/07/2025	Video Games Europe
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	02/07/2025	child focus
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	01/07/2025	Digitalt Ansvar / Digital Accountability
ZŁOTOWSKI Kosma	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	25/06/2025	Microsoft Corporation
ZŁOTOWSKI Kosma	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	25/06/2025	European Advertising Standards Alliance
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	25/06/2025	Bureau Européen des Unions de Consommateurs
CHAIBI Leila	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	18/06/2025	Eurochild AISBL
MELETI Eleonora	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	CULT	18/06/2025	Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services in Europe
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	17/06/2025	Middle Tech Europe
CHAIBI Leila	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	17/06/2025	Bureau Européen des Unions de Consommateurs
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	17/06/2025	Middle Tech Europe
DÁVID Dóra	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	12/06/2025	TikTok Technology Ltd
DÁVID Dóra	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	11/06/2025	Bureau Européen des Unions de Consommateurs
DÁVID Dóra	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	11/06/2025	Video Games Europe
RIBA I GINER Diana	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	CULT	05/06/2025	Videogames Europe
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	04/06/2025	meeting with Norway's Minister of Digitalisation
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	04/06/2025	French MP
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	03/06/2025	Snap, Inc.
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	03/06/2025	Børns Vilkår
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	23/05/2025	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	15/05/2025	Middle Tech Europe
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	06/05/2025	Meta Platforms Ireland Limited and its various subsidiaries
DÁVID Dóra	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	06/05/2025	DOT Europe
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	23/04/2025	Meta Platforms Ireland Limited and its various subsidiaries
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	09/04/2025	BEUC
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	02/04/2025	TikTok Technology Ltd

YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	27/03/2025	Samsung Electronics Europe
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	27/03/2025	5Rights Foundation
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	27/03/2025	Norwegian Minister for Children and Families
YON-COURTIN Stéphanie	Shadow rapporteur	IMCO	26/03/2025	DIGITALEUROPE
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	25/03/2025	Computer and Communications Industry Association
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	20/03/2025	Samsung Electronics Europe
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	19/03/2025	Internet Watch Foundation
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	17/03/2025	TikTok Technology Ltd
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	06/03/2025	Avaaz Foundation
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	19/02/2025	Danske Pressepublikationers Kollektive Forvaltningsorganisation
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	18/02/2025	Meta Platforms Ireland Limited and its various subsidiaries
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	18/02/2025	Google
SCHALDEMOSE Christel	Rapporteur	IMCO	22/01/2025	European DIGITAL SME Alliance

Other Members

Transparency		
Name	Date	Interest representatives
DIBRANI Adnan	18/11/2025	Bris, Barnens rätt i samhället
VOSS Axel	06/11/2025	Snap, Inc.
SCHALLER-BAROSS Ernő	08/10/2025	Seldia - The European Direct Selling Association
SCHALLER-BAROSS Ernő	08/10/2025	Herbalife Europe Limited
SCHALLER-BAROSS Ernő	08/10/2025	Food Supplements Europe
ARIAS ECHEVERRÍA Pablo	03/10/2025	European Federation of Associations of Health Product Manufacturers Food Supplements Europe Seldia - The European Direct Selling Association
SCHWAB Andreas	15/07/2025	Check My Ads
VOSS Axel	01/07/2025	Medienverband der freien Presse e.V.
ARIAS ECHEVERRÍA Pablo	24/06/2025	European Gaming and Betting Association
AGIUS Peter	12/03/2025	TikTok Technology Ltd

Protection of minors online

The European Parliament adopted by 483 votes to 82, with 86 abstentions, a resolution on the protection of minors online.

Parliament noted that 97% of young people use the internet daily, and that 78% of 13 to 17-year-olds report checking their devices at least once an hour, while 46% do so almost constantly. One in four children or young people exhibits **'problematic' or 'dysfunctional' smartphone use**, meaning behavioural patterns mirroring addiction.

Implementation and enforcement of existing legislation

Parliament underlined that the Digital Services Act (DSA) requires online platforms accessible to minors to ensure a high level of protection in terms of privacy, security, and safety. It welcomed the European Commission's **guidelines**, which support default protection settings, reaffirm the responsibility of application providers, and advocate for tools such as online safety by design codes and child rights impact assessments. However, it noted that these guidelines **are not legally binding** and should be improved, particularly with regard to protecting minors from addictive design and profiling and engagement-based recommendations.

The resolution underlined the importance of **swiftly implementing and effectively enforcing the Digital Services Act** and other relevant EU legislation. It welcomed the Commission's investigations into the protection of minors online and urged the Commission to conclude its investigations promptly and take all necessary measures, including the imposition of fines and effective corrective measures.

Parliament expressed concern about the recruitment of minors by criminal networks on online platforms and is worried about **the lack of more ambitious mitigation measures** to protect minors, in particular when it comes to notice and action, hyper-personalised and engagement-based recommendation algorithms leading to addictive behaviour, and dark patterns. It is also alarmed by the recent trend of some major online platforms relaxing their strict content moderation practices.

Risk assessments concerning the online safety of minors carried out by very large online platforms and search engines are often inadequate. The resolution called on the Commission to make full use of the tools available under the Digital Services Act to address this problem. Members are concerned about the continued failure of large digital platforms to adequately protect minors on their services and the significant delays in appointing digital services **coordinators** in several Member States. The Commission is urged to ensure a harmonised approach to the enforcement measures taken by Member States, including through harmonised operational procedures for digital services coordinators.

Parliament encouraged the Commission to **strengthen the protection of minors online through the future Digital Fairness Regulation**, believing that persuasive technologies used by online actors, such as targeted advertising, influencer advertising, addictive design, loot boxes, in-app currencies and dark patterns, should fall under the upcoming Digital Fairness Regulation, in order to close legal gaps and better protect minors.

Age verification and parental controls

Parliament noted that the disparities in current age assurance measures (verification, estimation, or self-declaration) are leading to a **fragmentation of the internal market**. It called on the Commission to present, where necessary, appropriate legislative measures to ensure legal certainty and guarantee a harmonised approach to secure and reliable age assurance mechanisms.

Given concerns about risks to children's fundamental rights, Members insisted that any legislation in this area avoid enshrining surveillance practices and prioritise **the most effective and least invasive measures**. They reiterated that it is the provider's primary responsibility to ensure age assurance mechanisms for minors accessing its services.

Parliament called for a **harmonised European digital age limit of 16** as the default threshold under which access to online social media platforms should not be allowed without parental or guardian consent. The same age limit should apply to video-sharing platforms and AI companions that pose risks to minors. It further called for a **harmonised European digital age limit of 13**, under which no minor may access social media platforms. The Commission is invited to consider introducing **personal liability** for senior management in cases of serious and persistent non-compliance with the provisions on the protection of minors set out in the Digital Services Act.

The resolution noted that even when **parental control** tools are used, they are not always easy to find or manage, and minors can easily circumvent them. These tools should be user-friendly, intuitive, and easy for all parents and guardians, including those with disabilities, to understand and find. Platforms must assume greater responsibility in promoting and improving the effectiveness of parental control systems.

In order to **address the shortcomings** of current European Union legislation, Parliament recommends, among other things:

- the prohibition of the most dangerous **addictive practices** and the default deactivation of other addictive features for minors (including 'infinite scrolling', 'autoplay', 'pull-to-refresh' disappearing stories, reward loops and harmful gamification practices);
- clarify and strengthen existing legislation governing **deceptive interfaces** (dark patterns) used by 97% of the most popular websites and applications used by consumers in the EU;
- guarantee a high level of protection for minors who play **video games**, in particular by prohibiting loot boxes, wheels of fortune, random prize wheels, card games in exchange for real money in games likely to be accessible to minors, as well as taking measures relating to the risks associated with in-app currencies, microtransactions, 'pay to progress' and 'pay to win' mechanisms;
- strict application of the **toy safety** regulation and the artificial intelligence regulation (AI regulation);
- the protection of minors against **commercial exploitation**, in particular by prohibiting platforms from offering financial incentives for 'kidfluencing' (minors acting as influencers);

- urgent action to address the ethical and legal challenges posed by **generative AI tools**, including deepfakes, companionship chatbots, AI agents and AI-powered nudity apps (capable of generating manipulated, non-consensual images).

Lastly Parliament recognised the importance of media and digital literacy in empowering minors to navigate online environments safely and responsibly and to apply critical thinking. It emphasised the need to provide parents and guardians with adequate **training** and guidance to help them support their children's digital experience.