

**Question for written answer E-002427/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Catherine Griset (PfE)

Subject: Protecting minors from social media addiction

Many studies, including one carried out by the World Health Organization on 25 September 2024¹, have sounded the alarm about excessive screen use among minors.

This addiction leads to many health problems: less time spent on physical activities, eating disorders, mental health issues, bullying, reading difficulties, and even cognitive delays.

Some platforms, like Meta, TikTok and YouTube, are accused of purposefully designing addictive algorithms.

In order to protect minors, it appears necessary:

- to oblige these platforms to stop using addictive algorithms;
- to introduce age verification tools where appropriate, as well as tools to limit the amount of time spent using these platforms.

To supplement the measures it will be taking under the Digital Services Act, will the Commission give Member States the freedom to apply their own laws to better protect minors?

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¹ <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/378982>