

Question for written answer E-002673/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Tackling digital threats to youth mental health

At the EU Health Council on 20 June 2025, ministers called for stronger action to protect the mental health of children and adolescents in the digital era. The conclusions emphasise the need for a safer and more age-appropriate digital environment, particularly given concerns over the impact of social media on young users.

France has proposed a ban on social networks for minors under 15, citing links to substance abuse and cyberbullying. Germany highlighted the harmful effects of ‘manipulative and addictive design’ in digital platforms, while Spain advocated for youth mental health to be prioritised in the upcoming 2028–2034 multiannual financial framework.

Despite broad agreement on the seriousness of the issue, there is still no unified EU strategy or regulatory framework to address these risks effectively.

1. Given the urgency, what policy measures does the Commission plan to introduce to curb harmful digital practices, ensure age-appropriate content and support the mental well-being of young users?
2. How will the Commission coordinate with the Member States to implement meaningful protections across the EU and ensure that digital platforms are held accountable for their impact on youth mental health?

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