

**Question for written answer E-004256/2025  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Marieke Ehlers (Pfe), Ton Diepeveen (Pfe)**

**Subject:** Online recruitment of minors to commit crimes

On 30 September and 1 October 2025 the Commission and the Community for European Research and Innovation for Security (CERIS) held a workshop in Brussels on youth involvement in crime, including gang-related offences<sup>1</sup>. Europol's statistics reveal that minors are often recruited through digital platforms.

1. Do the statistics contain a demographic breakdown of these minors, for example by religious background, migration background, refugee status, etc.? If not, why is such a breakdown not considered relevant?
2. During the workshop the importance was highlighted of adopting protective measures for minors within the framework of the Digital Services Act and the ongoing revision of the Victims' Rights Directive. Does the Commission regard minors who are recruited to commit crimes solely as victims of recruiters or also as perpetrators?
3. What is the Commission's view on online recruitment for politically motivated gang violence, as in the case of Antifa and Extinction Rebellion?

Submitted: 29.10.2025

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/combating-youth-related-criminality-insights-ceris-workshop-2025-10-28\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/combating-youth-related-criminality-insights-ceris-workshop-2025-10-28_en).