

**Question for written answer E-004043/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Social media account verification to prevent foreign interference, child abuse and criminal activity

Fake and anonymous accounts enable foreign interference, electoral manipulation, child exploitation, harassment, fraud and other illegal activity. The EEAS recorded 540 incidents of foreign information manipulation and interference in 2025, involving 10 500 social media channels. It attributed 29 % of these incidents to Russia and 6 % to China. Europol has documented offenders using fake identities to target minors through grooming, coercion and blackmail, while the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children found that 98 % of internet users approaching children to obtain sexual content were unknown to them offline.

In September 2026, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced the KIDS Act and the Digital Fairness Act, stating that platforms must prove they are safe. Ireland's Council Presidency also called for swift, decisive EU action to protect minors online.

The KIDS Act introduces certified age verification for social media access, compatible with the privacy-preserving EU Digital Identity (EUDI) Wallet. Yet the Digital Services Act does not require social media accounts to be linked to an accountable person.

1. Will the Commission propose mandatory verification linking social media accounts to a verified natural or legal person, while preserving public pseudonymity?
2. Will it assess the use of the EUDI Wallet or equivalent privacy-preserving systems for this purpose?
3. What concrete legislative steps will it take to close this accountability gap?

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