

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002278/24
to the Commission
Paolo Inselvini (ECR), Elena Donazzan (ECR)
(28 October 2024)**

Subject: Commission participation in the Pornfilmfestival Berlin 2024

From the information available on the Pornfilmfestival Berlin website ⁽¹⁾, it appears that the Commission took part in the 2024 edition of the festival, which is known to support pornographic content ‘for all ages’, as it states in its mission. Its involvement seems highly questionable and it is concerning that public funds — or even simply the EU institutions’ reputation — could be associated with the promotion of pornographic content.

Taking into account that, in its resolution of 12 December 2023 on mental health, Parliament clearly stated that exposure to pornography could ‘have negative mental health consequences, especially in children, adolescents and young people’:

1. How can the Commission’s participation be reconciled with its duty to support the protection of children in the European Union?
2. Before taking part, did the Commission check what was meant by ‘a forum for open-minded people of all ages’, as the festival claims to be on its ‘Mission & Transparency Statement’ page ⁽²⁾?
3. How did the Commission come to the decision to take part in an event of that kind?

Submitted: 28.10.2024

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(20 January 2025)**

No EU official attended the Pornfilmfestival Berlin 2024.

The Commission recognises and shares concerns about the harms that adult content can cause, particularly to women and girls, and is committed to ensuring that the risks associated with such content are appropriately identified and effectively mitigated, in accordance with the Digital Services Act (DSA) ⁽¹⁾.

In order to assist online platforms in applying a high level of protection for minors, the Commission is developing guidelines under the DSA, aligned with existing legal provisions, including the Audiovisual Media Services Directive ⁽²⁾ and the General Data Protection Regulation ⁽³⁾.

The Commission has designated four pornographic platforms as very large online platforms, resulting in the most stringent DSA obligations applying to them and bringing them under the Commission’s enforcement powers.

The Commission is actively assessing their compliance with the DSA and has sent several requests for information, including relating to risk assessment methods for mitigating illegal content.

In addition, to ensure an efficient implementation of the rules of the DSA, including those to protect minors online, the Commission remains dedicated to ensuring that an effective regulatory dialogue is maintained with all stakeholders, including from the adult content industry, with a particular focus on measures to protect minors from harmful content and to prevent the dissemination of illegal material.

¹ PFFB 2024: The European Commission will officially participate in an event within the adult industry, <https://pornfilmfestivalberlin.de/en/pffb-2024-eu-commission/>.

² PFFB Mission & Transparency Statement, <https://pornfilmfestivalberlin.de/en/mission-and-transparency/>.

⁽¹⁾ [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32003L0037)

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2018/1808/oj>

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/679/oj/eng>