

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002956/25
to the Commission
Liesbet Sommen (PPE)
(17 July 2025)**

Subject: Safeguarding minors against harmful content on video-sharing platform services through Union codes of conduct

The key rulebook for children's programmes is the Audiovisual Media Services Directive. Given the availability of videos and reels on platforms such as YouTube, TikTok and the Meta platforms, young people are increasingly consuming media via those outlets. In the directive, they come under 'video-sharing platform services'.

Article 4a encourages Member States to foster co-regulation or self-regulation through Union codes of conduct, in cooperation with the Commission. Article 28b(3) requires video-sharing platform services to take appropriate, proportionate and enforceable measures to safeguard minors against harmful content.

1. Is the Commission prepared to develop proactively with Member States, on the basis of Article 4a, Union codes of conduct to protect young children, and if Union codes of conduct were insufficiently effective, would the Commission be prepared to consider revising the Audiovisual Media Services Directive?
2. When does the Commission intend to launch the review of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive, and what is the associated timetable?
3. Does the Commission acknowledge that, on the basis of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive or the Digital Services Act, Member States can now impose stricter national rules on video-sharing platform services?

Submitted: 17.7.2025

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

The Commission closely monitors the implementation of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) ⁽¹⁾ in the Member States. It is primarily for national regulatory authorities to enforce the national rules transposing the directive, including its Article 28b on the obligation of video-sharing platform providers to protect minors.

As per Article 33 of the AVMSD, by 19 December 2026 at the latest, the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and the Council an *ex-post* evaluation of the impact of the directive and its added value, accompanied where appropriate by proposals for its review. The evaluation will cover the impact of the rules on the protection of minors and be supported by a study ⁽²⁾.

The Digital Services Act (DSA) ⁽³⁾ and the AVMSD are fully complementary and pursue the same objective regarding the protection of minors online.

The DSA, in particular, strengthens the protection of minors online by setting uniform rules for intermediary services across the EU.

Therefore, in view of the DSA's harmonised rules, any actions taken at national level must not fall within the full harmonisation scope of the DSA and ensure complementarity with those taken at EU level so that minors are protected to the highest possible degree against harmful and illegal content on online platforms.

⁽¹⁾ Directive 2010/13/EU on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services in view of changing market realities.

⁽²⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/funding/avmsd-commission-launches-call-tenders-study-evaluation-directive>.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj/eng>.