

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003690/25
to the Commission
Jean-Paul Garraud (Pfe)
(23 September 2025)**

Subject: ‘Chat control’ regulation — risk of blanket surveillance of private communications in the proposal for a regulation to prevent and combat child sexual abuse

The proposal for a regulation laying down rules to prevent and combat online child sexual abuse, commonly known as ‘chat control’, is currently being discussed in the Council. Several versions of the text, including the one recently supported by the Danish Presidency, raise serious concerns, in particular as regards privacy.

Proposals include an obligation for encrypted messaging services (WhatsApp, Signal, etc.) to use tools that can analyse users’ private conversations, even if no signs of suspicious behaviour have been detected.

Such an indiscriminate approach would clearly be at odds with the guarantees established in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and Court of Justice case-law.

Can the Commission say:

1. Does it consider blanket monitoring of encrypted communications to be in line with fundamental rights?
2. What minimum safeguards must be respected in the upcoming negotiations to strike a balance between child protection and upholding freedoms?

Submitted: 23.9.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(6 November 2025)**

The Commission Proposal for a regulation to prevent and combat child sexual abuse ⁽¹⁾ (the proposal) relies on a thorough and publicly available impact assessment ⁽²⁾.

The provisions on detection orders included in the proposal are targeted and are issued by a judicial or independent administrative authority balancing all the rights at stake and after a thorough assessment of their necessity and proportionality.

The proposal includes safeguards that ensure a fair balance in the protection of all fundamental rights impacted. The Commission will continue supporting the Council of the EU and the European Parliament in the interinstitutional negotiations to ensure that the final set of safeguards enables a fair balance in the protection of all fundamental rights impacted.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52022PC0209>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022SC0209>.