

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000174/26
to the Commission**

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(15 January 2026)

Subject: Investigation of AI tools providing ‘undressing applications’

Recent reports have revealed the widespread availability of so-called ‘undressing applications.’ These AI-powered tools allow users to digitally remove clothing from people in photographs. Critically, these tools do not distinguish between adults and children, making them capable of producing child sexual abuse material.

The revision of the directive on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography ⁽¹⁾ already recognises the severity of AI generated material. In addition, nude or otherwise sexually explicit materials produced and shared without consent of the persons, even if they are an adult, gravely damage dignity and breaches the right to privacy and personality. As such, it can be a source of bullying, blackmailing or revenge. AI that is not in compliance with the ethics-by-default principle is also breaching the EU Artificial Intelligence Act ⁽²⁾, which establishes ethics and trustworthiness as its horizontal principles.

In the light of this information, we would like to ask the Commission:

1. Does it intend to investigate companies providing ‘undressing’ features within their AI driven tools under the existing legislation?
2. Does it plan to present an initiative addressing this harmful trend?

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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(5 March 2026)

The Commission shares the view that these are very serious issues that need to be addressed.

Under the Digital Services Act ⁽¹⁾, online platforms must have mechanisms and procedures in place for reporting and expediently removing illegal content they have become aware of, including non-consensual intimate images.

Providers of very large online platforms and very large search online engines are required to assess and mitigate systemic risks related to the design and functioning of their service, including the dissemination of illegal content, such as image-based abuse ⁽²⁾.

On 10 October 2025, the Commission sent a request for information to the providers of Apple App Store and Google Play, to seek information on how they manage the risk of users, including minors, being able to download illegal or otherwise harmful applications (apps), including tools to create non-consensual sexualised content, so-called ‘nudify apps’.

On 26 January 2026, the Commission launched new proceedings against the provider of X, which will determine if the company properly assessed and mitigated systemic risks associated with the deployment in the EU of Grok’s functionalities into X, including risks related to the dissemination of illegal content, such as manipulated sexually explicit images and content that may amount to child sexual abuse material.

As for the AI Act ⁽³⁾, the rules on enforcement of the AI Act will only apply as of 2 August 2026. Therefore, investigations cannot be started before that date.

The Commission is aware that Member States and Members of the European Parliament are proposing to strengthen the current protections and include explicit prohibitions of AI systems producing child sexual abuse material and non-consensual sexually explicit images in the context of the AI Omnibus negotiations.

¹ OJ L 335, 17.12.2011, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2011/93/oj>.

² OJ L, 2024/1689, 12.7.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1689/oj>.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a Single Market For Digital Services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act), OJ L 277, 27.10.2022.

⁽²⁾ The creation and dissemination of AI generated child sexual abuse material is criminalised under Directive 2011/93/EU and the producing and subsequently sharing of non-consensual deep fake images depicting a person engaging in sexually explicit activities is criminalised under Directive 2024/1385.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence and amending Regulations (EC) No 300/2008, (EU) No 167/2013, (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1139 and (EU) 2019/2144 and Directives 2014/90/EU, (EU) 2016/797 and (EU) 2020/1828 (Artificial Intelligence Act), OJ L, 2024/1689, 12.7.2024.