

EN

E-001716/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.6.2026)

The application presented on 15 April 2026¹ is an early reference implementation of the European age verification solution, released openly for scrutiny prior to public deployment. Some of the issues raised by independent experts were well founded and have been corrected by the development consortium, with an updated version made available shortly thereafter and further improvements to be made.

To ensure that data protection and security requirements are fulfilled, age verification solutions will be assessed and approved by the Commission in accordance with Commission Recommendation (EU) 2026/1035². The rules and requirements for the assessment will be established in the age verification attestation of attributes scheme based on Article 8 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/1569³, the Age Verification Blueprint⁴, the Electronic Identification, Authentication and Trust Services Regulation⁵, Directive (EU) 2022/2555⁶, the Cyber Resilience Act⁷ and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)⁸.

The GDPR ensures that data protection rights of citizens are protected, and this applies to age verification providers. Age verification solutions must not communicate any information identifying the user. To ensure that sensitive personal data are not exposed, stored or misused, the system uses zero-knowledge proofs, letting users prove their age without sharing their identity or personal details. Platforms receive only a cryptographic confirmation (no raw data), which ensures unlinkability and no centralised storage of data is carried out. Strict compliance with data protection rules is enforced via contractual obligations on implementers (Member States or private providers), including mandatory data protection impact assessments.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/news-and-media/news/european-age-verification-app-keep-children-safe-online-2026-04-15_en.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reco/2026/1035/oj>.

³ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202501569.

⁴ <https://ageverification.dev/>.

⁵ Regulation (EU) No 910/2014.

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022L2555&qid=1781793282749>.

⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32024R2847>.

⁸ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/679/oj/eng>.