

EN

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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(24.8.2026)

Promoting good mental health across all policy areas is supported through the 2023 Communication on a comprehensive approach to mental health¹. Under the flagship ‘Children Health 360’, a prevention toolkit is developed with UNICEF. The focus is currently on the implementation of the Communication, including related joint actions, such as MENTOR² and PRISM³.

The Commission will focus on addressing the impact of digitalisation on youth mental health. On 16 June 2026, it published a flash Eurobarometer⁴ that informed the work of Commission President’s Special Panel on child safety online⁵. The co-Chairs’s recommendations⁶, published on 13 July 2026, are currently being reviewed.

Under the Digital Services Act⁷, very large online platforms and very large online search engines are obliged to assess and mitigate systemic risks, including risks to mental well-being. Research and innovation in this area are supported through a Horizon Europe call⁸.

As part of the envisaged Quality Jobs Act, the Commission is considering the area of occupational health and safety risks in the workplace, including psychosocial ones. The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work will carry out a campaign on mental health and psychosocial risks at work in 2026-2028.

Further support is provided through the EU Youth Strategy, Erasmus+ Youth, the European Solidarity Corps, the 2022 Council Recommendation on Pathways to School Success⁹ and the 2024 Wellbeing Guidelines¹⁰. Support is also provided through sport via #BeActive, the European Week of Sport, and through a planned Open Method of Coordination Group on mental health in sport.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52023DC0298>.

² <https://ja-mentor.eu/>.

³ <https://japrism.eu/>.

⁴ <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/3686>.

⁵ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/digital-economy-and-society/protecting-children-online/special-panel_en.

⁶ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/d833504d-5ec3-4fac-945f-38e7d0bd5326_en?filename=Special-panel-report.pdf.

⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj/eng>.

⁸ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-DISEASE-02>.

⁹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022H1209%2801%29>.

¹⁰ <https://education.ec.europa.eu/news/supporting-wellbeing-at-school-new-guidelines-for-policy-makers-and-educators> (Guidelines for education policymakers; Guidelines for teachers, educators and schools, May 2024).