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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(13.8.2026)

The Commission is deeply committed to the eradication of child labour, in particular its worst forms, and to promoting and protecting children's rights in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child[1], the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union[2], and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Fundamental Conventions[3]. To this end, the Commission supports the universal ratification and effective implementation of all ILO Fundamental Conventions, including No 138 on the Minimum Age and No 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

The Commission welcomes the ILO's monitoring of global and national progress, including through its global estimates, country-level reporting and analytical work, drawing on the indicators from the Annex to the Marrakech Global Framework for Action[4]. As provided for in the respective legal instruments, the Commission will evaluate and report to the European Parliament and Council on the implementation and effectiveness of both the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive[5] and the Forced Labour Regulation[6], including in preventing and addressing adverse impacts related to child labour.

Pending their entry into application, the Commission will continue to promote responsible business conduct through existing policies, engage with partner countries and international organisations, civil society, trade unions and affected communities and support multi-stakeholder initiatives to contribute to the eradication of child labour. The Commission is also working on a new EU Strategy on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings, which also intends to address child labour. Progress in partner countries will continue to be monitored through cooperation with the ILO, relevant UN agencies and other international partners.

[1] Convention on the Rights of the Child, Adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, entry into force 2 September 1990.
[2] Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, 2012/C 326/02.
[3] ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998), as amended in 2022. https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=1000:62:0::NO:62:P62_LIST_ENTRIE_ID:2453911:NO.
[4] https://www.ilo.org/publications/marrakech-global-framework-action-against-child-labour.
[5] Directive (EU) 2024/1760 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on corporate sustainability due diligence and amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937 and Regulation (EU) 2023/2859.
[6] Regulation (EU) 2024/3015 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2024 on prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market and amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937.