

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003482/26
to the Commission
Veronika Cifrová Ostrihoňová (Renew)
(3 September 2026)**

Subject: ChatGPT's safety mechanisms regarding suicide-related content in different language versions

On 2 September 2026, an anonymous member of the public alerted me to a test of the large language model ChatGPT, operated by OpenAI, in which the chatbot, in response to a prompt regarding a school essay, generated a suicide note in the Slovak language. When the test was repeated, the chatbot's responses varied depending on whether the user was logged in, with contact details for a crisis helpline only being offered to the user when logged out.

Although the chatbot refused to provide instructions or a plan for suicide in subsequent tests, it did not put a definitive end to the inappropriate thread, so it was possible to continue attempting to obtain further harmful content. This is not merely a hypothetical risk. In the widely publicised case of 16-year-old Adam Raine, his parents claim that ChatGPT continued to engage in conversations about suicide for months, despite repeated signs of imminent danger. ⁽¹⁾

1. How will the Commission examine whether the differing levels of protection for logged-in and logged-out users, and the ability to continue a high-risk thread across different language versions, pose systematic risks to minors?
2. Will the Commission require OpenAI to provide frequent links to crisis support and to put an stop to the distribution of further harmful content?
3. Following the designation of ChatGPT as a VLOSE under the Digital Services Act of 31 August 2026, how will the Commission use its powers to verify and enforce effective measures to mitigate these risks, including independent testing of safeguards for minors?

Submitted: 3.9.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(16 October 2026)**

The safety of minors online is one of the key priorities of the Commission, which is invested in enforcing it through its legal means, including the AI Act ⁽¹⁾, the Digital Services Act ⁽²⁾ (DSA), and the new proposal of the EU Keeping Internet Digital Spaces (KIDS) Accountable and Trustworthy Act ⁽³⁾.

Under the AI Act, providers of the general-purpose AI (GPAI) models with systemic risk must assess and mitigate the systemic risks posed by their models, including risks to minors from their legitimate use of the model and from the use of the model by other persons that may cause harm to minors ⁽⁴⁾.

The GPAI Code of Practice ⁽⁵⁾ lays down measures that these providers can follow to demonstrate compliance with their obligations under the AI Act, including in relation to risks to minors.

The Commission is engaged in regular discussions with OpenAI, a signatory of the Code of Practice, in particular on their implemented mitigations for the potential systemic risks stemming from their models.

The Commission also designated ChatGPT as a very large online search engine (VLOSE) on 31 August 2026. The obligations set out in Section 5 of Chapter III DSA will apply to the provider of ChatGPT as of January 2027.

These include the obligation to diligently identify, assess and analyse, at least once a year, the systemic risks stemming from the design, functioning and use made of their service, including on any actual or foreseeable negative effects for the protections of minors and for the exercise of fundamental rights such as to human dignity and to the rights of the child, taking into account regional and linguistic aspects. The provider is also required to put in place effective measures to mitigate the identified systemic risks.

¹ <https://www.cbsnews.com/sanfrancisco/news/ai-guardrails-california-adam-raine/>.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and 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 (AI Act).

⁽²⁾ 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.

⁽³⁾ 2026/0286 (COD) Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and the Council EU KIDS ACT — 'EU Keeping Internet Digital Spaces Accountable and Trustworthy'.

⁽⁴⁾ See Article 55 of the AI Act, as well as recital (33) of Proposal referred to in footnote N 3.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/contents-code-gpai>.

The Commission will use its full supervisory and enforcement powers to ensure compliance with these acts.
