*(English version)*

**Priority question for written answer P-000781/26**
**to the Commission**
**Paolo Inselvini (ECR)**
*(25 February 2026)*

*Subject:* Epstein case and potential European implications of the fight against child sexual exploitation

Recent legal developments and the release of new documents relating to the Epstein case have once again shone a light on the international dimension of sexual exploitation networks, and on possible links to actors and structures established in Europe.

The gravity of the facts and the possible use of transnational financial circuits raise questions about the Union's ability to prevent and combat complex crime phenomena involving children and illegal trafficking. Bearing in mind the possibility of European implications, it is essential to clarify the current level of awareness and policy tools available at EU level.

Given that some UN experts have even suggested that these acts could be classed as crimes against humanity, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is the Commission aware of any ties to natural or legal persons in the EU that may have come to light in international investigations?

2. What legal instruments and mechanisms for ensuring coordination among Member States can be employed to support the national authorities in establishing the facts?

3. What other initiatives will it promote to improve the prevention of child sexual exploitation and the fight against the corresponding financial flows?

Submitted: 25.2.2026

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission**
*(10 April 2026)*

The Commission recalls that the investigation of criminal offences is the competence of national authorities.

The European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) facilitates the rapid and secure exchange of criminal intelligence across the EU and provides advanced analytical support to help national authorities identify links between suspects, financial flows and transnational criminal networks.

At the operational level, the European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats (EMPACT) platform ([1]) enables Member States to coordinate investigations and transform separate national child sexual exploitation cases into a shared, intelligence-led EU response.

In July 2025, the Commission created the expert group Network for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse ([2]) to advise the Commission, share best practices, and support the development and implementation of prevention measures.

Moreover, the Commission has presented two legislative proposals ([3]) to prevent and combat child sexual abuse which include provisions to reinforce the prevention of child sexual abuse online and offline, including across borders.

Both proposals are being negotiated by the co-legislators and the Commission continues to support the co-legislators in reaching swift agreement, in particular on the rules that determine the possibilities and obligations for online platforms to take action against child sexual abuse.

Moreover, the Commission remains committed to combating serious and organised crime, including the disruption of corresponding financial flows, as reflected in ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy ([4]).

The 'follow the money' approach remains a cornerstone of this effort, further reinforced by the adoption of the 2024 Directive on Asset Recovery and Confiscation ([5]).

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([1]) https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/empact.
([2]) C(2025) 5252 final.
([3]) COM/2022/209 final, COM/2024/60 final.
([4]) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025DC0148.
([5]) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/LSU/?uri=oj:L_202401260.