Question for written answer E-011543/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Preventing children from unconsciously disclosing personal data online

Digital natives, young Europeans aged 15-24, who were born and raised with digital technology, in an age of social media and mobile devices could potentially be broadcasting their personal information to millions of people around the globe.

Are they aware of the value of their personal data and do they see that data as currency to be traded for online services?

Figures show that 84 % believe they have control over their personal information and 43 % do not consider it a big issue to disclose personal data online. This incorrect perception could lead to quite dangerous consequences from adding unknown people as friends to sending personal information to a person they have never met, or people pretending to be someone else online or sending photos and videos to unknown persons.

Education is the most important defensive weapon against threats that children can easily encounter on the web. They should be taught to use the internet in a responsible way and informed how to safely access content and how to safely put content online.

Have policymakers at European level considered encouraging the adoption in primary schools of specific training and educational programmes on online privacy?

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