

**Question for written answer P-015843/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Clare Moody (S&D)**

Subject: Safer Internet Centre (SIC) - Child sexual abuse material, online content and protection of children

In the Connecting Europe Facility Work Programme for 2015, the Commission states that it will 'continue supporting generic services provided by Safer Internet Centres in all the MS, building on their interoperability with the EU core platform and its services. The SICs will maintain and expand national platforms to run a range of safer internet services.'

However, is the Commission aware that the world-leading Safer Internet Centre UK, which exchanges best practices with peers across Europe and is internationally recognised as a leader in its field, faces a threat to its EU funding?

Between July 2012 and October 2014, the SIC UK's project was 75 % funded, and the programme announced in November 2014 suggests ever decreasing funding.

I welcome the opening of the 2016-2018 calls for proposals and indications of the budget available, but I am concerned about how much money will be available for these vitally important projects beyond 2018, the final two years of the MFF. Any funding cuts to the services provided by organisations like the Safer Internet Centre have knock-on impacts for safeguarding children online.

What assurances can the Commission give that it will continue to offer appropriate budget lines beyond 2018 to allow the Safer Internet Centre UK and others like it across the EU to continue their vital work?