



# **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

## **Hearing**

### **“Child sexual abuse and exploitation online and offline: time to act”**

**Tuesday 25 April 2017, 15.00 to 18.30**

**European Parliament, Brussels**

**Room: Paul-Henri Spaak (PHS) 3C050**

## Background

In December 2011 the European Parliament and the Council adopted Directive 2011/93/EU on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography. The Directive establishes minimum rules concerning the definition of criminal offences and sanctions in the area of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children, child pornography and solicitation of children for sexual purposes. The Directive follows the holistic approach required to fight these crimes effectively, incorporating provisions on investigation and prosecution of offences, assistance to and protection of victims, and prevention. It introduced many improvements in the EU criminal law against child sexual exploitation in comparison to Council Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA of 22 December 2003 on combating the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, which it replaced, notably refined definition of child pornography, increased criminal penalties, the criminalisation of the possession and acquisition of online child sexual abuse materials, the introduction of the new offence of “grooming” and a provision related to the removing and/or blocking of websites containing child pornography’.

The Member States had 18 December 2013 as a deadline for transposition of the Directive.

In accordance with Article 28 of Directive 2011/93/EU in December 2016 the Commission published two reports on its implementation.

The first report assessed the extent to which the Member States have taken measures to comply with the Directive and concluded that the Member States have undertaken actions to transpose it by amending criminal codes, criminal procedures and sectorial legislation, streamlining procedures, setting up or improving cooperation schemes and improving the coordination of national actors. Nevertheless, further efforts by the Member States are needed in order for the Directive to reach its full potential through complete implementation of all of its provisions.

The second report assessed the implementation of Article 25 of Directive 2011/93/EU on measures for removal of and blocking access to web pages containing or disseminating child pornography and concluded that despite the significant efforts made by the Member States in the transposition of this particular Article, there is still room to use its potential to the full by continuing to work on its complete and correct implementation across Member States.

In its resolution of 11 March 2015 on child sexual abuse online the European Parliament recognised the need for further measures to protect children from sexual abuse online and to fight effectively the child sexual offences committed by using Internet. In this regard, the Parliament underlined the need to implement in a correct manner Directive 2011/93/EU and instructed the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs to further monitor the implementation of Directive 2011/93/EU and to carry out an in-depth analysis of the current policy framework for the fight against child sexual abuse, in the form of an implementation report on Directive 2011/93/EU.

The objective of the hearing on “Child sexual abuse and exploitation online and offline: time to act” is to listen to experts in the field from different backgrounds on the measures taken to implement Directive 2011/93/EU by the Member States, to identify gaps in the application of existing rules and mechanisms and to compare best practices in the Member States and abroad. The evidence gathered by the LIBE Committee will be further used for its work on its report on the implementation of Directive 2011/93/EU.

## Order of business

15:00 – 15:10      **Opening remarks** by **Claude MORAES**, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament and by Mrs **Anna Maria CORAZZA BILDT**, rapporteur for the report on the implementation of Directive 2011/93/EU on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography (2015/2129(INI))

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### FIRST PANEL

**Police and judicial cooperation in combatting crimes of child sexual abuse and exploitation**

**15:10 – 16:10**

15:10 – 15:20      **State of play of the application of Directive 2011/93/EU**, presentation of the EPRS in-depth analysis, Mr Wouter van Ballegooij & Ms Amandine Scherrer (EPRS)

15:20 – 15:30      **Police cooperation at EU level on cases of child sexual abuse and exploitation**, Mr Cathal Delaney, Focal Point TWINS, Europol (tbc)

15:30 – 15:40      **Judicial cooperation on cases of child sexual abuse and exploitation**, Eurojust

15:40 – 16:10      Q&A session

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**SECOND PANEL**

**Prevention and protection of children victims of child sexual abuse and exploitation**

**16:10 – 17:10**

- 16:10 – 16:20 **The role of the judiciary: Study cases to combat and prevent child sexual abuse and paedophilia (tbc)**
- 16:20 – 16:30 **The role of the civil society in prevention and protection of child victims**, Ms Aleksandra Ivankovic, Victims Support Europe
- 16:30 – 16:40 **The contribution of Hotlines**, Ms Laure Abado, Legal advisor - Rights of the Child, Helpline BRIS
- 16:40 – 17:10 Q&A session

**THIRD PANEL**

**Child sexual abuse and child pornography online**

**17:10 – 18:20**

- 17:10 – 17:20 **Commission assessment on the implementation of Article 25 of Directive 2011/93/EU**, Mr Olivier Onidi, Deputy Director General for Security at DG HOME, European Commission
- 17:20 – 17:30 **The role and the responsibility of the industry**, Mr John F. Clark, President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NMEC)
- 17:30 – 17:40 **Efficiency of internet-related measures**, French experience, Mr Alexandre Linden, Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés (CNIL)
- 17:40 – 18:20 Q&A session
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- 18:20 – 18:25 Concluding remark by **Mrs Anna Maria CORAZZA BILDT**, rapporteur
- 18:25 – 18:30 Closing remarks by **Mr Claude MORAES**, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

## Annex

### IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND THE MEETING

This meeting is open to the public. However, for security reasons, participants who do not have a European Parliament access badge must obtain a pass in advance. Those wishing to obtain such a pass should register online via the following link: [https://opinio.secure.europarl.europa.eu/opinio/s?s=secured\\_20170425\\_LIBE\\_Child\\_sexual\\_abuse](https://opinio.secure.europarl.europa.eu/opinio/s?s=secured_20170425_LIBE_Child_sexual_abuse) **before 20 April at noon.** Without the online registration duly filled in, the Security Service will not provide entry passes.<sup>1</sup>

#### PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE DEBATE

- *During the discussion, so as to make it possible for the highest number of parliamentarians to intervene, speaking time of speakers will be strictly limited to **the specified time allocated** and speaking time of the Members to **two minutes** per contribution or question in order to ensure a fruitful discussion.*
- *Speakers wishing to supplement their speeches may do so in writing by submitting a document (preferably in English or French) in advance to the secretariat (email: [libe-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:libe-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu)). These documents will be circulated during the meeting.*
- *Meeting documents will be progressively added to the Events section of the LIBE Committee pages: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/libe/events-hearings.html>.*

#### THE MEETING IS BROADCASTED LIVE AND RECORDED

*LIBE Committee pages:*

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/homeCom.do?language=EN&body=LIBE>

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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<sup>1</sup> The processing of personal data is subject to Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of 18 December 2001 (OJ.L 8 12.1.2001, p. 1)