

**Question for written answer E-012460/2013  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Christine De Veyrac (PPE)**

Subject: Potential abuse of teenage dating websites

Modelled on the format of adult websites, dating websites targeting teenagers have been springing up online for the past several years.

Although some of these websites do ask their users to obtain parental permission, minors do not always heed this requirement and it is not unusual for parents to be unaware of the existence of these websites.

These free websites estimate that they have between 100 000 and 200 000 members. The Internet users who are looking for dates on these websites and who are providing photos and descriptions of themselves are aged between 11 and 25.

These dating websites encourage the use of private messages and participation in chats, sometimes via video. This may prove dangerous for minors and could lead to abuse by some ill-intentioned users.

As part of its efforts to combat paedophilia and prevent child pornography, does the European Union intend to take the necessary measures to protect these minors from abuse made possible by these dating websites for teenagers, over which parents have little control?