Question for written answer E-002194/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Isabella Tovaglieri (ID)

Subject: Revenge porn: an odious emergency

According to reports in the press, some virtual platforms are massively promoting the exchange through chat rooms of sensitive data, images and video clips that damage the image of other people, in breach of the privacy of the individuals directly concerned. One recent case that caused a stir was that of a woman who lost her professional job after her videos had been shared by third parties on a group chat together with her surname, forename and office telephone number.

Those most exposed to this phenomenon are 'digital natives'; research among teenagers in Italy has found that 15% of them had had intimate images shared with third parties without their consent; in 11% of these cases, the motive was blackmail and in 7% it was revenge. These figures could get worse, bearing in mind the growing intensity of online communications due to measures to contain the Covid-19 epidemic.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

- 1. Does it have detailed statistics on online gender violence?
- 2. What tools can be used to combat cyber-violence and gender violence?
- 3. How will the Commission, in cooperation with other parties, including other institutions, raise awareness among younger people in order to prevent this phenomenon from becoming more common?