

**Question for written answer E-002694/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Exposure of children to harmful content and safe use of the Internet

The measures taken to contain COVID-19 mean that there is an urgent need to make the transition to distance learning, digital education and tele-education. As a result, children are spending more time online or watching TV without parental supervision, as parents often work from home or are otherwise busy. This is an additional period of online exposure, during which children would normally be supervised by teachers or educators. This additional period of exposure of children to the Internet or television occurs when parents have to work and so are unable to supervise their children.

This raises the possibility that children may be exposed to inappropriate and harmful content on the Internet or on television.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

What measures will it take to protect children on the Internet, now that there has necessarily been an increase in access time?