

**Question for written answer E-005936/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Assita Kanko (ECR)

Subject: The importance of cybersecurity for children during the COVID-19 crisis

At present, a large number of private companies and internet platforms are not held sufficiently accountable for the lack of protection for children online and for the lack of education for children on this topic. With state education increasingly moving from classrooms to computers, children are becoming more and more exposed to online criminality.

1. Given the under-reporting of cyber-attacks and people's increased reliance on the internet during the COVID-19 pandemic, does the Commission intend to prioritise a broader and more comprehensive public information campaign and invest more in cybersecurity and fighting cybercrime in the coming months?
2. In July 2020, the Commission announced its intention to propose long-term legislation to tackle online child sexual abuse, including requiring certain companies to detect and report known materials to public authorities. Can the Commission provide more detail on what responsibility and liability private companies and platforms will have? And given children's increasing reliance on online learning and the internet in general, will the scope of this regulation now be extended to protect children in all aspects of online life?