Question for written answer E-002079/2022 to the Commission Rule 138 Moritz Körner (Renew)

Subject: Prohibition of software applications

Article 6 of the draft regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse stipulates obligations for software application stores.

Under these obligations, stores must make reasonable efforts, where possible together with the providers of software applications, to assess the risk that each of the services offered through the software applications for which they act as an intermediator may be used for the purpose of the solicitation of children. They must also take reasonable measures to prevent child users from accessing any software applications containing services they have identified as presenting a significant risk of being used for the purpose of the solicitation of children.

Can the Commission rule out the possibility that these obligations may lead to the apps WhatsApp, TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat or Facebook being banned for users under the age of 18? I ask the Commission to answer with a simple yes or no, before explaining its reasoning in detail.