Question for written answer E-001145/2023 to the Commission

Rule 138 Loucas Fourlas (PPE)

Subject: Underage victims of cyberbullying

Underage victims of online intimidation, threats, humiliation or harassment are unable to defend themselves effectively. Acts of intimidation may include a constant stream of messages or emails, despite requests by the victim that all such communications be ended. However, they may also take the form of repeated threats, degrading, scurrilous or sexual comments and defamatory or false accusations, or involve hacking into the websites or accounts of underage users with the aim of humiliating them.

Far from diminishing, cyberbullying is very much on the increase. It is inconceivable that any fellow human being, still less a child, should be driven into isolation and forced to suffer humiliation, degradation, violence and threats.

In view of this:

- 1. Can the Commission say what measures it is taking to raise awareness among children with regard to this extremely serious matter?
- 2. What measures is it taking to raise awareness among the parents and guardians of underage users?
- 3. What measures are being taken to protect underage internet users from cyberbullying?

Submitted: 5.4.2023