Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality

29.6.2023

OPINION

of the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs


Rapporteur for opinion: Heléne Fritzon
SHORT JUSTIFICATION

On 11 May 2022, the European Commission published its legislative proposal for a Regulation on laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse. The aim of this proposal is to lay down rules to detect and report child sexual abuse online, prevent child sexual abuse and save and support victims, 96% of which were estimated in 2021 to be girls according to the INHOPE network. Central to the proposal is addressing the misuse of relevant information society services for online child sexual abuse material and grooming, both of which predominantly concern and target girls and young women while the perpetrators are pre-dominantly men.

The Rapporteur would like to highlight the importance of recognising that child sexual abuse is to a large extent an expression of gender-based violence. Therefore, combating the online aspects of this crime has to take into consideration gender specific approaches.

The Rapporteur suggests a series of amendments in order to reinforce prevention measures through, among other things, awareness raising campaigns tailored specifically by age and gender. She also emphasises the need to provide specialised response and support to victims and survivors with an integrated gender perspective. In this regard, the Rapporteur supports the creation of the EU Centre and proposes the establishment of an Advisory Board representing survivors and children’s rights experts. The Advisory Board would provide structured advice to the governance structures of the EU Centre on matters concerning children’s rights, prevention measures and victims’ and survivors’ support.

In addition, the Rapporteur would like to strengthen overall data collection disaggregated by age and gender, and on research and statistics, she proposes close collaboration between the EU Centre and the European Institute for Gender Equality.

Finally, the Rapporteur believes that this Regulation could make a significant difference in combating child sexual abuse for all children and contributing to a safer online experience.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality calls on the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, as the committee responsible, to take the following into account the following amendments:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1

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<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
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<td>(1) Information society services have become very important for communication,</td>
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expression, gathering of information and many other aspects of present-day life, including for children but also for perpetrators of child sexual abuse offences. Such offences, which are subject to minimum rules set at Union level, are very serious criminal offences that need to be prevented and combated effectively in order to protect children’s rights and well-being, as is required under the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (‘Charter’), and to protect society at large. Users of such services offered in the Union should be able to trust that the services concerned can be used safely, especially by children.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1 a (new)

_text proposed by the Commission_

Amendment

(1a) Over the last 20 years, there has been a significant rise in child sexual abuse material (CSAM) following the growing technological development and connectivity. The reporting of suspected online child sexual abuse rose by 35% in 2021, compared with the cases in 2020. Such an increase is observed in child grooming as well, where for example perpetrators approach children online in order to convince them to produce and share sexual material of themselves. CSAM crime is also becoming more severe, as ever-younger children are being abused\(^a\). Over the past years, globally the average age at which children are first exposed to sexually explicit content and online sexual harms has continued to drop\(^b\). Child sexual abuse has a disproportionate impact on girls as the vast majority of child sexual abuse material is depicting girls. Girls are
overrepresented in cases of solicitation of children, while men are overrepresented as perpetrators. According to reports of 2021, 96% of child sexual abuse material is estimated in 2021 to have affected girls. 91% of the reports in 2022 depict girls and 7% depict the abuse of boys, taking into account that the statistics on the abuse of boys are often underestimated and such cases are less frequently reported.

1a EPRS briefing, December 2022, 'Combating child sexual abuse online'.

1b We protect global alliance organisation - global survey 2023
https://www.weprotect.org/economist-impact-global-survey


Amendment 3
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(1b) Gender based cyber violence disproportionately affects women and girls and constitutes a serious risk online. Online sexual violence is at an all-time high, with sexual harassment, sexual abuse and grooming exponentially affecting girls and young women. Overall, one in ten women has experienced some form of gender-based cyber violence since the age of 15. 58% of girls have experienced online harassment1a. Child sexual abuse is largely an expression of
violence against girls and young women, therefore it is key to integrate a gender perspective in all measures taken to prevent and combat online child sexual abuse and intercepting online solicitation of children while at the same time addressing the root causes of gender-based violence. Gender inequality, structural violence and discrimination against women in society can have harmful consequences in the life of children as revealed by CSAM related statistics, where girls are more likely to be harmed. The digital dimension of gender-based violence has a serious impact on the lives of women and girls, including their safety, their physical and psychological health, livelihoods, family ties, dignity and reputation.

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Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(1c) In 2022, IWF received 127,732 global reports with ‘self-generated’ imagery, which could be intimate images originally shared in consent or images in which children have been groomed, deceived or extorted into producing and sharing a sexual image or video of themselves. 50% of all actioned reports and 64% of ‘self-generated’ child sexual abuse reports depicted 11-13 year old girls. 24% of all actioned reports and 31% of ‘self-generated’ child sexual abuse reports included 7-10 year old girls. 1a

Such data emphasise the gender-aspect of
the CSAM crime and the need to provide gender-tailored solutions.

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1st IWF annual report 2022
https://annualreport2022.iwf.org.uk/

Amendment 5
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) Given the central importance of relevant information society services, those aims can only be achieved by ensuring that providers offering such services in the Union behave responsibly and take reasonable measures to minimise the risk of their services being misused for the purpose of child sexual abuse, those providers often being the only ones in a position to prevent and combat such abuse. The measures taken should be targeted, carefully balanced and proportionate, so as to avoid any undue negative consequences for those who use the services for lawful purposes, in particular for the exercise of their fundamental rights protected under Union law, that is, those enshrined in the Charter and recognised as general principles of Union law, and so as to avoid imposing any excessive burdens on the providers of the services.

Amendment

(2) Given the central importance of relevant information society services, those aims can only be achieved by ensuring that providers offering such services in the Union behave responsibly and take reasonable measures to minimise the risk of their services being misused for the purpose of child sexual abuse, those providers often in a position to prevent and combat such abuse. The measures taken should be targeted, carefully balanced, effective, evidence-based, proportionate, and subject to constant review, so as to avoid any undue negative consequences, to fight against online crime, including the serious crime of CSAM and for those who use the services for lawful purposes, in particular for the exercise of their fundamental rights protected under Union law, that is, those enshrined in the Charter and recognised as general principles of Union law, and so as to avoid directly or indirectly imposing any excessive burdens on the providers of the services.

Amendment 6
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3
(3) Member States are increasingly introducing, or are considering introducing, national laws to prevent and combat online child sexual abuse, in particular by imposing requirements on providers of relevant information society services. In the light of the inherently cross-border nature of the internet and the service provision concerned, those national laws, which diverge, have a direct negative effect on the internal market. To increase legal certainty, eliminate the resulting obstacles to the provision of the services and ensure a level playing field in the internal market, the necessary harmonised requirements should be laid down at Union level.

Amendment 7
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(3a) In order to effectively prevent child sexual abuse both online and offline, Member States should establish and implement effective intervention measures aimed at preventing sexual abuse against children; children need to be educated in a child friendly and child sensitive way, regarding the possible risks of sexual abuse to develop their understanding on what constitutes a healthy relationship at an early age, through an age appropriate comprehensive sexuality and relationships education, teaching children about consent from the earliest age possible and ensuring children’s ability to verbalise their experiences after experiencing abuse. Guaranteeing these educational measures in all schools helps children, their families, teachers, and social
services, to identify and report abuse.

Amendment 8
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(3b) As pointed out in the Commission Strategy\(^1\), children need to have the knowledge and tools that could help them stay safe online and they need to be informed about behaviours they could encounter that are unacceptable. When abuse occurs, children need to feel secure and empowered to speak up, react and report, even when the abuse comes from within their circle of trust, as it is often the case. It is essential in this regard to introduce digital skills, literacy and safety online programs targeted at both children and holders of parental responsibility, in order to give them the tools to support children online and recognise signs of child sexual abuse; As stated in the Recommendation of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child\(^2\), States should ensure that digital literacy is taught in schools, as part of basic education curricula, from preschool level and throughout all school years, and that such pedagogies are assessed on the basis of their results. Curricula should include the knowledge and skills to safely handle a wide range of digital tools and resources, including those relating to content, creation, collaboration, participation, socialization and civic engagement EU strategy for a more effective fight against child sexual abuse online and offline.

\(^1\) COM(2020) 607 final, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions EU strategy for
a more effective fight against child sexual abuse.

1b CRC/C/GC/25, General comment No. 25 (2021) on children’s rights in relation to the digital environment from UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Amendment 9
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3c) Member States should develop public awareness programmes through the media, on the crime of child sexual abuse, in a gender sensitive and child friendly way; the Commission-funded network of Safer Internet Centres raises awareness on online safety and provides information, resources and assistance via helplines and hotlines on a wide range of digital safety topics including grooming and sexting. The One in Five campaign by the Council of Europe and Europol’s “#SayNo” initiative are further examples of how this can be done.

Amendment 10
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3 d (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3d) Targeted cooperation with online platforms for gender sensitive and age-appropriate awareness raising can complement the educational measures targeted at both children and parents. As a growing number of teenagers are sharing intimate images as a part of sexual interaction and behaviour, platforms can have an important role, informing children about the risks
associated with sharing of images, and give them guidance on the risks and effects of such behaviour.

Amendment 11
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) Therefore, this Regulation should contribute to the proper functioning of the internal market by setting out clear, uniform and balanced rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse in a manner that is effective and that respects the fundamental rights of all parties concerned. In view of the fast-changing nature of the services concerned and the technologies used to provide them, those rules should be laid down in technology-neutral and future-proof manner, so as not to hamper innovation.

Amendment

(4) Therefore, this Regulation should directly contribute to establishing clear, uniform and balanced rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse in a manner that is demonstrably and durably effective and that respects the fundamental rights of all parties concerned. In view of the fast-changing nature of the services concerned and the technologies used to provide them, those rules should be laid down in technology-neutral and future-proof manner, so as not to hamper innovation, in the fight against crime, including CSAM. It should also contribute to raising awareness of the broad scope of the phenomenon of child sexual abuse, which does not only affect children of different ages, genders and social, cultural and economic backgrounds, taking into account the particular impact on the close and extended family circle.

Amendment 12
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(4a) Member states should ensure the promotion of policies to prevent and combat sexual abuse, particularly in the following four areas: justice to ensure the safety of victims and the accountability of perpetrators, education so that new
generations learn how to engage in healthy relationships as well as how to identify abuse and violence, health to prioritise the healthy physical and psychological development of children, and social action to ensure that all victims have the same opportunities and support to report the abuse, overcome any traumas with professional help, and seek help outside their family unit if necessary and ensure the full availability of specialized support services tailored by gender and age for child victims of sexual abuse and children in vulnerable situations.

Amendment 13
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4b) Member States should guarantee the provision of needed recourses to ensure that the justice system functions at adequate speed. That should include resources to carry out psychological support assessments and ensure priority mechanisms for continuous, universal and therapeutic support to victims and their families, who can benefit from it throughout their lives, and to provide capacity to public health systems.

Amendment 14
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4c) The risks associated with children falling victim to child sexual abuse are vast, including but not limited to glorification and promotion of self-harm,
suicide, violence, hate speech online and offline, drug taking, eating disorders and dangerous dieting practices. These risks deriving from the exposure of children to child sexual abuse, harassment and access to harmful content have detrimental effect on children’s rights and their physical and psychological wellbeing. Among other consequences, it can discourage children’s, especially girls’ participation in online activities. Equally significant is that research demonstrates that certain groups are particularly vulnerable to different types of child sexual abuse and exploitation and therefore, special focus must be given to them. This includes those experiencing intersectional forms of discrimination. Many of the online risks associated with child sexual abuse continue to pose a threat to adults, and many adults have already fallen victim, therefore this regulation should also focus on prevention of online risks, mandating the integration into applications of features that help children learn about, identify and avoid risks, making use of a "learning through doing" approach.

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 d (new)

_text proposed by the Commission_  

(4d) Fighting these crimes, both online and in the real world, is a fundamental priority. In addition, it is essential to protect child victims of sexual abuse and their fundamental rights and the protection of personal data, private and family life, freedom of expression and information. No child image should be subject to the production of illegal content and no child should be re-victimised by the sharing or repeated dissemination of child sexual abusive material which may
reach extreme levels in cases of so-called 'highly traded' material, that is traded and shared across multiple platforms.

Amendment 16
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 e (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(4e) The regulatory measures to address the dissemination of CSAM online shall be complemented by EU wide campaigns coordinated by the EU Centre and the Coordinating Authorities of the Member States. Those campaigns shall include increasing public information and awareness on the phenomenon, including on child-friendly and age-appropriate reporting, as well as informing about victims’ rights.

Amendment 17
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 f (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(4f) Developers should focus on responsibility by design, with the goal of preventing child sexual abuse online, developing risk-mitigation and safety features for applications. To achieve this, it is important that developers understand how children use their services, and the threats they face. Therefore, children, especially girls should be involved in the development process of risk-mitigation and safety features that are built for them.

Amendment 18
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(14) With a view to minimising the risk that their services are misused for the dissemination of known or new child sexual abuse material or the solicitation of children, providers of hosting services and providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services should assess such risk for each of the services that they offer in the Union. To guide their risk assessment, a non-exhaustive list of elements to be taken into account should be provided. To allow for a full consideration of the specific characteristics of the services they offer, providers should be allowed to take account of additional elements where relevant. As risks evolve over time, in function of developments such as those related to technology and the manners in which the services in question are offered and used, it is appropriate to ensure that the risk assessment is updated regularly and when needed for particular reasons.

**Amendment**

(14) With a view to minimising the risk that their services are misused for the dissemination of known or new child sexual abuse material or the solicitation of children, providers of hosting services and providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services should assess such risk including based on **gender and age of child users** for each of the services that they offer in the Union. To guide their risk assessment, a non-exhaustive list of elements to be taken into account should be provided. To allow for a full consideration of the specific characteristics of the services they offer, providers should be allowed to take account of additional elements where relevant. As risks evolve over time, in function of developments such as those related to technology and the manners in which the services in question are offered and used, it is appropriate to ensure that the risk assessment, updated regularly and when needed for particular reasons.

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 16

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(16) In order to prevent and combat online child sexual abuse effectively, providers of hosting services and providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services should take reasonable measures to mitigate the risk of their services being misused for such abuse, as identified through the risk assessment. Providers subject to an obligation to adopt mitigation measures pursuant to Regulation (EU) …/… [on a

**Amendment**

(16) In order to prevent and combat online child sexual abuse effectively, providers of hosting services and providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services should take reasonable measures to mitigate the risk of their services being misused for such abuse, as identified through the risk assessment. Providers subject to an obligation to adopt mitigation measures pursuant to Regulation (EU) …/… [on a
Single Market For Digital Services (Digital Services Act) and amending Directive 2000/31/EC] may consider to which extent mitigation measures adopted to comply with that obligation, which may include targeted measures to protect the rights of the child, including age verification and parental control tools, may also serve to address the risk identified in the specific risk assessment pursuant to this Regulation, and to which extent further targeted mitigation measures may be required to comply with this Regulation. Providers should also assess any possible negative impacts of proposed mitigation measures, and if they disproportionately affect people experiencing intersectional discrimination, including on the basis of sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age, gender or sexual orientation. Particular care should be taken to assess the impact on girls, who are at a greater risk of being subject to child sexual abuse and gender-based violence.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 16 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(16a) Notably, parental controls that allow parents to access children’s private correspondence without their consent can pose a significant risk to children’s privacy, and safety, in particular in the cases of children being abused by their family, and LGBTIQ+ children in hostile households.

Amendment 21
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

(17) To allow for innovation and ensure proportionality and technological neutrality, no exhaustive list of the compulsory mitigation measures should be established. Instead, providers should be left a degree of flexibility to design and implement measures tailored to the risk identified and the characteristics of the services they provide and the manners in which those services are used. In particular, providers are free to design and implement, in accordance with Union law, measures based on their existing practices to detect online child sexual abuse in their services and indicate as part of the risk reporting their willingness and preparedness to eventually being issued a detection order under this Regulation, if deemed necessary by the competent national authority.

Amendment

(17) To allow for innovation and ensure proportionality and technological neutrality, no exhaustive list of the compulsory mitigation measures should be established. Instead, providers should be left a degree of flexibility to design and implement measures tailored to the risk identified and the characteristics of the services they provide and the manners in which those services are used. In particular, providers are free to design and implement, in accordance with Union law, measures based on their existing practices to detect and prevent online child sexual abuse in their services and indicate as part of the risk reporting their willingness and preparedness to eventually being issued a detection order under this Regulation, if deemed necessary by the competent national authority.

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 19

Text proposed by the Commission

(19) In the light of their role as intermediaries facilitating access to software applications that may be misused for online child sexual abuse, providers of software application stores should be made subject to obligations to take certain reasonable measures to assess and mitigate that risk. The providers should make that assessment in a diligent manner, making efforts that are reasonable under the given circumstances, having regard inter alia to the nature and extent of that risk as well as their financial and technological capabilities and size, and cooperating with the providers of the services offered

Amendment

(19) In the light of their role as intermediaries facilitating access to software applications that may be misused for online child sexual abuse, providers of software application stores should be made subject to obligations to take certain reasonable measures to assess and mitigate that risk. The providers should make that assessment in a diligent manner, making efforts that are reasonable under the given circumstances, having regard inter alia to the nature and extent of that risk as well as their financial and technological capabilities and size, and cooperating with the providers of the services offered
through the software application where possible. They should provide holders of parental responsibility with information on the features in applications that present a risk to children, as well as age and gender-sensitive guidance on how to discuss those risks with children.

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) However, the finding of such a significant risk should in itself be insufficient to justify the issuance of a detection order, given that in such a case the order might lead to disproportionate negative consequences for the rights and legitimate interests of other affected parties, in particular for the exercise of users’ fundamental rights. Therefore, it should be ensured that detection orders can be issued only after the Coordinating Authorities and the competent judicial authority or independent administrative authority having objectively and diligently assessed, identified and weighted, on a case-by-case basis, not only the likelihood and seriousness of the potential consequences of the service being misused for the type of online child sexual abuse at issue, but also the likelihood and seriousness of any potential negative consequences for other parties affected. With a view to avoiding the imposition of excessive burdens, the assessment should also take account of the financial and technological capabilities and size of the provider concerned.

Amendment

(22) However, the finding of such a significant risk should in itself be insufficient to justify the issuance of a detection order, given that in such a case the order might lead to disproportionate negative consequences for the rights and legitimate interests of other affected parties, in particular for the exercise of users’ fundamental rights. Therefore, it should be ensured that detection orders can be issued only after the Coordinating Authorities and the competent judicial authority or independent administrative authority having objectively and diligently assessed, identified and weighted, on a case-by-case basis, not only the likelihood and seriousness of the potential consequences of the service being misused for the type of online child sexual abuse at issue, but also the likelihood and seriousness of any potential negative consequences for other parties affected, in particular girls and those experiencing intersectional discrimination. With a view to avoiding the imposition of excessive burdens, the assessment should also take account of the financial and technological capabilities and size of the provider concerned.
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 27

(27) In order to facilitate the providers’ compliance with the detection obligations, the EU Centre should make available to providers detection technologies that they may choose to use, on a free-of-charge basis, for the sole purpose of executing the detection orders addressed to them. The European Data Protection Board should be consulted on those technologies and the ways in which they should be best deployed to ensure compliance with applicable rules of Union law on the protection of personal data. The advice of the European Data Protection Board should be taken into account by the EU Centre when compiling the lists of available technologies and also by the Commission when preparing guidelines regarding the application of the detection obligations. The providers may operate the technologies made available by the EU Centre or by others or technologies that they developed themselves, as long as they meet the requirements of this Regulation.

Amendment

(27) In order to facilitate the providers’ compliance with the detection obligations, the EU Centre should make available to providers detection technologies that they may choose to use, on a free-of-charge basis, for the sole purpose of executing the detection orders addressed to them. The European Data Protection Board should be consulted on those technologies and the ways in which they should be best deployed to ensure compliance with applicable rules of Union law on the protection of personal data including with the Charter of Fundamental Rights. The advice of the European Data Protection Board should be taken into account by the EU Centre when compiling the lists of available technologies and also by the Commission when preparing guidelines regarding the application of the detection obligations. The providers may operate the technologies made available by the EU Centre or by others or technologies that they developed themselves, as long as they meet the requirements of this Regulation.

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 35

(35) The dissemination of child sexual abuse material is a criminal offence that affects the rights of the victims depicted. Victims should therefore have the right to obtain, upon request, from the EU Centre yet via the Coordinating Authorities, relevant information if known child sexual abuse material depicting them is reported by providers of hosting services or

Amendment

(35) The dissemination of child sexual abuse material is a criminal offence that affects the rights of the victims depicted, whom to the vast majority are girls. Victims or the holders of parental responsibility or their approved legal representative should therefore have the right to obtain, upon request, from the EU Centre yet via the Coordinating
providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services in accordance with this Regulation. Authorities, relevant and age-appropriate information if known child sexual abuse material depicting them is reported or has been removed by providers of hosting services or providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services in accordance with this Regulation. This should both include the option for a singular information request, as the option to receive this information on a continuous and regular basis. Online service providers, including social network platforms, should adopt mandatory procedures in order to effectively prevent, detect and report child sexual abuse that occurs on their services and remove CSAM.

Amendment 26
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36

Text proposed by the Commission

(36) Given the impact on the rights of victims depicted in such known child sexual abuse material and the typical ability of providers of hosting services to limit that impact by helping ensure that the material is no longer available on their services, those providers should assist victims who request the removal or disabling of access of the material in question. That assistance should remain limited to what can reasonably be asked from the provider concerned under the given circumstances, having regard to factors such as the content and scope of the request, the steps needed to locate the items of known child sexual abuse material concerned and the means available to the provider. The assistance could consist, for example, of helping to locate the items, carrying out checks and removing or disabling access to the items. Considering that carrying out the activities needed to obtain such removal or disabling of access

Amendment

(36) Given the impact on the rights of victims depicted in such known child sexual abuse material and the typical ability of providers of hosting services to limit that impact by helping ensure that the material is no longer available on their services, those providers should assist victims who request the removal or disabling of access of the material in question. That assistance should remain limited to what can reasonably be asked from the provider concerned under the given circumstances, having regard to factors such as the content and scope of the request, the steps needed to locate the items of known child sexual abuse material concerned and the means available to the provider. Such assistance should be tailored to the specific vulnerabilities of the victims, such as age, or disability, in a gender sensitive way. The assistance could consist, for example, of helping to locate the items, carrying out checks and
can be painful or even traumatic as well as complex, victims should also have the right to be assisted by the EU Centre in this regard, via the Coordinating Authorities. Considering that carrying out the activities needed to obtain such removal or disabling of access can be painful or even traumatic as well as complex, victims should also have the right to receive adequate psycho-social, age appropriate and gender-sensitive support and to be assisted by the EU Centre and its relevant partners, such as child helplines or other psycho-social support mechanisms in this regard, via the Coordinating Authorities taking into account the vulnerabilities of the victim and disproportionate psychological effects on girls. Member States should establish and improve the functioning of child helplines and hotlines, including through funding and capacity building, in line with Article 96 of Directive (EU) 2018/1972. Victim identification is key not only for tracking down online child sexual abuse but also to prevent victimisation, and to stop further spread of damaging material and to ensure that victims can benefit from available assistance. Such victim identification requires a high degree of specialisation and adequate resources. Therefore the European Cybercrime Centre’s efforts in victim identification should be complemented at national level.

Amendment 27
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(36a) In order to prevent children falling victims to online abuse, providers for which there is evidence that their service is routinely or systematically used for the purpose of online child sexual abuse should, in line with Article 3 provide reasonable assistance, by putting in place alert and alarm mechanisms in a prominent way on their platforms. The
alert mechanism could consist of, for example, linking potential victims to the local services such as helplines, victims’ rights and support organisations or hotlines. They should ensure adequate follow-up, when a report or alert is made, in the language chosen by the user.

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 37

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(37) To ensure the efficient management of such victim support functions, victims should be allowed to contact and rely on the Coordinating Authority that is most accessible to them, which should channel all communications between victims and the EU Centre.

*Amendment*

(37) To ensure the efficient management of such victim support functions, victims should be allowed to contact and rely on the Coordinating Authority that is most accessible to them, which should channel all communications between victims and the EU Centre. **Coordinating authorities should provide gender- and age-sensitive support to victims, as well as psychological support. Under no circumstances should victims be blamed for what has happened to them.**

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 37 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(37a) **Member States should ensure and safeguard the existence of effective mechanisms for reporting child sexual abuse and that such investigative tools are effectively used to identify victims and rescue them as quickly as possible from ongoing abuse.**

*Amendment*

(37a) **Member States should ensure and safeguard the existence of effective mechanisms for reporting child sexual abuse and that such investigative tools are effectively used to identify victims and rescue them as quickly as possible from ongoing abuse.**
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 44

Text proposed by the Commission

(44) In order to provide clarity and enable effective, efficient and consistent coordination and cooperation both at national and at Union level, where a Member State designates more than one competent authority to apply and enforce this Regulation, it should designate one lead authority as the Coordinating Authority, whilst the designated authority should automatically be considered the Coordinating Authority where a Member State designates only one authority. For those reasons, the Coordinating Authority should act as the single contact point with regard to all matters related to the application of this Regulation, without prejudice to the enforcement powers of other national authorities.

Amendment

(44) In order to provide clarity and enable effective, efficient and consistent coordination and cooperation both at national and at Union level, where a Member State designates more than one competent authority to apply and enforce this Regulation, it should designate one lead authority as the Coordinating Authority, whilst the designated authority should automatically be considered the Coordinating Authority where a Member State designates only one authority. For those reasons, the Coordinating Authority should act as the single contact point with regard to all matters related to the application of this Regulation, and related to achieving the objectives of this Regulation, without prejudice to the enforcement powers of other national authorities. Training of officials in close contact with victims, including law enforcement officers, judges, prosecutors, lawyers and forensic experts and social workers, is essential in order to understand the problem that victims can face, and in order to ensure that the situation is prevented and mitigated if necessary. The Coordinating Authority should therefore also act as a single point of contact with regard to matters related to the achievement of the objectives of this Regulation, including prevention, with regard to awareness raising and training of officials.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 60

Text proposed by the Commission

(60) In the interest of legal certainty and

Amendment

(60) In the interest of legal certainty and
effectiveness, the tasks of the EU Centre should be listed in a clear and comprehensive manner. With a view to ensuring the proper implementation of this Regulation, those tasks should relate in particular to the facilitation of the detection, reporting and blocking obligations imposed on providers of hosting services, providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services and providers of internet access services. However, for that same reason, the EU Centre should also be charged with certain other tasks, notably those relating to the implementation of the risk assessment and mitigation obligations of providers of relevant information society services, the removal of or disabling of access to child sexual abuse material by providers of hosting services, the provision of assistance to Coordinating Authorities, as well as the generation and sharing of knowledge and expertise related to online child sexual abuse. The EU Centre will act as a centre for expertise, collecting, facilitating the exchange and dissemination of best practices and approaches on prevention, educational developments related to media literacy and digital skills in accordance with the Commission Communication A Digital Decade for children and youth: the new European strategy for a better internet for kids (BIK+), while integrating a child rights perspective and ensuring a gender-sensitive and age-appropriate approach.

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 66

Text proposed by the Commission

(66) With a view to contributing to the effective application of this Regulation and the protection of victims’ rights, the EU Centre should be able, upon request, to

Amendment

(66) With a view to contributing to the effective application of this Regulation and the protection of victims’ rights, the EU Centre should be able, upon request, to
support victims and to assist Competent Authorities by conducting searches of hosting services for the dissemination of known child sexual abuse material that is publicly accessible, using the corresponding indicators. Where it identifies such material after having conducted such a search, the EU Centre should also be able to request the provider of the hosting service concerned to remove or disable access to the item or items in question, given that the provider may not be aware of their presence and may be willing to do so on a voluntary basis.

The EU Centre should be able to work in cooperation with, and refer child victims to, relevant competent authorities and support services, such as victim protection centres, women’s shelters, children’s rights or children’s specialised services, social services and healthcare professionals in the Member States, while ensuring a gender-sensitive approach and a child rights perspective. The EU Centre should support Member States in conducting studies, with nationally representative samples, on child sexual abuse in their socialisation spaces, in order to structure preventive and multidisciplinary response measures.

Amendment 33

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 67

Text proposed by the Commission

(67) Given its central position resulting from the performance of its primary tasks under this Regulation and the information and expertise it can gather in connection thereto, the EU Centre should also contribute to the achievement of the objectives of this Regulation by serving as a hub for knowledge, expertise and research on matters related to the prevention and combating of online child

Amendment

(67) Given its central position resulting from the performance of its primary tasks under this Regulation and the information and expertise it can gather in connection thereto, the EU Centre should also contribute to the achievement of the objectives of this Regulation by serving as a hub for knowledge, gathering of best practices, expertise and research on matters related to the prevention and
sexual abuse. In this connection, the EU Centre should cooperate with relevant stakeholders from both within and outside the Union and allow Member States to benefit from the knowledge and expertise gathered, including best practices and lessons learned.

Amendment 34
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 70

Text proposed by the Commission

(70) Longstanding Union support for both INHOPE and its member hotlines recognises that hotlines are in the frontline in the fight against online child sexual abuse. The EU Centre should leverage the network of hotlines and encourage that they work together effectively with the Coordinating Authorities, providers of relevant information society services and law enforcement authorities of the Member States. The hotlines’ expertise and experience is an invaluable source of information on the early identification of common threats and solutions, as well as on regional and national differences across the Union.

Amendment

(70) Longstanding Union support for both INHOPE and its member hotlines recognises that hotlines are in the frontline in the fight against online child sexual abuse. The EU Centre should leverage the network of hotlines and encourage that they work together effectively with the Coordinating Authorities, providers of relevant information society services and law enforcement authorities of the Member States. The hotlines’ expertise and experience is an invaluable source of information on the early identification of common threats and solutions, as well as on regional and national differences across the Union. Child helplines are equally in the frontline in the fight against online child sexual abuse. Therefore, the EU Centre should also recognise the work of
child helplines in victim response, and the existing referral mechanisms between child helplines and hotlines.

Amendment 35
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 74 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(74a) Given the purpose of this Regulation, to combat and prevent child sexual abuse, the EU Centre should have a Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board composed of experts with advisory functions relating to the rights of children victims and survivors. The Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board may, in particular, provide independent advice through expertise knowledge, deriving from victims of sexual abuse and taking into account the views of the children to support the work of the EU Centre, within the scope of its mandate.

Amendment 36
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 74 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(74b) In order to achieve the objectives of this Regulation all staffing related to the EU Centre and the Coordinating authorities, the Advisory Committees, as well as the composition throughout administrative and management structures as established in Article 55 shall be diverse and gender balanced, taking into account the principle of gender mainstreaming. A gender sensitive approach is instrumental to achieving the objectives of this Regulation.
Amendment 37
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 75

Text proposed by the Commission

(75) In the interest of transparency and accountability and to enable evaluation and, where necessary, adjustments, providers of hosting services, providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services and providers of internet access services, Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre should be required to collect, record and analyse information, based on anonymised gathering of non-personal data and to publish annual reports on their activities under this Regulation. The Coordinating Authorities should cooperate with Europol and with law enforcement authorities and other relevant national authorities of the Member State that designated the Coordinating Authority in question in gathering that information.

Amendment

(75) In the interest of transparency and accountability and to enable evaluation and, where necessary, adjustments, providers of hosting services, providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services and providers of internet access services, Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre should be required to collect, record and analyse gender-, sex- and age-disaggregated data and information, based on anonymised gathering of non-personal data and to publish annual reports on their activities under this Regulation. The Coordinating Authorities should cooperate with Europol and with law enforcement authorities and other relevant national authorities of the Member State that designated the Coordinating Authority in question in gathering that information.

Amendment 38
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 77

Text proposed by the Commission

(77) The evaluation should be based on the criteria of efficiency, necessity, effectiveness, proportionality, relevance, coherence and Union added value. It should assess the functioning of the different operational and technical measures provided for by this Regulation, including the effectiveness of measures to enhance the detection, reporting and removal of online child sexual abuse, the effectiveness of safeguard mechanisms as well as the impacts on potentially affected fundamental rights, the freedom to conduct

Amendment

(77) The evaluation should be based on the criteria of efficiency, necessity, effectiveness, proportionality, relevance, coherence, the principle of gender mainstreaming, and Union added value. It should assess the functioning of the different operational and technical measures provided for by this Regulation, including the effectiveness of measures to enhance the detection, reporting and removal of online child sexual abuse, the effectiveness of safeguard mechanisms as well as the impacts on potentially affected
a business, the right to private life and the protection of personal data. The Commission should also assess the impact on potentially affected interests of third parties.

Amendment 39

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(ba) 'safety assistant' means a tool integrated into interpersonal communications services and active only for child users of the service, which assists children in learning about, identifying and avoiding risks online, including but not limited to self-generated abuse material and solicitation;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point j

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(j) ‘child user’ means a natural person who uses a relevant information society service and who is a natural person below the age of 17 years;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(j) ‘child user’ means a natural person who uses a relevant information society service and who is a natural person below the age of 18 years;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point q a (new)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(qa) ‘victim’ means the child or person having suffered harm caused after being subject to ‘child sexual abuse material’ or</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
‘solicitation of children’ or ‘online sexual abuse’ or ‘child sexual abuse offences’;

Amendment 42

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(aa) any implications for the exercise of fundamental rights or possible infringement of EU law;

Amendment 43

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point b – indent 4

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

— functionalities enabling users to flag online child sexual abuse to the provider through tools that are easily accessible and age-appropriate;  
— functionalities enabling users to flag online child sexual abuse to the provider through tools that are easily accessible and age-appropriate and that respect users’ privacy;

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point b – indent 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

— the integration of tools such as safety assistants to prevent child sexual abuse online;

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point e – point ii
(ii) where the service is used by children, the different age groups of the child users and the risk of solicitation of children in relation to those age groups;

Amendment 46

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point e – point iii – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

— enabling users to establish contact with other users directly, in particular through private communications;

Amendment

— enabling users to initiate unsolicited contact with other users directly, in particular through private communications;

Amendment 47

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point e – point iii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(iiiia) the existing measures to mitigate risks where the functionalities of the application can be used for the solicitation of children, or for the sharing of abuse material, including but not limited to safety assistants, and safe defaults for visibility and reachability of children on the platform;

Amendment 48

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 6
Text proposed by the Commission

6. The Commission, in cooperation with Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre and after having conducted a public consultation, may issue guidelines on the application of paragraphs 1 to 5, having due regard in particular to relevant technological developments and to the manners in which the services covered by those provisions are offered and used.

Amendment

6. The Commission, in cooperation with Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre and after having conducted a public consultation, may issue guidelines on the application of paragraphs 1 to 5, having due regard in particular to relevant technological developments and trends reported by authorities, civil society organisations and victim support organisations, and to the manners in which the services covered by those provisions are offered and used.

Amendment 49

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(aa) providing technical measures and tools, in an age appropriate way, that allow users, and in particular children, to manage their own privacy, visibility, reachability and safety, and that are set to the most secure levels by default;

Amendment

Amendment 50

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(ab) informing users, keeping in mind children’s needs, about external resources and services in the user’s vicinity on preventing child sexual abuse, counselling by help-lines or online, educational resources provided by hotlines and child protection organisations, and information on victims support;
Amendment 51

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a c (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Amendment

(ac) providing tools in a prominent way on their platform that allow users to seek help from their local or national hotline;

Amendment 52

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point c

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) initiating or adjusting cooperation, in accordance with competition law, with other providers of hosting services or providers of interpersonal communication services, public authorities, civil society organisations or, where applicable, entities awarded the status of trusted flaggers in accordance with Article 19 of Regulation (EU) …/… [on a Single Market For Digital Services (Digital Services Act) and amending Directive 2000/31/EC] .

Amendment 53

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point c a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Amendment

(ca) providing users of interpersonal communications services, in particular children, with tools to help them learn about, identify and avoid online risks, in particular through the integration of safety assistants.
Amendment 54
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(ba) targeted and proportionate in relation to that risk, taking into account specific online and offline vulnerabilities of children, especially girls, as well as risk faced by those experiencing intersectional discrimination, on the basis of sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age, gender or sexual orientation;

Amendment 55
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(da) developed in cooperation with children who use the service;

Amendment 56
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 a – introductory part (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

4a. Where an online platform is primarily used for the dissemination of user generated pornographic content, the platform shall take the necessary technical and organisational measures to ensure:
Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 a – point a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) user-friendly and child friendly reporting mechanisms to report alleged child sexual abuse material;

Amendment 58

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 a – point b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) adequate professional human content moderation to rapidly process notices of alleged child sexual abuse material;

Amendment 59

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 a – point c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) automatic mechanisms and interface design elements to inform users about external preventive intervention programmes in the user’s vicinity.

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 b – introductory part (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4b. Providers of online games that operate number-independent interpersonal communications service
within their games shall take the necessary technical and organisational measures

Amendment 61

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 b – point a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) preventing users from initiating unsolicited contact with other users;

Amendment 62

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 b – point b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) facilitating user-friendly reporting of alleged child sexual abuse material;

Amendment 63

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 b – point c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) providing technical measures and tools that allow users to manage their own privacy, visibility reachability and safety, and that are set to the most secure levels by default;

Amendment 64

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 b – point d (new)
Text proposed by the Commission

(d) providing tools in a prominent way on their platform that allow users to seek help from their local hotline.

Amendment

Amendment 65

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

5. The Commission, in cooperation with Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre and after having conducted a public consultation, may issue guidelines on the application of paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, having due regard in particular to relevant technological developments and in the manners in which the services covered by those provisions are offered and used.

Amendment

Amendment 66

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

5a. To complement the risk mitigation measures taken by the providers, gender-sensitive and child-friendly education and prevention measures shall be introduced and implemented.

Amendment

Amendment 67

Proposal for a regulation
Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) take reasonable measures to prevent child users from accessing the software applications in relation to which they have identified a significant risk of use of the service concerned for the purpose of the solicitation of children;

*Amendment*

(b) take reasonable measures to prevent child users from accessing the software applications not intended for their use or adapted to their safety needs in relation to which they have identified a significant risk of use of the service concerned for the purpose of the solicitation of children;

Amendment 68

Proposal for a regulation
Article 6 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. The Commission, in cooperation with Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre and after having conducted a public consultation, may issue guidelines on the application of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, having due regard in particular to relevant technological developments and to the manners in which the services covered by those provisions are offered and used.

*Amendment*

4. The Commission, in cooperation with Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre and after having conducted a public consultation, may issue guidelines on the application of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, having due regard in particular to relevant technological developments, trends and evidence reported by law enforcement, hotlines, civil society organisations, EIGE and technology companies, in combating child sexual abuse online, and to the manners in which the services covered by those provisions are offered and used.

Amendment 69

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 2 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) where the draft implementation plan concerns an intended detection order concerning the solicitation of children other than the renewal of a previously issued detection order without any substantive changes, conduct a data protection impact assessment and a prior

*Amendment*

(b) where the draft implementation plan concerns an intended detection order concerning the solicitation of children other than the renewal of a previously issued detection order without any substantive changes, conduct impact assessments on data protection, gender,
consultation procedure as referred to in Articles 35 and 36 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, respectively, in relation to the measures set out in the implementation plan; and child rights, and a prior consultation procedure as referred to in Articles 35 and 36 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, respectively, in relation to the measures set out in the implementation plan;

Amendment 70

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) where point (b) applies, or where the conditions of Articles 35 and 36 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 are met, adjust the draft implementation plan, where necessary in view of the outcome of the data protection impact assessment and in order to take into account the opinion of the data protection authority provided in response to the prior consultation;

Amendment

(c) where point (b) applies, or where the conditions of Articles 35 and 36 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 are met, adjust the draft implementation plan, where necessary in view of the outcome of the impact assessments on data protection, gender, and child rights, and in order to take into account the opinion of the data protection authority provided in response to the prior consultation;

Amendment 71

Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 4 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) establish and operate an accessible, age-appropriate and user-friendly mechanism that allows users to submit to it, within a reasonable timeframe, complaints about alleged infringements of its obligations under this Section, as well as any decisions that the provider may have taken in relation to the use of the technologies, including the removal or disabling of access to material provided by users, blocking the users’ accounts or suspending or terminating the provision of the service to the users, and process such complaints in an objective, effective and timely manner;

Amendment

(d) establish and operate an accessible, age-appropriate, gender-sensitive, and user-friendly mechanism that allows users to submit to it, within a reasonable timeframe, complaints about alleged infringements of its obligations under this Section, as well as any decisions that the provider may have taken in relation to the use of the technologies, including the removal or disabling of access to material provided by users, blocking the users’ accounts or suspending or terminating the provision of the service to the users, and process such complaints in an objective, effective and timely manner;
Amendment 72

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11

Text proposed by the Commission

The Commission, in cooperation with the Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre and after having conducted a public consultation, may issue guidelines on the application of Articles 7 to 10, having due regard in particular to relevant technological developments and the manners in which the services covered by those provisions are offered and used.

Amendment

The Commission, in cooperation with the Coordinating Authorities and the EU Centre and after having conducted a public consultation, may issue guidelines on the application of Articles 7 to 10, having due regard in particular to relevant technological developments and trends and evidence reported by law enforcement, hotlines, civil society organisations, EIGE and technology companies, in combating child sexual abuse online, and the manners in which the services covered by those provisions are offered and used.

Amendment 73

Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Where the provider submits a report pursuant to paragraph 1, it shall inform the user concerned, providing information on the main content of the report, on the manner in which the provider has become aware of the potential child sexual abuse concerned, on the follow-up given to the report insofar as such information is available to the provider and on the user’s possibilities of redress, including on the right to submit complaints to the Coordinating Authority in accordance with Article 34.

Amendment

Where the provider submits a report pursuant to paragraph 1, it shall request authorisation from the EU Centre to inform the user concerned, where the Centre shall reply without undue delay. The notification to the user shall include information on the main content of the report, on the manner in which the provider has become aware of the potential child sexual abuse concerned, on the follow-up given to the report insofar as such information is available to the provider and on the user’s possibilities of redress, including on the right to submit complaints to the Coordinating Authority in accordance with Article 34.
Amendment 74

Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. The provider shall establish and operate an accessible, *age-appropriate* and user-friendly mechanism that allows users to flag to the provider potential online child sexual abuse on the service.

*Amendment*

3. The provider shall establish and operate an accessible, and user-friendly mechanism *with gender and age-appropriate options* that allows users to flag *anonymously if preferred* to the provider, potential online child sexual abuse on the service.

Amendment 75

Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 3 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3a. If the potential online child sexual abuse on the service is flagged the provider shall provide the user who reported the material with essential information on online safety and specialist child support services, such as helplines and hotlines, in addition to the reporting of the material. If the user is a child, the above mentioned provision of the information shall be done in a child friendly and age-appropriate manner.

Amendment 76

Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 1 – point j

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(j) whether the provider considers that the report requires urgent action;

*Amendment*

(j) *an indication* whether the provider considers that the report requires urgent action;
Amendment 77

Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1a. Before requesting a removal order, the authorities named in paragraph shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that implementing the order will not interfere with activities for the investigation and prosecution of child sexual abuse offences.

Amendment 78

Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 3 – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(i) easily understandable information about the redress available to the addressee of the removal order, including information about redress to a court and about the time periods applicable to such redress.

Amendment 79

Proposal for a regulation
Article 15 – paragraph 3 – point c b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(cb) if the user is a child, referral to competent national support services and essential information on online safety, in a child-friendly language;
Amendment 80
Proposal for a regulation
Article 15 – paragraph 3 – point c c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(cc) external resources and services in the user’s vicinity on preventing child sexual abuse, counselling by help-lines, information on victim support and educational resources provided by hotlines and child protection organisations;

Amendment 81
Proposal for a regulation
Article 15 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The information referred to in the first subparagraph shall be provided in an easily understandable, accessible manner, in the language setting of the user, taking into account the different needs of persons with a disability.

Amendment 82
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Victims’ right to information

Victims’ right to information and support

Amendment 83
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1
Persons residing in the Union shall have the right to receive, upon their request, from the Coordinating Authority designated by the Member State where they reside, information regarding any instances where the dissemination of known child sexual abuse material depicting them is reported to the EU Centre pursuant to Article 12. Persons with disabilities shall have the right to ask and receive such an information in a manner accessible to them.

Any victim and/or their legal representative, with their informed consent residing in the Union and victims of child sexual abuse material hosted or disseminated in the Union or their representatives shall have the right to receive, upon their request, from the Coordinating Authority designated by the Member State where they live or Coordinating Authority of their choosing, easily understandable and accessible age-appropriate information regarding any instances where the dissemination of known child sexual abuse material depicting them is reported to the EU Centre pursuant to Article 12 and referral to support services. The request can cover both an occasional request as well as a periodic request. Victims with disabilities shall have the right to ask and receive such an information in a manner accessible to them, and the information in question should be given on the basis of the indicated language by that person. This shall be done within a reasonable period of time.

Amendment 84

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

That Coordinating Authority shall transmit the request to the EU Centre through the system established in accordance with Article 39(2) and shall communicate the results received from the EU Centre to the person making the request.

That Coordinating Authority shall transmit the request to the EU Centre through the system established in accordance with Article 39(2) and shall communicate the results received from the EU Centre to the person making the request. The transmission of the request shall be made with due regard to the protection of the identity and the privacy of the victim, together with measures for the protection of the privacy and the images of their
family members, in a victim sensitive or age-appropriate and gender-sensitive way. Such protection is particularly important for child victims and includes non-disclosure of the name of the child. A child-sensitive approach, taking due account of the child’s age, maturity, views, needs and concerns, shall prevail. The child and the holder of parental responsibility or other legal representative, if any, shall be informed of their rights as victims. The Coordinating Authority shall also provide information to victims, regarding access to specialist support services available.

Amendment 85

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 a – introductory part (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1a. Victims of child sexual abuse or their representatives and persons living in the Union shall have the right to receive, upon their request, from the Coordinating Authority information regarding victims’ rights, support and assistance. The information shall be age-appropriate, accessible and gender-sensitive and shall include at a minimum:

Amendment 86

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 a – point a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) the type of support they can obtain and from which services, including, where relevant, basic information about access to medical support, any specialist support, including psychological or social support, and alternative accommodation;
Amendment 87
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 a – point b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) the procedures for making complaints with regard to a criminal offence and their role in connection with such procedures;

Amendment 88
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 a – point c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) how and under what conditions they can obtain protection, including protection measures;

Amendment 89
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 a – point d (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(d) how and under what conditions they can access legal advice, legal aid and any other sort of advice;

Amendment 90
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 a – point e (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(e) how and under what conditions they can access compensation;
Amendment 91
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 a – point f (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) how and under what conditions they are entitled to interpretation and translation;

Amendment 92
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

1b. In case a victim or victim representative indicates the preference for a periodic request, the Coordinating Authority shall submit without delay, the information referred to in paragraph 3 proactively to the requester after the first submitted reply, in any new instances of reports referred to in paragraph 1 on a weekly basis. Victims or victim representatives can terminate the periodic request at any time by notifying the Coordinating Authority in question.

Amendment 93
Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) where applicable, the individual or entity that is to receive the information on behalf of the person making the request;

(b) where applicable, the individual or entity formally assisting or representing the person that is to receive the information on behalf of the person making the request with verifiable proof of approval of the person making the
Amendment 94

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission
(c) sufficient elements to demonstrate the identity of the person making the request.

Amendment
(c) sufficient elements to verify that the child sexual abuse material in question matches with the person making the request.

Amendment 95

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 2 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
(c a) an indication if the request is occasional or whether it covers a certain time period.

Amendment

Amendment 96

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

2a. The Coordinating Authority shall ensure that victims and/or their legal representatives and adult survivors are informed about victim support services where the victims can receive age-appropriate and gender-sensitive information and support.

Amendment

Amendment 97

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 3 – point a
(a) the identification of the provider that submitted the report;

(b) the date of the report;

(c) whether the EU Centre forwarded the report in accordance with Article 48(3) and, if so, to which authorities;

(da) information regarding age-appropriate and gender-sensitive victim support services to provide the child, family and survivors with adequate emotional and psychosocial support as well as practical and legal assistance;
Text proposed by the Commission

(db) new relevant age-appropriate, accessible and gender-sensitive information on victim support and assistance in the victim’s region.

Amendment 102

Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Providers of hosting services shall provide reasonable assistance, on request, to persons residing in the Union that seek to have one or more specific items of known child sexual abuse material depicting them removed or to have access thereto disabled by the provider.

Amendment

1. Providers of hosting services shall provide without delay, assistance, on request, to victims or the holders of parental responsibility for the victims or the legal guardians of the victims residing in the Union that seek to have one or more specific items of known child sexual abuse material depicting them removed or to have access thereto disabled by the provider acting in the best interest of the child.

Amendment 103

Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

1a. Professionals likely to come into contact with victims of child sexual abuse shall be adequately trained to deal with such victims, taking into account gender sensitivities.

Amendment

1a. Professionals likely to come into contact with victims of child sexual abuse shall be adequately trained to deal with such victims, taking into account gender sensitivities.

Amendment 104

Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1
Persons residing in the Union shall have the right to receive, upon their request, from the Coordinating Authority designated by the Member State where the person resides, support from the EU Centre when they seek to have a provider of hosting services remove or disable access to one or more specific items of known child sexual abuse material depicting them. Persons with disabilities shall have the right to ask and receive any information relating to such support in a manner accessible to them.

Amendment 105
Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 3

3. The requests referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall indicate the relevant item or items of child sexual abuse material.

Amendment 106
Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 4 – point b

(b) verifying whether the provider

(b) verifying whether and when the

Victims of child sexual abuse material hosted or disseminated in the Union or their legal representatives or persons in the Union shall have the right to receive, upon their request, from the Coordinating Authority designated by the Member State where the person resides or the Coordinating Authority of their choosing, age appropriate and gender-sensitive information on support for removal, including support from civil society organisations, hotlines and from the EU Centre when they seek to have a provider of hosting services remove or disable access to one or more specific items of known child sexual abuse material depicting them. Persons with disabilities shall have the right to ask and receive any information relating to such support in a manner that is appropriate and accessible to them.
removed or disabled access to that item or those items, including by conducting the searches referred to in Article 49(1); provider removed or disabled access to that item or those items, including by conducting the searches referred to in Article 49(1);

Amendment 107

Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 4 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission
(d) where necessary, informing the Coordinating Authority of establishment of the presence of that item or those items on the service, with a view to the issuance of a removal order pursuant to Article 14.

Amendment
(d) where necessary, informing the Coordinating Authority of establishment of the presence of that item or those items on the provider’s service, with a view to the issuance of a removal order pursuant to Article 14 and the obligations under Article 21.

Amendment 108

Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 4 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
(da) information regarding victim’s rights, assistance and support pursuant to Article 21.

Amendment

Amendment 109

Proposal for a regulation
Article 22 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission
Providers of hosting services and providers of interpersonal communications services shall preserve the content data and other data processed in connection to the measures taken to comply with this Regulation and the personal data generated through such processing, only for one or

Amendment
Providers of hosting services and providers of interpersonal communications services shall preserve the necessary content data and other data processed in connection to the measures taken to comply with this Regulation and the personal data generated through such processing, only for one or
more of the following purposes, as applicable:

Amendment 110

Proposal for a regulation
Article 22 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

As regards the first subparagraph, point (a), the provider may also preserve the information for the purpose of improving the effectiveness and accuracy of the technologies to detect online child sexual abuse for the execution of a detection order issued to it in accordance with Article 7. However, it shall not store any personal data for that purpose.

Amendment

As regards the first subparagraph, point (a), the provider may also preserve the information, including data on gender and age, for the purpose of improving the effectiveness and accuracy of the technologies to detect online child sexual abuse for the execution of a detection order issued to it in accordance with Article 7. However, it shall not store any personal data for that purpose.

Amendment 111

Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

5. Each Member State shall ensure that a contact point is designated or established within the Coordinating Authority’s office to handle requests for clarification, feedback and other communications in relation to all matters related to the application and enforcement of this Regulation in that Member State. Member States shall make the information on the contact point publicly available and communicate it to the EU Centre. They shall keep that information updated.

Amendment

5. Each Member State shall ensure that a sufficiently staffed contact point is designated or established within the Coordinating Authority’s office to handle requests for clarification, feedback and other communications in relation to all matters related to the application and enforcement of this Regulation and enforcement of Directive 2011/93/EU in that Member State. Member States shall make the information on the contact point publicly available and shall disseminate this information through gender-sensitive awareness raising campaigns in public places frequented by children, and girls in particular, as well as online and shall communicate it to the EU Centre. They shall keep that information updated. The
Coordinating Authority shall contribute with relevant information and material for the promotion of targeted child-sensitive awareness raising or education campaigns for children as well for adults about the risks of online child sexual abuse. Such contribution shall be based on the expertise and the feedback from the EU Centre and shall be made with a gender-sensitive perspective.

Amendment 112

Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 – paragraph 7 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) provide certain information or technical expertise on matters covered by this Regulation;

*Amendment*

(a) provide certain information or expertise on matters covered by this Regulation;

Amendment 113

Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 – paragraph 7 – point a a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(aa) provide information on the know-how and techniques developed to prevent online solicitation of children and the dissemination of child sexual abuse material online, with a particular focus on the age and gender dimension;

*Amendment*

Amendment 114

Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 – paragraph 7 – point d a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(da) provide knowledge and expertise on appropriate prevention measures and
techniques tailored by age and gender against online solicitation of children and the dissemination of child sexual abuse material online.

Amendment 115
Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 – paragraph 8

*Text proposed by the Commission*

8. The EU Centre shall provide such assistance free of charge and in accordance with its tasks and obligations under this Regulation and insofar as its resources and priorities allow.

*Amendment*

8. The EU Centre shall provide such assistance free of charge and in accordance with its tasks and obligations under this Regulation and insofar as its resources allow.

Amendment 116
Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 – paragraph 9 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

9a. In its contact with victims and survivors or in any decision affecting victims and survivors, the Coordinating Authority shall operate in an age-appropriate and gender-sensitive way that minimises risks to victims and survivors, especially children, addresses harm of victims and meets their needs. It shall operate in a victim and gender sensitive manner which prioritises recognising and listening to the victim, avoids secondary victimisation and re-traumatisation, and systematically focuses on their safety, rights, well-being, expressed needs and choices, and ensures they are treated in an empathetic, sensitive and non-judgmental way.

*Amendment*

9a. In its contact with victims and survivors or in any decision affecting victims and survivors, the Coordinating Authority shall operate in an age-appropriate and gender-sensitive way that minimises risks to victims and survivors, especially children, addresses harm of victims and meets their needs. It shall operate in a victim and gender sensitive manner which prioritises recognising and listening to the victim, avoids secondary victimisation and re-traumatisation, and systematically focuses on their safety, rights, well-being, expressed needs and choices, and ensures they are treated in an empathetic, sensitive and non-judgmental way.
Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Member States shall ensure that the Coordinating Authorities that they designated perform their tasks under this Regulation in an objective, impartial, transparent and timely manner, while fully respecting the fundamental rights of all parties affected. Member States shall ensure that their Coordinating Authorities have adequate technical, financial and human resources to carry out their tasks.

Amendment

1. Member States shall ensure that the Coordinating Authorities that they designated perform their tasks under this Regulation in an objective, impartial, transparent and timely manner, while fully respecting the fundamental rights of all parties affected. They shall also ensure that their Coordinating Authorities perform their tasks with utmost respect and sensitivity towards victims and their representatives, with a focus on avoidance of re-victimization, the safety of the victim and their needs. Member States shall also ensure that their Coordinating Authorities have adequate technical, financial and human resources to carry out their tasks.

Amendment 118

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The Coordinating Authorities shall ensure that relevant members of staff have the required qualifications, experience and technical skills to perform their duties.

Amendment

4. The Coordinating Authorities shall ensure that relevant members of staff have the required qualifications, experience and technical skills to perform their duties. They shall also ensure that members of staff coming into contact with victims are adequately and frequently trained in intersectional victim support.

Amendment 119

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

4a. The Coordinating Authorities shall ensure that the appointment of

Amendment

4a. The Coordinating Authorities shall ensure that the appointment of
management and hiring of staff is subject to an employment background check.

Amendment 120

Proposal for a regulation
Article 34 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Coordinating Authorities shall provide child-friendly mechanisms to submit a complaint under this Article and adopt a child-sensitive approach when handling complaints submitted by children, taking due account of the child’s age, maturity, views, needs and concerns.

Amendment

2. Coordinating Authorities shall provide age-appropriate and accessible mechanisms to submit a complaint under this Article and adopt an age-appropriate and gender-sensitive approach when handling complaints, taking due account of the views, needs and concerns. The processing of complaints shall take into account due diligence and will provide necessary information to the complainant.

Amendment 121

Proposal for a regulation
Article 34 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

1a. Users shall be duly informed of the outcome of the complaint.

Amendment

Amendment 122

Proposal for a regulation
Article 39 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Coordinating Authorities shall cooperate with each other, any other competent authorities of the Member State that designated the Coordinating Authority, the Commission, the EU Centre and other relevant Union agencies, including Europol, to facilitate the performance of

Amendment

1. Coordinating Authorities shall cooperate with each other, any other competent authorities of the Member State that designated the Coordinating Authority, the Commission, the EU Centre and other relevant Union agencies, including Europol, to facilitate the performance of
their respective tasks under this Regulation and ensure its effective, efficient and consistent application and enforcement. Coordinating Authorities shall establish systematic mechanisms on the exchange of information and best practices related to the prevention and combating of online child sexual abuse and solicitation of children.

Amendment 123

Proposal for a regulation
Article 40 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The EU Centre shall contribute to the achievement of the objective of this Regulation by supporting and facilitating the implementation of its provisions concerning the detection, reporting, removal or disabling of access to, and blocking of online child sexual abuse and solicitations, and gather and share information and expertise and facilitate cooperation between relevant public and private parties in connection to the prevention and combating of child sexual abuse, in particular online.

Amendment

2. The EU Centre shall contribute to the achievement of the objective of this Regulation by supporting and facilitating the implementation of its provisions concerning the detection, reporting, removal or disabling of access to, and blocking of online child sexual abuse and solicitations, and gather and share information, gender-, sex- and age-disaggregated statistics, and expertise and facilitate cooperation and sharing of best practices between relevant public and private parties in connection to the prevention and combating of child sexual abuse, in particular online.

Amendment 124

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph -1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

The EU Centre shall provide relevant institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the EU and its Member States as well as civil society organisations and research bodies when involved with implementing EU law, with assistance, expertise and coordination in relation to the preventing
and combating of child sexual abuse, in order to support them when taking measures or formulating courses of action within their respective spheres of competence with full respect of fundamental rights.

In its engagement with, or in any decision affecting, victims or persons in high risk groups, the EU Centre shall operate in a way that minimises risks to victims, especially children, addresses harm to victims and meets their needs in an age-appropriate and gender- and victim-sensitive manner, and shall fully respect human and civil rights of dignity and privacy.

Amendment 125

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) supporting the Commission in the preparation of the guidelines referred to in Article 3(8), Article 4(5), Article 6(4) and Article 11, including by collecting and providing relevant information, expertise and best practices, taking into account advice from the Technology Committee referred to in Article 66;

Amendment

(a) supporting the Commission in the preparation of the guidelines referred to in Article 3(8), Article 4(5), Article 6(4) and Article 11, including by collecting and providing relevant gender-sensitive and age-disaggregated information, expertise and best practices, taking into account advice from the Technology Committee and Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board referred to in Article 66 and 50a;

Amendment 126

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 4 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) providing information and support to victims in accordance with Articles 20

Amendment

(d) providing information, assistance and support to victims in accordance with
and 21; Articles 20 and 21;

Amendment 127

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) facilitate the generation and sharing of knowledge with other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, Coordinating Authorities or other relevant authorities of the Member States to contribute to the achievement of the objective of this Regulation, by:

Amendment

(6) facilitate the generation of knowledge, the development of tools and techniques and their sharing with and between other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, Coordinating Authorities or other relevant authorities of the Member States to contribute to the achievement of the objective of this Regulation, by:

Amendment 128

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) collecting, recording, analysing and providing information, providing analysis based on anonymised and non-personal data gathering, and providing expertise on matters regarding the prevention and combating of online child sexual abuse, in accordance with Article 51;

Amendment

(a) collecting, recording, analysing and providing gender and age specific information, providing analysis based on anonymised and non-personal data gathering, including gender-, sex- and age-disaggregated data and providing expertise on matters regarding the prevention and combating of online child sexual abuse and victim support, in accordance with Article 51;

Amendment 129

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) supporting the development and

Amendment

(b) supporting the development and
dissemination of research and expertise on those matters and on assistance to victims, including by serving as a hub of expertise to support evidence-based policy;

Amendment 130

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
(ba) providing technical expertise and promoting the exchange of best practices among Member States on raising awareness for the prevention of child sexual abuse online in formal, and non-formal education, including in comprehensive sexuality and relationships education programs and digital skills, literacy and online safety programs with an age-appropriate and gender-sensitive approach;

Amendment 131

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – point b b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
(bb) exchanging best practices among Coordinating Authorities regarding the available tools to reduce the risk of children becoming victims of sexual abuse and to provide specialized assistance to victims, in an age-appropriate and gender-sensitive way.

Amendment 132

Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – point c b (new)
Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(cb) establish mechanisms to listen to and incorporate the views of children in its work, in accordance with the UNCRC, the Directive 2012/29/EU and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;

Amendment 133
Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6b) refer victims to the appropriate bodies and services for relevant victim support and assistance according to their needs;

Amendment 134
Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6c) set up a public anonymous reporting service for reports concerning child sexual abuse material for all persons in the Union;

Amendment 135
Proposal for a regulation
Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 d (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6d) facilitate and coordinate cooperation, including information sharing, with international law enforcement organisations, law
enforcement authorities in third countries.

Amendment 136

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Before including specific technologies on those lists, the EU Centre shall request the opinion of its Technology Committee and of the European Data Protection Board. The Technology Committee and the European Data Protection Board shall deliver their respective opinions within eight weeks. That period may be extended by a further six weeks where necessary, taking into account the complexity of the subject matter. The Technology Committee and the European Data Protection Board shall inform the EU Centre of any such extension within one month of receipt of the request for consultation, together with the reasons for the delay.

Amendment

Before including specific technologies on those lists, the EU Centre shall request the opinion of its Technology Committee, its Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board, and of the European Data Protection Board, including for conducting a fundamental rights impact assessment on those technologies. The Technology Committee, the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board, and the European Data Protection Board shall deliver their respective opinions within eight weeks of the request by the EU Centre. The EU Centre shall ensure all needed information is made available in order to form a balanced opinion and conduct the fundamental rights impact assessment. This period may be extended by a further six weeks where necessary, taking into account the complexity of the subject matter. The Technology Committee, the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board, and the European Data Protection Board shall inform the EU Centre of any such extension within one month of receipt of the request for consultation, together with the reasons for the delay. This process must be repeated on a yearly basis.

Amendment 137

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 – paragraph 2 – introductory part
2. The EU Centre shall collect, record, analyse and make available relevant, objective, reliable and comparable information on matters related to the prevention and combating of child sexual abuse, in particular:

Amendment

2. The EU Centre shall collect, record, aggregate, analyse and proactively make available to the Commission, Member States, the European Institute for Gender Equality, civil society organisations and the public relevant, anonymous gender-, sex- and age-disaggregated data, objective, reliable and comparable information on matters related to the prevention and combating of child sexual abuse, such as education or awareness raising campaigns, in particular:

Amendment 138

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 – paragraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) information resulting from research or other activities conducted by Member States’ authorities, other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, the competent authorities of third countries, international organisations, research centres and civil society organisations.

Amendment

(c) information resulting from research or other activities conducted by Member States’ authorities, other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, the competent authorities of third countries, international organisations, research centres and civil society organisations, including hotlines.

Amendment 139

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. Where necessary for the performance of its tasks under this Regulation, the EU Centre shall carry out, participate in or encourage research, surveys and studies, either on its own initiative or, where appropriate and compatible with its priorities and its annual work programme, at the request of the

Amendment

3. Where necessary for the performance of its tasks under this Regulation, the EU Centre shall carry out, participate in or encourage and support research, surveys and studies, in a gender and age sensitive way either on its own initiative or, where appropriate and compatible with its priorities and its annual
European Parliament, the Council or the Commission. The EU Centre will support Member States, the Coordinating Authorities and other relevant actors including the European Institute for Gender Equality in conducting research, taking into account specificities on age and gender.

**Amendment 140**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 50 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. The EU Centre shall provide the information referred to in paragraph 2 and the information resulting from the research, surveys and studies referred to in paragraph 3, including its analysis thereof, and its opinions on matters related to the prevention and combating of online child sexual abuse to other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, Coordinating Authorities, other competent authorities and other public authorities of the Member States, either on its own initiative or at request of the relevant authority. Where appropriate, the EU Centre shall make such information publicly available.

*Amendment*

4. The EU Centre shall provide the information referred to in paragraph 2 and the information resulting from the research, surveys and studies referred to in paragraph 3, including its analysis thereof, and its opinions on matters related to the prevention and combating of online child sexual abuse to other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, Coordinating Authorities, other competent authorities, including hotlines and other public authorities of the Member States, either on its own initiative or at request of the relevant authority. Where appropriate, the EU Centre shall make such information publicly available.

**Amendment 141**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 50 – paragraph 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. The EU Centre shall develop a communication strategy and promote dialogue with civil society organisations and providers of hosting or interpersonal communication services to raise public awareness and understand the problem.

*Amendment*

5. The EU Centre shall develop a gender and age sensitive communication strategy and exchange in dialogue with civil society organisations, public authorities, hotlines and providers of
awareness of online child sexual abuse and measures to prevent and combat such abuse.

hosting or interpersonal communication services and other relevant stakeholders to raise public awareness of online child sexual abuse and measures to prevent and combat such abuse and victim support. Communication campaigns shall be easily understandable and accessible to all children, their families and educators, formulated together with specialised experts or psychologists, adapted to the children and in a way that is easy to understand. The campaigns should be rolled out in formal, and non-formal education in the Union, aiming to improve digital literacy and ensure a safe digital environment for children. Communication campaigns shall take into account the gender dimension of the crime. They will take into account the advice of the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board.

Amendment 142

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – title (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 50a

Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board

Amendment 143

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. An Advisory Board representing child, victim and survivors’ rights experts and representatives will be established by the EU Centre. The Advisory Board shall consist of survivors and representatives of relevant organisations and experts on the
needs of survivors and victims of child sexual abuse and exploitation, both online and offline, such as civil society and children’s rights organisations working in the field. The members of the Advisory Board shall be appointed by the Management Board in view of their experience, expertise and scope of work, following the publication of a call for expressions of interest in the Official Journal of the European Union.

Amendment 144

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 2 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. Procedures concerning the appointment of the members of the Survivors’ Advisory Board, its operation, as well as establishing of independence and revoking the position of the member of the advisory board shall be further specified in the rules of procedure of the Management Board and shall be made public.

Amendment 145

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 3 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3. The members of the Advisory Board shall act in the best interest of child sexual abuse survivors and the public. The list of members of the Advisory Board shall be made public and shall be updated by the EU Centre on its website.
Proposal for a regulation
Article 50a – paragraph 4 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4. The members shall be appointed from the Member States taking into consideration geographical distribution and ensuring gender balance.

Amendment 147

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50a – paragraph 5 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5. The term of office of the members of the Survivors’ Advisory Board shall be four years. It may be renewed once.

Amendment 148

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50a – paragraph 6 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

6. The members shall liaise with the contact officers of the Coordinating Authority, as per their Member State. If they have dual nationality, they must choose the relevant Coordinating Authority.

Amendment 149

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50a – paragraph 7 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

7. The Executive Director and the Management Board shall consult the Survivors Advisory Board on any matter
relating to victims’ rights and preventing and combating child sexual abuse. The members will be called on to provide structured advice at least two times a year.

Amendment 150

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – introductory part (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

8. The Advisory Board shall:

Amendment 151

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – point a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) contribute to the EU Centre’s assistance to the Management Board, the Executive Board and the Executive Director, and the Technology Committee in respect to matters related to children's rights, victims and survivors, and within tasks set out in Article 50 paragraph 5;

Amendment 152

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – point b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) ensure visibility of the interests and needs of survivors and victims of child sexual abuse;

Amendment 153

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – point c (new)
Amendment 154

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – point d (new)

(c) advise the Management Board on matters set out in Article 57 point (h a)

Amendment 155

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – point e (new)

(d) advise the Executive Director and the Management Board as set out in paragraph 6 of this Article;

Amendment 156

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – point f (new)

(e) provide an annual activity report to the Executive Director as part of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report;

(f) be granted the rights to comment, as one, on any documentation or public matters shared by the EU Centre, such as the technological list of detection techniques;

Amendment 157
Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – point g (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

g) provide internally, upon request, independent expertise for the purposes of preventing and combating child sexual abuse and victims assistance online, including on the technologies used to detect online child sexual abuse regarding their relevance to the conditions in which child sexual abuse is committed;

Amendment 158

Proposal for a regulation
Article 50 a – paragraph 8 – point h (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(h) contribute to the EU wide raising awareness raising campaigns by providing related material and information.

Amendment 159

Proposal for a regulation
Article 54 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. Where necessary for the performance of its tasks under this Regulation, the EU Centre may cooperate with organisations and networks with information and expertise on matters related to the prevention and combating of online child sexual abuse, including civil society organisations and semi-public organisations.

Amendment 160
Proposal for a regulation
Article 54 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1a. With regards to the gender dimension of child sexual abuse, particular focus shall be placed on cooperation with the European Institute for Gender Equality. The EU Centre shall also gather anonymised gender-, sex- and age-disaggregated child sexual abuse statistics and prevalence rates, best practices for prevention and assistance to victims, and share their expertise and facilitate cooperation with the European Institute for Gender Equality.

Amendment 161

Proposal for a regulation
Article 55 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The administrative and management structure of the EU Centre shall comprise:

The administrative and management structure of the EU Centre shall be gender-balanced and comprise:

Amendment 162

Proposal for a regulation
Article 55 – paragraph 1 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(da) a Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board, which shall exercise the tasks set out in Article 50a.

Amendment 163

Proposal for a regulation
Article 56 – paragraph 1
1. The Management Board shall be composed of one representative from each Member State and two representatives of the Commission, all as members with voting rights.

**Amendment**

1. The Management Board shall be gender-balanced and composed of one representative from each Member State and two representatives of the Commission, all as members with voting rights.

**Amendment 164**

Proposal for a regulation
Article 56 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2

**Text proposed by the Commission**

Europol may designate a representative to attend the meetings of the Management Board as an observer on matters involving Europol, at the request of the Chairperson of the Management Board.

**Amendment**

Europol shall designate a representative to attend the meetings of the Management Board as an observer on matters involving Europol, at the request of the Chairperson of the Management Board.

**Amendment 165**

Proposal for a regulation
Article 56 – paragraph 3

**Text proposed by the Commission**

3. Each member of the Management Board shall have an alternate. The alternate shall represent the member in his/her absence.

**Amendment**

3. Each member of the Management Board shall have an alternate. The alternate shall represent the member in their absence.

**Amendment 166**

Proposal for a regulation
Article 56 – paragraph 4

**Text proposed by the Commission**

4. Members of the Management Board and their alternates shall be appointed in the light of their knowledge in the field of combating child sexual abuse,

**Amendment**

4. Members of the Management Board and their alternates shall be appointed in the light of their proven expertise in the field of preventing and
taking into account relevant managerial, administrative and budgetary skills. Member States shall appoint a representative of their Coordinating Authority, within four months of [date of entry into force of this Regulation]. All parties represented in the Management Board shall make efforts to limit turnover of their representatives, in order to ensure continuity of its work. All parties shall aim to achieve a balanced representation between men and women on the Management Board.

**Amendment 167**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 57 – paragraph 1 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) adopt rules for the prevention and management of conflicts of interest in respect of its members, as well as for the members of the Technological Committee and of any other advisory group it may establish and publish annually on its website the declaration of interests of the members of the Management Board;

**Amendment**

(c) adopt transparency rules for the prevention and management of conflicts of interest in respect of its members, as well as for the members of the Technological Committee and of the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board and publish annually on its website the declaration of interests of the members of the Management Board, Technological Committee and the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board;

**Amendment 168**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 57 – paragraph 1 – point f**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(f) appoint the members of the Technology Committee, and of any other advisory group it may establish;

**Amendment**

(f) appoint the members of the Technology Committee, the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board and of any other advisory group it may establish for serving its purposes;
Amendment 169
Proposal for a regulation
Article 57 – paragraph 1 – point h a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(ha) consult the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board as regards the obligations referred to in points (a), and (h).

Amendment

Amendment 170
Proposal for a regulation
Article 59 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Management Board shall hold at least two ordinary meetings a year. In addition, it shall meet on the initiative of its Chairperson, at the request of the Commission, or at the request of at least one-third of its members.

Amendment

3. The Management Board shall hold at least two ordinary meetings a year. In addition, it shall meet on the initiative of its Chairperson, at the request of the Commission, or at the request of at least one-third of its members. The Management Board may invite the members of the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board at least twice a year.

Amendment 171
Proposal for a regulation
Article 61 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The Executive Board shall be composed of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson of the Management Board, two other members appointed by the Management Board from among its members with the right to vote and two representatives of the Commission to the Management Board. The Chairperson of

Amendment

The Executive Board shall be gender-balanced and composed of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson of the Management Board, two other members appointed by the Management Board from among its members with the right to vote and two representatives of the Commission to the Management Board.
the Management Board shall also be the Chairperson of the Executive Board. The Chairperson of the Management Board shall also be the Chairperson of the Executive Board. The composition of the Executive Board shall ensure gender balance.

Amendment 172

Proposal for a regulation
Article 64 – paragraph 4 – point e (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(ea) implementing gender mainstreaming and gender budgeting in all areas, including drafting a gender action plan (GAP);

Amendment

Amendment 173

Proposal for a regulation
Article 64 – paragraph 4 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) preparing the Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) on the EU Centre’s activities and presenting it to the Executive Board for assessment and adoption;

(f) preparing the Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) on the EU Centre’s activities, including the activities of the Technology Committee and the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board and presenting it to the Executive Board for assessment and adoption;

Amendment 174

Proposal for a regulation
Article 66 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Technology Committee shall consist of technical experts appointed by the Management Board in view of their excellence and their independence, following the publication of a call for

1. The Technology Committee shall consist of technical experts appointed by the Management Board in view of their excellence and their independence, following the publication of a call for
expressions of interest in the Official Journal of the European Union.

expressions of interest in the Official Journal of the European Union, ensuring that gender balance is respected.

Amendment 175

Proposal for a regulation
Article 66 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. When a member no longer meets the criteria of independence, he or she shall inform the Management Board. Alternatively, the Management Board may declare, on a proposal of at least one third of its members or of the Commission, a lack of independence and revoke the appointment of the person concerned. The Management Board shall appoint a new member for the remaining term of office in accordance with the procedure for ordinary members.

Amendment

4. When a member no longer meets the criteria of independence, he or she shall inform the Management Board. Alternatively, the Management Board may declare, on a proposal of at least one third of its members or of the Commission, a lack of independence and revoke appointment of the person concerned. The Management Board shall appoint a new member for the remaining term of office in accordance with the procedure for ordinary members.

Amendment 176

Proposal for a regulation
Article 67 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Each year the Executive Director shall draw up a draft statement of estimates of the EU Centre’s revenue and expenditure for the following financial year, including an establishment plan, and shall send it to the Executive Board.

Amendment

1. Each year the Executive Director shall draw up a draft statement of estimates of the EU Centre’s revenue and expenditure for the following financial year, including an establishment plan, a gender impact analysis and shall use gender mainstreaming and gender budgeting and send it to the Executive Board.

Amendment 177

Proposal for a regulation
Article 69 – paragraph 4
4. The EU Centre’s expenditure shall include staff remuneration, administrative and infrastructure expenses, and operating costs, including the operating costs of the Technology Committee, the Victims’ Rights and Survivors Advisory Board and of any other advisory group it may establish for serving its purposes.

Amendment 178

Proposal for a regulation
Article 69 – paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5a. The budget shall comply with the principle of gender mainstreaming and practise of gender budgeting shall be implemented.

Amendment 179

Proposal for a regulation
Article 71 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. The Executive Board, in agreement with the Commission, shall adopt the necessary implementing measures, in accordance with the arrangements provided for in Article 110 of the Staff Regulations, and shall ensure that staff will be appropriately skilled and experienced while guaranteeing gender balance.

Amendment 180

Proposal for a regulation
Article 71 – paragraph 3
3. The EU Centre staff, in particular those working in areas related to detection, reporting and removal of online child sexual abuse, shall have access to appropriate counselling and support services, meeting, any other possible physical or socio-psychological needs.

Amendment 181

Proposal for a regulation
Article 72 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The EU Centre may make use of seconded national experts or other staff not employed by it.

Amendment

1. The EU Centre may make use of seconded national experts or other staff not employed by it taking into consideration their experience and skills, while ensuring that gender balance is respected.

Amendment 182

Proposal for a regulation
Article 83 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) the total number of items of child sexual abuse material that the provider removed or to which it disabled access, broken down by whether the items were removed or access thereto was disabled pursuant to a removal order or to a notice submitted by a Competent Authority, the EU Centre or a third party or at the provider’s own initiative;

Amendment

(c) the total number of items of child sexual abuse material when possible gender-, sex- and age-disaggregated that the provider removed or to which it disabled access, broken down by whether the items were removed or access thereto was disabled pursuant to a removal order or to a notice submitted by a Competent Authority, the EU Centre or a third party or at the provider’s own initiative;
## Procedure – Committee Asked for Opinion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>COM(2022)0209 – C9-0174/2022 – 2022/0155(COD)</td>
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<td>Committee responsible</td>
<td>LIBE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date announced in plenary</td>
<td>12.9.2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opinion by</td>
<td>FEMM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date announced in plenary</td>
<td>12.9.2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rapporteur for the opinion</td>
<td>Heléne Fritzon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date appointed</td>
<td>13.12.2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussed in committee</td>
<td>21.3.2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date adopted</td>
<td>27.6.2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result of final vote</td>
<td>+: 25</td>
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<td>Members present for the final vote</td>
<td>Isabella Adinolfi, Christine Anderson, Robert Biedroń, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Annika Bruna, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión, Rosa Estarás Ferragut, Frances Fitzgerald, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Alice Kuhnke, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Radka Maxová, Karen Melchior, Johan Nissinen, Maria Noichl, Sandra Pereira, Pina Picierno, Samira Rafaela, Evelyn Regner, Diana Riba i Giner, Maria Veronica Rossi, Sylwia Spurek, Marco Zullo</td>
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<td>Substitutes present for the final vote</td>
<td>Heléne Fritzon, Ewa Kopacz, Eleni Stavrou, Monika Vana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote</td>
<td>Colm Markey, Sira Rego</td>
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## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECR</td>
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<td>S&amp;D</td>
<td>Robert Biedroń, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Helène Fritzon, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Radka Maxová, Maria Noichl, Pina Picerno, Evelyn Regner</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Left</td>
<td>Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego</td>
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<td>Verte/ALE</td>
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<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Christine Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renew</td>
<td>Karen Melchior, Samira Rafaela, Marco Zullo</td>
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Key to symbols:
+ : in favour
- : against
0 : abstention