



**2022/0155(COD)**

29.3.2023

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Culture and Education

for the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse (COM(2022)0209 – C9-0174/2022 – 2022/0155(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Niyazi Kizilyürek

PA\_Legam

## 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, which aims to introduce uniform rules to address the misuse of relevant information society services for online child sexual abuse in the internal market (Article 1 of the proposal).

The Rapporteur would like to highlight the importance of combating online child sexual abuse and suggests a series of amendments in order to reinforce the prevention measures among children through education and with a focus on digital skills and competences including media literacy. In addition, the Rapporteur emphasises the need to support the victims and their families.

Regarding the governance structures, the Rapporteur believes that the EU Centre and the national Coordinating Authorities can serve as important research and awareness raising hubs in order to prevent and combat online child sexual abuse.

Finally, the Rapporteur believes that this Regulation, together with the new European strategy for a better internet for kids (BIK+), could create safe digital experiences for children and promote their empowerment and active participation in the digital environment.

## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Culture and Education calls on the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

### Amendment 1

#### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(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,

*Amendment*

(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.

the necessary harmonised requirements **and appropriate prevention techniques** should be laid down at Union level.

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 4 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(4 a) To ensure full achievement of the objectives of this Regulation, Member States should introduce and implement prevention strategies and awareness campaigns in their schools and educational institutions. The EU Centre and Coordinating Authorities, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, such as law enforcement agencies and existing hotlines across the Union, should elaborate prevention techniques, in order to prevent and combat child sexual abuse. It is important that digital skills and competences, including media literacy, are recognised as a mandatory skill and an essential part of education, focusing on educating children, parents and educators and the general public on online safety, including online parental control and how to recognize and report online solicitation. The Union and its Member States should allocate more investment in education and training to ensure digital literacy, including protection from bullying and cyberbullying in schools, for children of different age groups, taking into consideration new technological developments, such as the metaverse.***

## Amendment 3

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 35

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(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 providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services in accordance with this Regulation.

*Amendment*

(35) The dissemination of child sexual abuse material is a criminal offence that affects the rights of the victims depicted. Victims should therefore ***be timely informed by*** the Coordinating Authorities ***designated by the Member State where the victim resides, of the existence of*** known child sexual abuse material depicting them, ***which*** is reported by providers of hosting services or providers of publicly available interpersonal communications services in accordance with this Regulation ***and have the right to request the deletion of this child sexual abuse material. In such a case, victims should have the right to obtain relevant information, upon request, from the EU Centre via the Coordinating Authorities.***

#### **Amendment 4**

##### **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,

*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 ***in a timely manner, in order to minimise the impact that such offences have on the physical and mental health of the minor.*** 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

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 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.

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 can be painful or even traumatic as well as complex, victims should also have the right to ***receive adequate support and to*** be assisted by the EU Centre in this regard, via the Coordinating Authorities. ***Providers should establish and operate an accessible, age-appropriate and user-friendly mechanism that allows users to flag the provider of potential online child sexual abuse on the service and to receive reasonable assistance. 'Reasonable assistance' could constitute, among others, putting in place alert and alarm mechanisms in a prominent way on their platforms, linking potential victims to local organisations such as helplines, victims' right organisations or hotlines. Such providers shall ensure adequate follow-up when a report is made, in the language that the user has initially chosen for their service.***

## Amendment 5

### 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 informed about the existence of such functions and*** 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 6

### 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, without prejudice to the enforcement powers of other national authorities. ***The Coordinating Authority should oversee the implementation of the Regulation, including issues related to prevention, education and awareness raising, and organise and promote regular trainings for officials, including law enforcement authorities, who deal with cases which involve children.***

## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 60

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(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

*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.

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, ***as well as tackling the reappearance of known material. The EU Centre should also be charged with*** the provision of assistance to Coordinating Authorities, as well as the generation ***of research, prevention techniques*** and sharing of knowledge, ***best practices*** and expertise related to online child sexual abuse, ***successful initiatives on digital skills and competences in an age-appropriate manner, including media literacy, on sex education, and reacting timely to the evolving trends of child sexual abuse material dissemination and monetisation.***

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 62

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(62) For the system established by this Regulation to function properly, the EU Centre should be charged with creating databases for each of those three types of online child sexual abuse, and with maintaining and operating those databases. For accountability purposes and to allow for corrections where needed, it should keep records of the submissions and the process used for the generation of the indicators.

#### *Amendment*

(62) For the system established by this Regulation to function properly, the EU Centre should be charged with creating databases for each of those three types of online child sexual abuse, and with maintaining, ***timely updating*** and operating those databases. For accountability purposes and to allow for corrections where needed, it should keep records of the submissions and the process used for the generation of the indicators.

## Amendment 9

### 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 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*

(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 sexual abuse, ***including lessons learned from proactive reporting based on known material, prevention and awareness raising campaigns***. In this connection, the EU Centre should cooperate with relevant stakeholders from both within and outside the Union, ***including law enforcement authorities, educators, civil society and service providers***. ***The Centre should also allow Member States to benefit from the knowledge and expertise gathered, including best practices and lessons learned on creating safe digital experiences for children and promoting their empowerment and active participation in the digital environment, in line with the Communication of the Commission of 11 May 2022 entitled ‘A Digital Decade for children and youth: the new European strategy for a better internet for kids (BIK+)’ and the Communication of the Commission of 26 January 2022 entitled ‘Establishing a European Declaration on Digital rights and principles for the Digital Decade’.***

## Amendment 10

**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. ***This role played by hotlines should be reinforced and they should continue to facilitate this fight. Each Member State should ensure that at least one official hotline is operating in its territory.*** 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. ***Anonymous public reporting is crucial to countering child sexual abuse. Member States should ensure that the public has the possibility to anonymously report child sexual abuse material and child sexual exploitation activities to hotlines specialised in combatting online child sexual abuse material and shall safeguard the role of such hotlines in anonymous public reporting. The promotion of hotlines by the EU Centre and the Coordinating Authorities through the educational systems of Member States in order to educate youth and reach potential victims is of great importance. Their experience and expertise should help the EU Centre and Coordinating Authorities to design appropriate prevention techniques and awareness campaigns.***

**Amendment 11**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 76**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(76) In the interest of good governance and drawing on the statistics and information gathered and transparency reporting mechanisms provided for in this Regulation, the Commission should carry out an evaluation of this Regulation within **five** years of the date of its entry into force, and every five years thereafter.

*Amendment*

(76) In the interest of good governance and drawing on the statistics and information gathered and transparency reporting mechanisms provided for in this Regulation, the Commission should carry out an evaluation of this Regulation within **three** years of the date of its entry into force, and every five years thereafter.

**Amendment 12**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point p**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(p) ‘online child sexual abuse’ means the online dissemination of child sexual abuse material **and** the solicitation of children;

*Amendment*

(p) ‘online child sexual abuse’ means the online dissemination of child sexual abuse material **or** the solicitation of children;

**Amendment 13**

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

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(w a) ‘hotline’ means an organisation providing a mechanism, other than the reporting channels provided by law enforcement agencies, for receiving anonymous information from the public about potential child sexual abuse material and online child sexual exploitation, which is officially recognised by its home Member State as expressed in the Directive 2011/93/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and has the mission of combatting child sexual abuse material in its articles of***

*association;*

## Amendment 14

### 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*

(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, **hotlines** 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 15

### 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, age-appropriate and user-friendly mechanism that allows users to flag to the provider potential online child sexual abuse on the service. ***Such providers shall ensure adequate follow-up and provide reasonable assistance, when a report is made, in the language that the user has initially chosen for their service.***

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 20 – paragraph -1 (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**-1. Where an instance of dissemination of known child sexual abuse material is reported to the EU Centre pursuant to Article 12, the Coordinating Authority designated by the Member State of residence shall, in a timely manner, inform the persons residing in the Union depicted therein of the existence of that material.**

## **Amendment 17**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 20 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

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.

*Amendment*

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. ***The information shall be provided to the persons requesting it in a confidential, easily understandable and accessible manner.***

## **Amendment 18**

### **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

*Amendment*

1. Providers of hosting services shall provide reasonable assistance, on request, ***in the most efficient and timely manner,*** to persons residing in the Union that seek

known child sexual abuse material depicting them removed or to have access thereto disabled by the provider.

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 19

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 21 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

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*

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. ***The information shall be provided to the persons requesting it in a confidential, easily understandable and accessible way.***

## Amendment 20

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 21 – paragraph 4 a (new)

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

##### *Amendment*

***4 a. Each Member State shall ensure the functioning of hotlines, including through funding and capacity building, in order for victims and their families to receive support from the competent authority in a timely manner.***

## Amendment 21

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 25 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The Coordinating Authority shall be responsible for all matters related to application and enforcement of this Regulation in the Member State concerned, unless that Member State has assigned certain specific tasks or sectors to other competent authorities.

*Amendment*

The Coordinating Authority shall be responsible for all matters related to application and enforcement of this Regulation in the Member State concerned, unless that Member State has assigned certain specific tasks or sectors to other competent authorities. ***The Coordinating Authority shall also be responsible for the coordination and adaptation of prevention techniques, elaborated by the EU Centre. The Coordinating Authority shall issue recommendations and good practices on improving digital skills and competences, including media literacy, amongst the population through the realization of awareness campaigns on a national level, targeting in particular parents and children on the detection and prevention of child sexual abuse online.***

**Amendment 22**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 25 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The Coordinating Authority shall in any event be responsible for ensuring coordination at national level in respect of those matters and for contributing to the effective, efficient and consistent application and enforcement of this Regulation throughout the Union.

*Amendment*

The Coordinating Authority shall in any event be responsible for ensuring coordination ***and overseeing the implementation*** at national level in respect of those matters, ***including issues related to prevention, education and awareness raising and the organisation of regular training activities for officials, including in law enforcement authorities who deal with cases which involve children*** and for contributing to the effective, efficient and consistent application and enforcement of this Regulation throughout the Union.

## Amendment 23

### 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 contact point is designated or established within the Coordinating Authority's office **to coordinate prevention within the Member State and** 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, **shall promote its dissemination and visibility in order to raise awareness, especially in public places, and shall** communicate it to the EU Centre. They shall keep that information updated **and easily accessible**.

## Amendment 24

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

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(d a) provide knowledge and expertise on appropriate prevention techniques against online solicitation of children and the dissemination of CSAM online.**

## Amendment 25

### Proposal for a regulation Article 34 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. Users shall have the right to lodge a complaint alleging an infringement of this Regulation affecting them against

1. Users shall have the right to lodge a complaint alleging an infringement of this Regulation affecting them against

providers of relevant information society services with the Coordinating Authority designated by the Member State where the user resides or is established.

providers of relevant information society services with the Coordinating Authority designated by the Member State where the user resides or is established. ***Users shall also have the right to lodge such a complaint through the national hotlines of the Member State where the user resides or is established. Those hotlines shall transmit such complaints to the relevant Coordinating Authority.***

## Amendment 26

### 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 ***also*** provide ***children with the necessary tools to recognize suspicious behavior and potentially dangerous content online and easily*** submit a complaint under this Article. ***Coordinating Authorities shall examine every complaint*** and adopt a child-sensitive approach taking ***into*** account ***the specificities of all elements*** of the ***complaint (website or interpersonal communication service, child's age, specific concern)***.

## Amendment 27

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

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***3a. The user making a complaint shall be informed about the outcome of the investigation.***

## Amendment 28

**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 their respective tasks under this Regulation and ensure its effective, efficient and consistent application and enforcement.

*Amendment*

1. Coordinating Authorities shall cooperate with each other, ***national hotlines, relevant organisations and networks, and*** 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 exchange information and best practices related to the prevention and combating of online child sexual abuse and solicitation of children.***

**Amendment 29**

**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 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 gather and share information, ***educational materials, good practices*** 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. ***The EU Centre shall perform its duties in line with the objectives of the European strategy for a better internet for kids (BIK+).***

## Amendment 30

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – introductory part

*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 and sharing of knowledge with other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, Coordinating Authorities or other relevant authorities of the Member States, **hotlines, NGOs and other stakeholders** to contribute to the achievement of the objective of this Regulation, by:

## Amendment 31

### 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 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, **including educational, prevention and awareness raising programmes and campaigns, including intervention programmes according to Article 22 of Directive 2011/93/EU, taking into consideration new technological developments, and good practices carried out in different Member States;**

## Amendment 32

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(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*

(b) supporting the development and dissemination of research, ***age-appropriate educational materials*** and expertise on those matters and on assistance to victims, including by serving as a hub of expertise to support evidence-based policy ***and linking researchers to practitioners***;

### **Amendment 33**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – point b a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(b a) providing technical expertise, supporting and promoting the regular exchange of best practices among Member States and educational institutions on raising awareness for the prevention of child sexual abuse and on promoting, in an age-appropriate manner, sex education, digital skills and competences, including media literacy, cyber safety, in formal, non-formal and informal education, targeting educators, parents and pupils;***

### **Amendment 34**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 43 – paragraph 1 – point 6 – point c a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(c a) exchanging best practices among Coordinating Authorities regarding the available tools with regards to reducing the risk of children becoming victims of sexual abuse and the provision of personalised assistance to victims, taking into account their individual characteristics, such as their age, ethnic***

*and cultural background or sexual orientation and coordinating the organisation of regular trainings for officials, including in law enforcement authorities, who deal with cases which involve children.*

## **Amendment 35**

### **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 European Parliament, the Council or the Commission.

*Amendment*

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 European Parliament, the Council or the Commission. ***The EU Centre shall support Member States and the Coordinating Authorities in conducting research, taking into account national specificities. The collected knowledge shall serve as a tool to elaborate prevention methods adapted and implemented by Coordinating Authorities in each Member State.***

## **Amendment 36**

### **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 of online child sexual abuse and measures to prevent and combat such

*Amendment*

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 of online child sexual abuse and measures to prevent and combat such

abuse.

abuse. ***Communication campaigns shall be easily understandable and accessible to children, their families and educators in formal, non-formal and informal education in the Union, aiming to improve digital literacy and ensure a safe digital environment for children. Those campaigns shall also take into account the particular situation of people with disabilities.***

### Amendment 37

#### Proposal for a regulation Article 54 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

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*

1. Where necessary for the performance of its tasks under this Regulation, the EU Centre ***shall*** 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. ***The EU Centre shall also gather and share information and expertise and facilitate cooperation with such organisations and networks.***

### Amendment 38

#### Proposal for a regulation Article 54 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The EU Centre may conclude ***memoranda of understanding*** with organisations referred to in paragraph 1, laying down the terms of cooperation.

*Amendment*

2. The EU Centre may conclude ***strategic and/or operational cooperation agreements*** with organisations referred to in paragraph 1, laying down the terms of cooperation.

## Amendment 39

### 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 **the member's** absence.

## Amendment 40

### Proposal for a regulation Article 58 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The Deputy Chairperson shall automatically replace the Chairperson **if he/she is prevented from attending to his/her duties.**

*Amendment*

The Deputy Chairperson shall automatically replace the Chairperson **when necessary.**

## Amendment 41

### Proposal for a regulation Article 60 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Each member shall have one vote. In the absence of a member, **his/her** alternate shall be entitled to exercise **his/her** right to vote.

*Amendment*

2. Each member shall have one vote. In the absence of a member, **the** alternate **member** shall be entitled to exercise **the** right to vote.

## Amendment 42

### Proposal for a regulation Article 62 – paragraph 2 – point j

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(j) appoint an Accounting Officer, who may be the Commission's Accounting Officer, subject to the Staff Regulations

*Amendment*

(j) appoint an Accounting Officer, who may be the Commission's Accounting Officer, subject to the Staff Regulations

and the Conditions of Employment of other servants, who shall be totally independent in the performance of *his/her* duties;

and the Conditions of Employment of other servants, who shall be totally independent in the performance of *the Officer's* duties;

#### **Amendment 43**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 64 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The Executive Director shall report to the European Parliament on the performance of *his/her* duties when invited to do so. The Council may invite the Executive Director to report on the performance of *his/her* duties.

*Amendment*

2. The Executive Director shall report to the European Parliament on the performance of *the Executive Director's* duties when invited to do so. The Council may invite the Executive Director to report on the performance of *the Executive Director's* duties.

#### **Amendment 44**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 83 – paragraph 2 – point i a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(i a) the measures taken regarding prevention and victim assistance programmes, including the number of children in primary education who are taking part in awareness raising campaigns and through education programmes about the risks of all forms of sexual exploitation of children, including in the online environment.*

#### **Amendment 45**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 83 – paragraph 3 – point j a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(j a) the measures taken by Member States regarding prevention, awareness*

*raising, and victim assistance programmes, including the impact, outreach and effectiveness of the activities carried out on the targeted audience, where possible, disaggregated into different categories based on demographics.*

## Amendment 46

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 84 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Each Coordinating Authority shall draw up an annual report on its activities under this Regulation. That report shall compile the information referred to in Article 83(2). It shall, by 31 March of every year subsequent to the year to which the report relates, make the report available to the public and communicate it to the Commission and the EU Centre.

*Amendment*

2. Each Coordinating Authority shall draw up an annual report on its activities under this Regulation ***taking into account national specificities***. That report shall compile the information referred to in Article 83(2). It shall, by 31 March of every year subsequent to the year to which the report relates, make the report available to the public and communicate it to the Commission and the EU Centre.

## Amendment 47

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 85 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. By [***five*** years after the entry into force of this Regulation], and every five years thereafter, the Commission shall evaluate this Regulation and submit a report on its application to the European Parliament and the Council.

*Amendment*

1. By [***three*** years after the entry into force of this Regulation], and every five years thereafter, the Commission shall evaluate this Regulation and submit a report on its application to the European Parliament and the Council.

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	Laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse
<b>References</b>	COM(2022)0209 – C9-0174/2022 – 2022/0155(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	LIBE 12.9.2022
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 12.9.2022
<b>Rapporteur for the opinion</b> Date appointed	Niyazi Kizilyürek 24.6.2022
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	14.11.2022
<b>Date adopted</b>	28.3.2023
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 29 –: 0 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Asim Ademov, Christine Anderson, Andrea Bocskor, Ilana Cicurel, Laurence Farreng, Tomasz Frankowski, Alexis Georgoulis, Catherine Griset, Sylvie Guillaume, Hannes Heide, Irena Joveva, Petra Kammerevert, Niyazi Kizilyürek, Predrag Fred Matić, Peter Pollák, Diana Riba i Giner, Marcos Ros Sempere, Monica Semedo, Massimiliano Smeriglio, Michaela Šojdrová, Sabine Verheyen, Maria Walsh, Theodoros Zagorakis
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	João Albuquerque, Chiara Gemma, Marcel Kolaja, Rob Rooker
<b>Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote</b>	Franc Bogovič, Ana Miranda

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

29	+
ECR	Chiara Gemma, Rob Rooker
ID	Christine Anderson, Catherine Griset
NI	Andrea Bocskor
PPE	Asim Ademov, Franc Bogovič, Tomasz Frankowski, Peter Pollák, Michaela Šojdrová, Sabine Verheyen, Maria Walsh, Theodoros Zagorakis
Renew	Ilana Cicurel, Laurence Farreng, Irena Joveva, Monica Semedo
S&D	João Albuquerque, Sylvie Guillaume, Hannes Heide, Petra Kammerevert, Predrag Fred Matić, Marcos Ros Sempere, Massimiliano Smeriglio
The Left	Alexis Georgoulis, Niyazi Kizilyürek
Verts/ALE	Marcel Kolaja, Ana Miranda, Diana Riba i Giner

0	-

0	0

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention