

BIRGIT SIPPEL MEP

25.06.2026, Brussels

Subject: Possible further prolongation of the Interim Derogation from the ePrivacy Directive

Dear Ambassador Rafti,

As Rapporteur for the Interim File, I have taken note of the remarks made by the President of the European Parliament at the EUCO in June 2026. I consider it important to emphasise that the Interim Derogation from the ePrivacy Directive is an instrument that was designed for a three-year period and was intended to lapse automatically. The unique renewal by the Co-legislators in 2024 was exceptional and extraordinary in nature in light of the publication of the long-term legal framework in 2022.

The European Parliament adopted its Mandate for the long-term legal framework in the November 2023 and was ready to negotiate. Unfortunately, the Council could only deliver its Mandate in November 2025. Negotiations started swiftly, nevertheless the Commission proposed yet another extension of the Interim Regulation. As European Parliament we were ready to work on the file.

After careful review, the European Parliament was aiming to limit the scope to previously identified ("known") child sexual abuse material and improve safeguards to protect end-to-end encryption. Regrettably, the Council of the EU was not even willing to consider these points in the trilogue negotiations.

As a result, the Commission proposal was rejected.

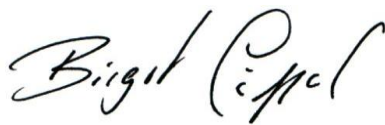
In addition, progress on the long-term legal framework which focuses on mitigation, prevention and a solid foundation for combating child sexual abuse across the EU would be seriously jeopardised if the Interim Derogation were to be prolonged once more, or worse, installed on a permanent basis.

The European Parliament has demonstrated that targeted detection measures and a comprehensive set of measures will make children safer while enabling investigations to be conducted in full compliance with the rule of law.

This stands in contrast to the indiscriminate scanning of private communications by US Big Tech providers that process sensitive communications data without adequate accountability or oversight, and since 4 April 2026 without a legal basis and in violation of the Charter, the ePrivacy Directive and GDPR.

We therefore urge you to reconsider this approach and to direct your efforts toward the development of the long-term legal framework, in order to consolidate and streamline all efforts in this area in a coherent and rights-compliant manner.

With kind regards,



Birgit Sippel