



HENNA VIRKKUNEN

Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty,
Security and Democracy

MAGNUS BRUNNER

Commissioner for Internal Affairs
and Migration

MICHAEL MCGRATH

Commissioner for Democracy, Justice,
the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection

GLENN MICALLEF

Commissioner for Intergenerational
Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport

Brussels, 6 July 2026

Dear Honourable Members of the European Parliament,

We write to you once again, and with renewed urgency, following our letter of 25 March 2026 on the interim derogation for child protection. At that time, we warned of the consequences of failing to secure a timely political agreement that would allow proactive detection measures against online child sexual abuse to continue without disruption. Those concerns have now become reality.

Since 4 April, the resulting legal uncertainty has put at risk the detection capacity that, in the last 15 years, has underpinned the vast majority of child sexual abuse reports generated by online service providers. This represents almost the totality of all the child sexual abuse reports, since the proactive detection and reporting by providers constitutes 99% of all the reports on child sexual abuse, whereas only 1% are reports from users or other means.

Behind each image and video that the providers proactively detect there are children being abused. Disrupting detection seriously weakens our collective ability to identify abuse, support victims, and stop offenders. The EU remains at the centre of this challenge. In 2025, the Internet Watch Foundation found that 63% of URLs confirmed to contain child sexual abuse material were hosted in the Union, underscoring, once again, our responsibility to act.

The interim framework is of importance not only for known child sexual abuse material but also for new material and grooming, where the number of reports have increased in the last 3 years by more than 200 times for new material, driven by the misuse of AI, and 12 times for grooming.

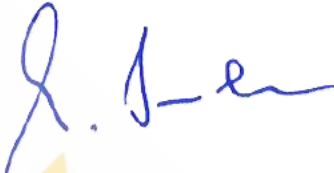
As institutions entrusted with protecting fundamental rights, including the safety of children, we all have a shared responsibility. The Commission is therefore supporting the renewed effort from the Council.

We urge you, as leaders of your political groups, to also support the reinstatement of the interim framework.


Yours faithfully,



Henna Virkkunen



Magnus Brunner



Michael McGrath



Glenn Micallef

EURACTIV