

**Opinion of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies on the
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

COM(2020) 607

Chamber of Deputies:

- strongly supports this strategy; recommends consulting national parliaments and civil society organisations on future policies and rules;
- considers the situation of the European Union, which has become the largest host of child sexual abuse material globally, as extremely worrying, and supports efforts to identify in depth the causes of this situation;
- stresses the relevance of cooperation between judicial authorities and between those and civil society;
- recommends that the present strategy should be put in agreement with the European strategy and rules against trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, which could involve national parliaments, the EU Network of National Rapporteurs, civil society – including the “WeProtect” network; supports the synergy between this strategy and the EU Strategy on victims’ rights;
- supports the strengthening of Europol’s mandate in order to receive personal data directly from the private sector;
- underlines the high potential of EU resources in developing the artificial intelligence and supercomputers aimed at countering offences favoured by communications encryption and supporting risk factors analysis;
- recommends developing capacities for counselling victims of child sexual abuse and backs practical cooperation between investigative and medical authorities;
- stresses the importance of speeding up adoption processes, particularly in case of children with disabilities, liable to reduce the time spent in foster care centres and thus the risk of abuse;
- emphasises the relevance of educational actions carried out by family, school and outside school, performed both with materials and means of the digital society, as well as by practical activities, as well as measures to protect family life, in particular ensuring the balance between school, work and family;
- supports the view that member countries from Central and Eastern Europe need further support, including through the participation of local authorities and the non-governmental sector in calls for funding under “Horizon Europe”, aiming at raising awareness of parents and children from remote areas and with a poor economic background regarding dangers of child sexual abuse.