

Joint statement on the dangers of the EU's proposed regulation for fighting child sexual abuse online.



By [GEC admin < https://www.globalencryption.org/author/gec-admin/>](https://www.globalencryption.org/author/gec-admin/)



May 12, 2022 < [https://www.globalencryption.org/2022/05/joint-statement-on-the-dangers-of-the-eus-proposed-regulation-for-fighting-child-sexual-abuse-online/>](https://www.globalencryption.org/2022/05/joint-statement-on-the-dangers-of-the-eus-proposed-regulation-for-fighting-child-sexual-abuse-online/)

The undersigned organizations, companies, and cybersecurity experts issued the following statement in response to the [Regulation on Child Sexual Abuse \(CSA\) < https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/proposal-regulation-laying-down-rules-prevent-and-combat-child-sexual-abuse_en>](https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/proposal-regulation-laying-down-rules-prevent-and-combat-child-sexual-abuse_en) that the European Commission proposed on 11 May 2022:

Child sexual abuse is a serious crime that must be addressed by Member states and by other countries around the world. We are concerned, though, that the approach taken by the Commission in this proposed

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The Commission's legislation would enable Member States to compel online platforms, including those offering end-to-end encrypted messaging, to scan users' content and metadata for CSA images and for "grooming" conversations and behavior, and where appropriate, report them to public authorities and delete them from their platforms. Such a requirement is fundamentally incompatible with end-to-end encrypted messaging because platforms that offer such service cannot access communications content. This has been confirmed by experts around the world who produced an [analysis](https://www.globalencryption.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020-Breaking-Encryption-Myths.pdf) < <https://www.globalencryption.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020-Breaking-Encryption-Myths.pdf>> of how any form of scanning breaks end-to-end encrypted systems in addition to a detailed [report](https://fletcher.tufts.edu/news-events/news/bugs-our-pockets-risks-client-side-scanning) < <https://fletcher.tufts.edu/news-events/news/bugs-our-pockets-risks-client-side-scanning>> on the multiple ways in which client-side scanning, in particular, "can fail, can be evaded, and can be abused."

Instead of mandating measures that are inconsistent with end-to-end encryption and would diminish the security of everyone, regulators should incentivize measures that address CSA and protect communications security. Among these measures are facilitating user reporting of CSA material.

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AC-LAC (Alianza por el Cifrado en América Latina y el Caribe)

Adam Shostack, Author, Threat Modeling: Designing for Security

Africa Media and Information Technology Initiative (AfriMITI)

Alec Muffett, Security Researcher

Alexander Hanff, Privacy/Security Expert and Survivor of CSA

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Associação Portuguesa para a Promoção da Segurança da Informação (AP2SI)

Associação D3 – Defesa dos Direitos Digitais

Bits of Freedom

Blacknight

Calyx Institute

Canadian Civil Liberties Association

Carey Lening, Data Protection Officer and Privacy Advocate, Castlebridge

Centre for Democracy & Technology

CETYS – Centro de Tecnología y Sociedad de Universidad San Andres

Charly Greaux, GM, GLT2.0

Christopher Parsons, Senior Research Associate, Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy at the University of Toronto

Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA)

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)

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DFRI – Föreningen för digitala fri- och rättigheter
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Digitale Gesellschaft
Dotzon GmbH
Douwe Korff, Emeritus Professor of International Law, London
Metropolitan University
Electronic Frontier Finland (Effi)
Electronic Frontier Foundation
Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC)
Elektronisk Forpost Norge (EFN)
Element
Prof. Dr. Elena Andreeva, TU Wien
Encryption Europe
Encrypt Uganda
Epicenter.works – for digital rights
European Digital Rights (EDRi)
EySoft IT Solution
FlokiNET Ltd
Global Partners Digital
Hans Peter Dittler, ISOC.DE
Prof. Dr. LL.M. Indra Spiecker
Internet Society
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Internet Society Serbia, Belgrade Chapter

Interpeer gUG

IP.rec – Law and Technology Research Institute of Recife

Iuridicum Remedium (IuRe)

J. Alex Halderman Professor, Computer Science and Engineering,
Director, Center for Computer Security and Society, University
of Michigan

JCA-NET

Jon Callas, Director of Technology Projects, Electronic Frontier
Foundation

Dr. Joseph Kiniry, Principal Scientist, Galois

Julf Helsingius

Prof. Dr. Kai Rannenberg, Chair of Mobile Business &
Multilateral Security, Goethe University, Frankfurt

Prof Kapil Goyal, Alumni Fellow, Asia Pacific School of Internet
Governance

Kimmo Halunen, Professor, University of Oulu

LAYLO

L Jean Camp, Professor of Computer Science and Informatics,
Indiana University

Lorraine Kisselburgh, Purdue University

Luka Modic, Bachelor of Criminal Justice and security, University
of Maribor, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security

Mailfence.com

Assist. Prof. Dr Marko Hölbl, University of Maribor, Faculty of
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

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Ot van Daale, University of Amsterdam
Pablo Palazzi, Law Professor
Panoptykon Foundation
Privacy & Access Council of Canada
Privacy International
Ranking Digital Rights
Riana Pfefferkorn, Research Scholar, Stanford Internet
Observatory
Rich Compton, Principal Engineer
Dr. Roland Bless, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)
SFLC.in
Sharon Polsky MAPP, Privacy & Data Protection Specialist,
Privacy & Access Council of Canada
Sofía Celi, Cryptography Researcher
Susan Landau, Bridge Professor of Cyber Security and Policy,
Tufts University
Sven Dietrich, Professor of Computer Science, City University of
New York
Dr. Sven Herpig, Director for International Cybersecurity Policy,
Stiftung Neue Verantwortung
Tarah Wheeler, Cyber Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer
Center for Science and International Affairs
Tech for Good Asia
Dr. Thorsten Strufe, Professor, KIT/KASTEL Karlsruhe and
Centre for Internet CeTI at TU Dresden
Tresorit

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Vrijdschrift.org
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Youth Forum for Social Justice

*Affiliations listed for identification purposes only.

**Joint statement on the dangers of the EU's proposed regulation
for fighting child sexual abuse online
12 May 2022**

The undersigned organizations, companies, and cybersecurity experts issued the following statement in response to the [Regulation on Child Sexual Abuse \(CSA\)](#) that the European Commission proposed on 11 May 2022:

Child sexual abuse is a serious crime that must be addressed by Member states and by other countries around the world. We are concerned, though, that the approach taken by the Commission in this proposed Regulation would have devastating impacts on the security of communications and on user privacy.

The Commission's legislation would enable Member States to compel online platforms, including those offering end-to-end encrypted messaging, to scan users' content and metadata for CSA images and for "grooming" conversations and behavior, and where appropriate, report them to public authorities and delete them from their platforms. Such a requirement is fundamentally incompatible with end-to-end encrypted messaging because platforms that offer such service cannot access communications content. This has been confirmed by experts around the world who produced an [analysis](#) of how any form of scanning breaks end-to-end encrypted systems in addition to a detailed [report](#) on the multiple ways in which client-side scanning, in particular, "can fail, can be evaded, and can be abused."

Instead of mandating measures that are inconsistent with end-to-end encryption and would diminish the security of everyone, regulators should incentivize measures that address CSA and protect communications security. Among these measures are facilitating user reporting of CSA material.

Signatories¹

AC-LAC (Alianza por el Cifrado en América Latina y el Caribe)
Adam Shostack, Author, Threat Modeling: Designing for Security
Africa Media and Information Technology Initiative (AfriMITI)
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