

To the President of the Council of the European Union
(Justice and Home Affairs Council),
c/o General Secretariat of the Council of the EU
Wetstraat 175
B-1048 Brussel

Brussel, 5 September 2025

Dear President,

We must express our **strong and unequivocal opposition** to the so-called “Chat Control” proposal currently being advanced under the Danish Presidency.

This draft regulation represents nothing less than a **blueprint for mass surveillance** of all Europeans. Under the false banner of child protection, it seeks to normalize the permanent scanning of private communications, undermine encryption, and establish an unprecedented system of digital control. Such a project has no place in a free and democratic Europe.

Our objections are clear and fundamental. By compelling providers to implement scanning before or after encryption, the proposal dismantles the very **foundations of Europe’s digital security**. It would leave every European citizen and business more vulnerable to cybercrime, espionage, and authoritarian abuse. Furthermore, it effectively treats all Europeans as potential suspects, thereby eroding the rule of law and the presumption of innocence. The establishment of a permanent infrastructure for mass monitoring is both **disproportionate and dangerous**: once created, it is only a matter of time before it is misused.

It is deeply troubling that the Council is considering taking Europe down such an illiberal path. If adopted, Chat Control would mark a fundamental break with the European tradition of freedom and privacy, opening the door to abuses reminiscent of authoritarian regimes.

We therefore urge you, and all Member States, to **reject this dangerous proposal without delay**. Europe must never sacrifice the rights and freedoms of its citizens under the pretext of security. Child protection is vital, but it cannot and must not be used as a Trojan horse for the installation of digital mass surveillance.

History will not look kindly on those who dismantle encryption and open the gates to a surveillance society. The Council still has the chance to prevent this historic mistake.

Yours sincerely,

Tom J.P. Vandendriessche, Member of the European Parliament
Gerolf Annemans, Member of the European Parliament
Barbara Bonte, Member of the European Parliament
Christine Anderson, Member of the European Parliament

Mathilde Androuët, Member of the European Parliament
Anna Bryłka, Member of the European Parliament
Nikola Bartůšek, Member of the European Parliament
Stephen Nikola Bartulica, Member of the European Parliament
Markus Buchheit, Member of the European Parliament
Jorge Buxadé Villalba, Member of the European Parliament
Jaroslav Bžoch, Member of the European Parliament
Petr Bystron, Member of the European Parliament
Susanna Ceccardi, Member of the European Parliament
Mélanie Disdier, Member of the European Parliament
Elisabeth Dieringer, Member of the European Parliament
Klára Dostálová, Member of the European Parliament
Tomasz Froelich, Member of the European Parliament
Emmanouil Fragkos, Member of the European Parliament
Jean-Paul Garraud, Member of the European Parliament
Geadis Geadí, Member of the European Parliament
Juan Carlos Girauta, Member of the European Parliament
Catherine Griset, Member of the European Parliament
Branko Grims, Member of the European Parliament
Roman Haider, Member of the European Parliament
Virginie Joron, Member of the European Parliament
Marc Jongen, Member of the European Parliament
Alexander Jungbluth, Member of the European Parliament
Erik Kaliňák, Member of the European Parliament
Fernand Kartheiser, Member of the European Parliament
Sarah Knafo, Member of the European Parliament
Ondřej Knotek, Member of the European Parliament
Kateřina Konečná, Member of the European Parliament
Ondřej Krutílek, Member of the European Parliament
Tomáš Kubín, Member of the European Parliament
Julien Leonardelli, Member of the European Parliament
Tiago Moreira de Sá, Member of the European Parliament
Milan Mazurek, Member of the European Parliament
Jana Nagyová, Member of the European Parliament
Aleksandar Nikolić, Member of the European Parliament
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Friedrich Pürner, Member of the European Parliament
Alexander Sell, Member of the European Parliament
Petra Steger, Member of the European Parliament
Dominik Tarczyński, Member of the European Parliament
António Tânger Corrêa, Member of the European Parliament
Georgiana Teodorescu, Member of the European Parliament
Filip Turek, Member of the European Parliament
Milan Uhrík, Member of the European Parliament
Petar Volgin, Member of the European Parliament
Anders Vistisen, Member of the European Parliament
Jorge Martín Frías, Member of the European Parliament