Council of the European Union

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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse - State of play of interinstitutional negotiations and preparation of the next trilogue

1. State of play of the negotiations

Five interinstitutional meetings (ITMs) have taken place so far to discuss Chapter II, Section 6 (Articles 19-24), Chapter III (Articles 25-39) and Chapter IV (Articles 40-82)[1] of the Proposal for a Regulation laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse (CSA Regulation).

[1] Article 42 (seat of the EU Centre) is excluded from the negotiations and Article 43 is going to be redrafted to avoid the duplication of references.

The Presidency informed delegations about the progress of technical negotiations at the meetings of JHA counsellors on 27 January 2026 and 10 February 2026 and received feedback during those meetings and in written consultations.

Taking into account the feedback from delegations, the Presidency aims at reaching provisional agreement with the European Parliament at the sixth ITM taking place on 23 February 2026 on several outstanding lines concerning the abovementioned parts of the proposed Regulation. Some issues have been identified as political and will be considered at the second trilogue on 26 February 2026, while other issues have been put on hold as they are linked to detection or other matters that are to be decided in the context of the discussions of other chapters of the draft Regulation.

The Presidency will inform delegations of the outcome of the sixth ITM taking place on 23 February 2026 orally during the meeting of JHA counsellors on 24 February 2026.

2. Preparation of the trilogue on 26 February 2026

The following points have been included for discussion at the trilogue on 26 February 2026:

1. EU Centre
    a) 'Manifestly' unfounded reports (Art. 45 (Line 646), Art. 46 (Line 657), Art. 48 (Lines 670, 671, 672))
    b) EU Centre searches on own initiative (Art. 49 (Line 684a))
    c) EP representative in the Management Board (Art. 56 (Lines 743,744))
    d) Assessment and dismissal of the Executive Director (Art. 65 (Lines 833, 836))
    e) Fundamental Rights Officer (Art. 55 (Line 740b), Art. 57 (Line 756b), Art. 66b (Lines 848s-848ae))
    f) Executive Board (Art. 55 (Line 738); Art. 61-63 (Lines 775-805)
2. Right to information and assistance (Art. 20 (Lines 411, 412a, 416a) and Art. 21 (Lines 423, 424))
3. Identification and submission of online child sexual abuse by authorities of the Member States (Art. 36 (Lines 562, 563, 565a, 566, 567, 568))

The Presidency invites delegations to indicate any specific concerns regarding the discussion points mentioned above.

3. Next steps

Following the trilogue on 26 February, the Presidency will provide a consolidated table showing the state of play of negotiations. Delegations will be informed about the outcome of the seventh ITM at the meeting of JHA counsellors on 10 March 2026.

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