



Digitaliseringsminister Caroline Stages talepapir

Anledning	Lancering af retningslinjerne til artikel 28 i DSA og pilotfasen ift. den tekniske EU-løsning til aldersverifikation.
Dato / tid	Den 14. juli kl. 16.00-16.30
Sted	Berlaymont-bygningen (EU-Kommissionens hovedkvarter)

Det talte ord gælder

[Introduction]

- Thank you, **Executive Vice-President Virkkunen**. It is a **great pleasure to be here** today.
- It is **hard to imagine a world where kids can enter a store to buy alcohol - or go to a nightclub - by simply stating that they are old enough**. No bouncers, no id-checks – just a simple “yes – I am older than 18”.
- As hard as it is to imagine, this has been **the case online** for many years.

- According to a study done by a Danish civil society organization, an unbelievable **48 percent of children have a profile on social media before the age of 10**. And a **staggering 94 percent have one before they turn 13**.
- **Seven out of 10 Danish minors have declared a false, higher age** in order to access a digital service.
- I believe children **deserve a safe digital childhood**. Without proper age checks and protection, we fail to give them this. It's time to set clear boundaries.

[Guidelines]

- The **guidelines** launched today are an **important milestone**.
- And I want to take this opportunity to **thank Executive Vice-President Virkkunen and her team for taking protection of minors seriously**.
- We are **moving in the right direction** – especially when it comes to the need for **age verification on social media**.
- I will **immediately explore the national scope for setting a minimum age for access to social media** with an aim to be one of the front-runners.

[Mini Wallet and front runner country]

- I am also very **pleased to see the progress on the age verification app.**
- Effective age verification is not a “nice to have”. It’s absolutely essential.
- Age verification not only ensures that children that are **too young cannot access social media** – It also enables tech companies to **secure an age appropriate and safe experience on their platforms.**
- At the same time, we **eliminate the technical excuses from the tech-companies.**

- With the **age verification app** we will have an **effective and privacy preserving technical solution** for age verification available.
- Therefore, I am also very **happy that Denmark is one of the front-runner countries**.
- I know that **my team and yours** [Virkkunen's team] have already been in **close contact** and have had **fruitful – and very technical – discussions** on the design of the age verification app.

- Going forward, I have **high hopes for national age verification apps to become available across the EU**. Not just in the front-runner countries, but across the whole of Europe.
- Together we can **ensure that technology is no excuse for tech-companies** for not having proper age verification online.

[Afslutning – DK formandskab]

- **Protecting minors online is an agenda very close to my heart.** As minister for digital affairs. As a citizen in a digital world. As a parent.
- As presidency for the council, I have **placed protection of minors at the top of the agenda.**
- **I am very pleased with the progress made today** with the guidelines and the age verification app.
- Let's **make the best use of both.** Let's make sure that national age verification apps are made available across the EU.

- **I promise to keep the political momentum going during our Presidency.**
- **Together we can ensure a digital environment with greater safety and security for our children.**
- **No more nightclubs without bouncers.**