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[Press release](#) | 13.12.2021

## **Greens/EFA Group call for EU Directive to put an end to gender-based violence, including cyberviolence**

Today, the European Parliament will debate on combating gender-based cyberviolence. Gender-based cyberviolence is a continuation of offline gender-based violence, which has been increasing with the rapid spread of mobile information and the use of social media. It puts vulnerable people, such as women and LGBTIQ+ persons, particularly at risk. The Greens/EFA Group are calling for a directive to combat all forms of gender-based violence, including cyberviolence.

**Sylwia Spurek MEP**, Greens/EFA Vice Chair of the FEMM Committee and co-rapporteur on the file, comments:

*“Gender-based cyberviolence has a devastating effect on individuals’ dignity and lives. It is part of a continuum of violence and often spills over into the offline world. It particularly affects activists, female journalists and politicians, women and LGBTIQ people. It’s about human rights and democracy.*”

*“While this form of gender-based violence knows no borders, we still lack a common definition at EU-level, leaving victims with varying levels of protection across Member States. The definition of the categories of gender-based cyberviolence also vary across countries, leading to several gaps and differences in the ways in which it is tackled.*”

*“Gender-based cyber violence cannot be tackled without putting an end to offline gender-based violence. The most effective way to end gender-based cyberviolence is to create a directive covering all forms of gender-based violence.”*

### **More:**

Tackling gender-based cyber violence is made more difficult by the lack of a harmonised definition of gender-based cyberviolence at the EU-level. This is why the Members of the European Parliament will debate and vote on recommendations to combat gender-based cyberviolence this week, ahead of the Commission proposal on gender-based violence expected for next year. Watch today's debate [here](#).

The report will be voted on Tuesday.

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## **Responsible MEPs**



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