Strengthening the rules to fight Child Sexual Abuse

Child sexual abuse is a growing and complex problem in our society, both online and offline.

The current EU rules criminalising child sexual abuse are outdated.

This is why the Commission proposed to complement its previous Regulation proposal 2022/209, with one focusing on criminal rules:

- Criminalise new forms of online child sexual abuse and exploitation resulting from technological developments, such as livestreaming of child sexual abuse;
- Allow victims to seek justice by increasing the timeframe for the prosecution of child sexual abuse, ranging from 20-30 years after the offence has been committed depending on the offence;
- Improve prevention and awareness raising measures to protect children against sexual abuse and exploitation;
- Strengthen assistance to child victims and adult survivors;
- Require Member States to establish national authorities to increase coordination and exchange of data among all involved actors.

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