Project led by **Osez le Féminisme** and the **French Coordination for the European Women's Lobby (CLEF)**, together with their European partners



ACTIVITY REPORT

EUROPEAN MOBILISATION AGAINST GENDER-BASED AND SEXUAL CYBERVIOLENCE

Brussels, February 24th and 25th, 2026

OSEZ LE FÉMINISME

La Coordination Française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes

Results summary

The mobilisation organised in Brussels on the 24th and 25th of February 2026 built on the advocacy work initiated in 2025. It enabled a transition from a process of convergence among European organisations to **a coordinated advocacy framework engaging with the European Parliament and the European Commission**. This mobilisation was a major milestone in **strengthening cooperation between civil society organisations**, **building political alliances** and **promoting a coordinated European response to cyberviolence against women and girls.**

2 days of mobilisation and advocacy in Brussels

11 organisations listed in the programme

12 institutional meetings scheduled, including 11 with Members of the European Parliament

7 Members of the European Parliament identified as priority political allies



1 – Background and objectives

In February 2025, Osez le Féminisme and the French Coordination for the European Women's Lobby organised an **international symposium in Strasbourg dedicated to online sexual exploitation and gender-based and sexual cyberviolence**. This event, along with a strategic meeting bringing together European civil society organisations, laid the foundations for a joint transnational mobilisation.

Throughout 2025, this momentum was strengthened through the production of thematic **advocacy briefs,** a **legal research partnership** with Paris Nanterre University, and the implementation of **coordinated advocacy initiatives**.

The February 2026 Brussels mobilisation was part of this ongoing process. Its purpose was to **translate the expertise developed and the partnerships established into concrete political actions targeting European institutions**.

The European legislative timetable made this type of mobilisation particularly important: the entry into the implementation phase of the Digital Services Act (DSA), the rollout of the Artificial Intelligence Act (AI Act), the transposition of European Directive 2024/1385 on combating violence against women and domestic violence, and negotiations concerning the protection of children against online sexual abuse.

Three main objectives guided this mobilisation:

- **Building a sustainable European coalition**, bringing together feminist organisations, child protection associations and organisations with expertise in digital regulation.
- **Strengthening the institutional influence of the European feminist movement**, by mobilising parliamentary channels and establishing dialogue with the European Commission.
- **Establishing a cross-party network of allied MEPs**, who could relay the coalition's demands and help translate them into political and legislative initiatives.

2 — A structured European coalition

— Strategic meeting, February 24th, 2026

The first day was devoted to **consolidating the European partnership, preparing institutional meetings and defining shared priorities**.

The discussions brought together **organisations with complementary areas of expertise**: women's rights advocacy, child protection, victim support, academic research, strategic litigation, reporting of illegal content and the regulation of digital platforms.

The programme notably included the following organisations:

- **Osez le Féminisme** and the **French Coordination for the European Women's Lobby** (France);
- **European Women's Lobby** (Belgium / European Union);
- **Fondation pour l'Enfance**, **Point de Contact** and **Centre Hubertine Auclert** (France);
- **Sexual Exploitation Research Policy Institute,** SERP (Ireland);
- **Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies**, MIGS (Cyprus);
- **Plataforma Portuguesa para os Direitos das Mulheres** (Portugal);
- **Swedish Women's Lobby** (Sweden), which contributed to the preparations but, according to the initial report, did not have a representative present in Brussels.

The mobilisation helped lay **the foundations for a structured collective approach**, including **the pooling of resources and information**, as well as **the development of a shared roadmap**. Partners identified several priorities to ensure the continuity of their work: organising regular meetings, developing joint institutional monitoring tools, coordinating advocacy positions and seeking European funding to ensure the coalition's long-term sustainability.

The goal is not to replace national mobilisations, but to strengthen their impact by developing a common European strategy.

3 — A targeted institutional mobilisation

Meetings with the European Parliament, February 25th, 2026

Parlement européen

The coalition organised **a series of meetings with Members of the European Parliament** (MEPs) and their teams from several political groups.

Preparation for these meetings was based on mapping parliamentary responsibilities, political positions and the areas of expertise of the participating organisations. This enabled the delegations to tailor their interventions to the responsibilities and priorities of each interlocutor.

Discussions notably involved MEPs from **the S&D, Renew Europe, EPP and The Left groups**, as well as members or contacts from the **parliamentary committees** responsible for civil liberties (**LIBE**), women's rights (**FEMM**) and the internal market (**IMCO**).

Among the MEPs listed in the programme and subsequent follow-up were: Evin Incir, Hélène Fritzon, Hanna Gedin, Kathleen Funchion, Emma Fourreau, Ana Catarina Mendes, Cynthia Ní Mhurchú, Paulo do Nascimento Cabral, Rosa Estaràs and Adrián Vázquez Lázara.

The meetings addressed several key advocacy priorities:

- **The responsibility of digital platforms.** The coalition advocated for the effective enforcement of the DSA, particularly regarding the identification, prevention and mitigation of systemic risks associated with online sexual violence.
- **Combating online sexual exploitation.** The organisations highlighted the business models of pornographic platforms, sexual exploitation facilitated by digital platforms and forms of online pimping and procuring.
- **AI-facilitated sexual violence.** Discussions focused on intimate images created without consent, so-called "nudification" tools and questions surrounding the responsibility of companies developing or distributing these technologies.
- **Protecting children online.** The coalition emphasised the urgent need to strengthen European measures to combat child sexual abuse, particularly in the context of negotiations on the CSAM Regulation (Child Sexual Abuse Material).

Beyond raising awareness, the organisations suggested **several forms of involvement to MEPs**, including submitting written questions to the European Commission, requesting hearings, organising parliamentary events, making public interventions and establishing regular cooperation with the coalition.

Meeting with the European Commission, February 25th, 2026

A smaller delegation also met with **representatives of the Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology** (DG CONNECT), particularly the unit responsible for the protection of minors and other societal risks.

This meeting provided an opportunity to initiate dialogue on the implementation of European obligations relating to digital regulation and the practical difficulties faced by victims of cyberviolence.

The mobilisation thus **opened a channel of communication between the coalition and the European Commission** departments responsible for platform accountability.



4 – Outcomes and initial results

Establishment of a network of parliamentary allies

One of the main outcomes of the mobilisation was **the identification of several MEPs who could become long-term political allies**. This work represents an initial strategic mapping exercise, allowing for future targeted advocacy initiatives according to parliamentary committees, political positions and legislative files. The **diversity of political groups** represented is an important achievement in building alliances around the various European legislative texts concerned.

Joint mobilisation on the CSAM Regulation

Following the mobilisation, several European organisations signed **a joint declaration calling for the prevention of a legal vacuum in the detection of child sexual abuse material.** Addressed to members of the LIBE Committee, the declaration highlighted the risks associated with the expiry of the European derogation authorising certain voluntary detection activities, which was then scheduled for April 3rd, 2026.

The declaration called on MEPs to **ensure the swift extension of this temporary framework**, in order to preserve detection capabilities while negotiations on a permanent legislative framework continued. **Twelve organisations signed the declaration**, including Osez le Féminisme, CLEF, MIGS, SERP, Swedish Women's Lobby and several French and Portuguese associations.



5 – Political lessons and challenges

The meetings in Brussels provided a better understanding of the political dynamics currently shaping European digital regulation.

Three major political obstacles were identified.

The polarisation of the debate on protecting children online

Negotiations surrounding the CSAM Regulation are strongly influenced by controversies relating to privacy protection and the surveillance of communications. The coalition must therefore develop legally robust arguments that bring together child protection, the effectiveness of the proposed measures and respect for fundamental rights.

The fragmentation of parliamentary alliances

Positions on digital policy issues do not always follow traditional political divisions. This situation requires the coalition to build alliances tailored to each legislative text and parliamentary committee, in a political context also characterised by the growing influence of the far right.

The instrumentalisation of freedom of expression

Some initiatives designed to strengthen platform accountability and combat online sexual violence are presented by their opponents as infringements on individual freedoms. In response to these arguments, advocacy efforts must clearly demonstrate the nature of the violence concerned, the applicable legal obligations and the safeguards required.



European Parliament Plenary Session in July 2026. Christian Creutz/European Union 2026. EU Parliament sends child abuse bill back to Council.

Conclusion

The European mobilisation organised in Brussels in February 2026 was **an important step forward in building a coordinated European movement against gender-based and sexual cyberviolence**.

Building on the work initiated in Strasbourg in 2025, it allowed for **consolidating partnerships between civil society organisations**, **deepening dialogue with European institutions** and **identifying political allies across several groups within the European Parliament**.

It also demonstrated the participating organisations' **ability to pool their expertise and develop joint responses to evolving European legislation**, particularly regarding the protection of children against online sexual violence.



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