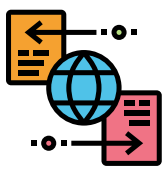
AGE VERIFICATION SYSTEMS

agencia española protección datos

Self-declaration of age to the content provider

Sharing credentials or attributes with the content provider

Age estimation made by the content provider



Third parties as intermediaries between the user and the content provider

These aspects may pose the following

THREATS

LACK OF ADEQUACY
There is no certainty about the verified age.

IDENTIFICATION
The provider could infer the real identity of the user.

NON-REPUDIATION/LINKING OF ACTIVITIES ACROSS DIFFERENT SERVICES
The user cannot deny their activity in one or more services.

DETECTION
A third party (provider or not) can locate minors.

DISCLOSURE, APPROPRIATION OR TRANSFER
Unnecessary data is collected, additional treatments or transfers are carried out.

LOSS OF CONTROL
Lack of transparency concerning the user or lack of control of those who exercise parental authority to make informed decisions.

RISKS FOR RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

LACK OF ADEQUACY:
Risks for the minor's best interest (minors accessing inappropriate content: impacts on mental health, emotional development, etc.) or risks for the right to freedom of communication, information, and expression in adults (limitation of access to adult content)

IDENTIFICATION, NON-REPUDIATION, LINKING OF ACTIVITIES ACROSS DIFFERENT SERVICES:
Risks for the right to honour and privacy (impacts on prestige or reputation); for freedom of communication, information, and expression (self-censorship); for freedom of opinion and participation (manipulation and propaganda), for security and right to work (stigmatization, discrimination)

DETECTION
Risks for minor's best interest (right to security)

DISCLOSURE, APPROPRIATION OR TRANSFER, LOSS OF CONTROL
Risks for the rights related to the GDPR (access, rectification, etc.), risks for the freedom to make informed decisions of those who exercise parental authority

DECALOGUE OF PRINCIPLES

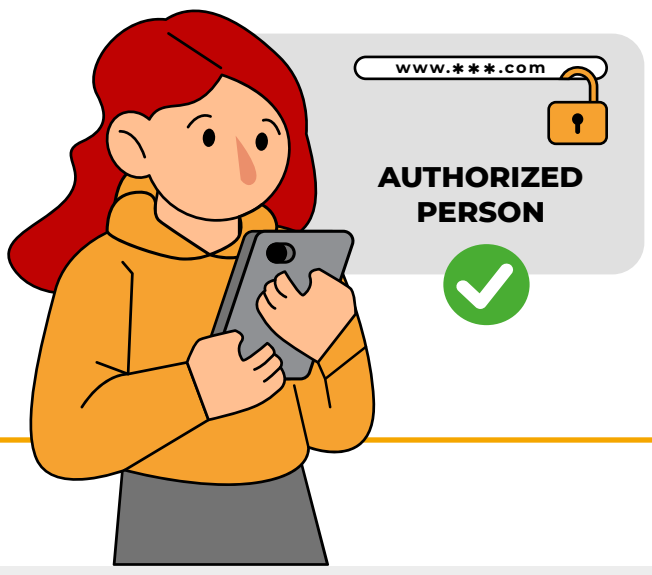
1. The system for protecting minors from inappropriate content must guarantee that the identification, tracking or location of minors over the Internet is impossible.

2. Age verification should be aimed at ensuring that users of the appropriate age prove their condition of person "authorized to access" and not at verifying the status of "minor".

3. Accreditation for access to inappropriate content must be anonymous for Internet service providers and third parties.

4. The obligation to prove the condition of the person "authorized to access" will be limited only to inappropriate content.

5. Age verification must be carried out accurately, and the age categorized as "authorized to access".



6. The system for protecting minors from inappropriate content must ensure that users cannot be profiled based on their browsing.

7. The system must guarantee the non-linking of a user's activity across different services.

8. The system must guarantee the exercise of parental authority by parents.

9. Any system for protecting minors from inappropriate content must guarantee all people's fundamental rights in their Internet access.

10. Any system for protecting minors from inappropriate content must have a defined governance framework.