



4.5. CY – Cyprus⁶⁷

4.5.1. Key findings

The current legislation in Cyprus transposing the Audiovisual Media Services Directive's (AVMSD) rules on VSPs encompasses obligations outlined in Law 197(I)/2021 which amends Radio and Television Stations Law 7(I)/1998. VSPs under the jurisdiction of Cyprus are obliged to protect minors from programmes, user-generated videos and audiovisual commercial communications which may impair their physical, mental or moral development.

As of now, the Radio and Television Act (RTA) has not enacted any specific rules, codes of conduct, or guidance. At the time of writing, the national media regulatory authority, the Cyprus Radio Television Authority (CRTA) had prepared draft regulations specific to VSPs for consultation and had been in direct communication with VSPs in their jurisdiction about taking appropriate measures.

4.5.2. National transposition of Article 28b (1) AVMSD

Title and type of legislation	Key excerpts of legal measures	Link
Radio and Television Stations Law 7(I)/1998 as amended by Law 197(I)/2021, section 32F <i>(Ο περί Ραδιοφωνικών και Τηλεοπτικών Οργανισμών Νόμος του 1998 (7(I)/1998))</i>	(1) Without prejudice to Articles 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the Act on Certain Aspects of the Information Society Services and in particular e-Commerce and Related Matters, video-sharing platform providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall take appropriate measures to protect: (a) minors from programmes, user-generated videos and audiovisual commercial communications which may impair their physical, mental or moral development in accordance with paragraphs (1) to (4) of section 29; ...	Legislation Legislation (unofficial English translation)

⁶⁷ The summary on Cyprus incorporates the feedback received from Constandia Michaelidou, Radiotelevision Legal Officer at the Cyprus Radiotelevision Authority, during the checking round with the national regulatory authorities.



Title and type of legislation	Key excerpts of legal measures	Link
	<p>(8) Measures listed under paragraphs (1), (3), (6) and (7) may include depending on the case,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) including and applying in the terms and conditions of the video-sharing platform services the requirements referred to in paragraph 1;b) including and applying in the terms and conditions of the video-sharing platform services the requirements set out in paragraph 1 of section 30E for audiovisual commercial communications that are not marketed, sold or arranged by the video-sharing platform providers;c) having a functionality for users who upload user-generated videos to declare whether such videos contain audiovisual commercial communications as far as they know or can be reasonably expected to know;d) establishing and operating transparent and user-friendly mechanisms for users of a video-sharing platform to report or flag to the video-sharing platform provider concerned the content referred to in paragraph 1 provided on its platform;e) establishing and operating systems through which video-sharing platform providers explain to users of video-sharing platforms what effect has been given to the reporting and flagging referred to in point (d);f) establishing and operating age verification systems for users of video-sharing platforms with respect to content which may impair the physical, mental or moral development of minors; ...	

4.5.3. Types of measures put in place by VSPs

All of the larger VSPs featured in this report, and this includes many which are not under the jurisdiction of Cyprus but which can be accessed within the territory, have imposed a minimum age requirement of 13, with the exception of Vimeo (16 or above the minimum age required by law), BitChute (18) and Onlyfans (18). Age verification systems mostly require users to indicate their date of birth, without additional verifications, but other solutions include age verification by credit card, by the uploading of photo ID, or the use of



age estimation technology. Various types of parental control measures responding to the specificities of each VSP can be found (blocking and filtering, recording of activities, limiting time of use, viewing history). X (formerly Twitter) and Vimeo have no such measures, despite being accessible to minors. Neither do BitChute or OnlyFans, as they require users to be over 18. All of the larger VSPs featured in this report make use of flagging and reporting mechanisms as well as other content moderation tools. These are detailed in the tables in sections 3.2 and 3.3.

4.5.4. VSPs under the jurisdiction of the national regulatory media authority

Name of service	Genre	Targeted countries ⁶⁸
Faphouse	Adult	Pan-European
Pornhub	Adult	Pan-European
STRIPCHAT	Adult	Pan-European
xHamster	Adult	Pan-European

4.5.5. Measures specific to adult VSPs in general

The most common age verification measures applied by adult VSPs accessible in Cyprus is self-declaration of age.

4.5.6. Additional rules referring especially to influencers

N/A

⁶⁸ Name of service, genre and targeted countries as indicated in the European Audiovisual Observatory's MAVISE database, as accessed in December 2023.