



**An Bille um Chiapadh, Cumarsáid Dhochrach agus Cionta Gaolmhara (Leasú)
(Uimh. 2), 2026**

**Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences (Amendment)
(No. 2) Bill 2026**

Mar a tionscnaíodh

As initiated



**AN BILLE UM CHIAPADH, CUMARSÁID DHOCHRACH AGUS CIONTA
GAOLMHARA (LEASÚ) (UIMH. 2), 2026
HARASSMENT, HARMFUL COMMUNICATIONS AND RELATED OFFENCES
(AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 2026**

Mar a tionscnaíodh

As initiated

CONTENTS

Section

1. Definition
2. Application
3. Amendment of section 1 of Act of 2020
4. Generation of intimate images by computer-graphics
5. Short title, collective citation and construction

ACT REFERRED TO

Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act 2020 (No. 32)



**AN BILLE UM CHIAPADH, CUMARSÁID DHOCHRACH AGUS CIONTA
GAOLMHARA (LEASÚ) (UIMH. 2), 2026
HARASSMENT, HARMFUL COMMUNICATIONS AND RELATED OFFENCES
(AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 2026**

Bill

5

entitled

An Act to amend the law relating to the recording, distribution or publication of intimate images so as to extend its provisions to images that are generated or modified by computer-graphics; for that purpose to amend the Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act 2020; and to provide for related matters.

10

Be it enacted by the Oireachtas as follows:

Definition

1. In this Act, “Act of 2020” means the Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act 2020.

Application

15

2. The amendments to the Act of 2020 effected by this Act do not apply in relation to anything done or omitted to be done before the passing of this Act.

Amendment of section 1 of Act of 2020

3. Section 1 of the Act of 2020 is amended by the substitution of the following for the definition of “intimate image”:

20

“ ‘intimate image’, in relation to a person—

- (a) means any visual representation (including any accompanying sound or document) made by any means including any photographic, film, video or digital representation—

- (i) of what is, or purports to be the person’s genitals, buttocks or anal region and, in the case of a female, her breasts,

25

- (ii) of the underwear covering the person’s genitals, buttocks or anal region and, in the case of a female, her breasts,

- (iii) in which the person is nude, or

- (iv) in which the person is engaged in sexual activity,

30

and

- (b) includes a visual representation that has been generated or modified, by computer-graphics or otherwise, so as to fall within a subparagraph of paragraph (a);”.

Generation of intimate images by computer-graphics

5

4. The Act of 2020 is amended by the insertion of the following section after section 2:

“Generation of intimate images by computer-graphics

2A. (1) A person who—

- (a) by computer-graphics generates an intimate image of another person without the other person’s consent, for the purpose of distributing or publishing the image, or 10
- (b) encourages or knowingly causes or facilitates the generation by computer-graphics of an intimate image of another person for the purpose of its distribution or publication without the other person’s consent, 15

is guilty of an offence.

- (2) Where in a prosecution for an offence under this section it is proved that a person has generated an intimate image of another person using computer-graphics software made available to users by a social media service, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that— 20

- (a) the image was generated for the purpose of distribution or publication, and
- (b) the social media service provider knowingly facilitated the generation of the image for that purpose.

- (3) In this section, ‘social media service’ means a website or software application that permits a person who is a registered user of the service, has an account with the service or creates a profile with the service to— 25

- (a) create, share and view user-generated content on the website or application, 30
- (b) generate content on the website or software application that can be viewed by other users of the service, or
- (c) communicate with other users of the service.

- (4) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section is liable—

- (a) on summary conviction to a class A fine or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or both, or 35
- (b) on conviction on indictment to a fine or imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years, or both.”.

Short title, collective citation and construction

- 5.** (1) This Act may be cited as the Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 2026.
- (2) This Act and the Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act 2020 may be cited together as the Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Acts 2020 and 2026 and shall be construed together as one Act. 5

An Bille um Chiapadh, Cumarsáid
Dhochtach agus Cionta Gaolmhara (Leasú)
(Uimh. 2), 2026

BILLE

(mar a tionscnaíodh)

dá ngairtear

Acht do leasú an dlí a bhaineann le híomhánna dlúthphearsanta a thaifeadadh, a dháileadh nó a fhoilsiú d'fhonn forálacha an dlí a leathnú chun go mbeidh feidhm acu maidir le híomhánna arna nginiúint nó arna modhnú le graificí ríomhaire; chun na críche sin, do leasú an Achta um Chiapadh, Cumarsáid Dhochtach agus Cionta Gaolmhara, 2020; agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

An Teachta Alan Kelly a thug isteach,
4 Feabhra, 2026

Harassment, Harmful Communications and
Related Offences (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill
2026

BILL

(as initiated)

entitled

An Act to amend the law relating to the recording, distribution or publication of intimate images so as to extend its provisions to images that are generated or modified by computer-graphics; for that purpose to amend the Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act 2020; and to provide for related matters.

Introduced by Deputy Alan Kelly,
4th February, 2026

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
ARNA FHOILSIÚ AG OIFIG AN tSOLÁTHAIR
Le ceannach díreach ó
FOILSEACHÁIN RIALTAIS,
BÓTHAR BHAILE UÍ BHEOLÁIN, CILL MHAIGHNEANN,
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 8, D08 XAO6.
Teil: 046 942 3100
r-phost: publications@opw.ie
nó trí aon díoltóir leabhar.

DUBLIN
PUBLISHED BY THE STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased from
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS,
MOUNTSHANNON ROAD, KILMAINHAM,
DUBLIN, D08 XAO6.
Tel: 046 942 3100
Email: publications@opw.ie
or through any bookseller.

€1.27

