

## Europe looks to ban mobile and Wi-Fi in schools

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The **European Council** has produced a report warning about the use of **mobile phones and Wi-Fi** and its harmful effects on children and babies. A committee has prepared a roadmap that includes a prohibition of this type of technology in schools and colleges in Europe, among other proposals.

Studies on the effect of exposure to electromagnetic signals contradict each other. The **World Health Organization** has said that do not pose a risk to people but the European Council has made an investigation in which ensures that there is danger and points to children as the most vulnerable segment.

The data that have made the alarm bells have been obtained from the **European Environment Agency (EEA)**, which ensures that there is a risk to health from exposure to electromagnetic fields. The European Council has cited studies of this agency to justify their fears in a report called '**The potential dangers of electromagnetic fields and their effects on the environment**'.

**"According to the EEA, there is sufficient evidence or scientific evidence levels of harmful biological effects, sufficient to invoke the application of the precautionary principle and of effective, urgent preventive,"** said the Committee for the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs.

The European body said that **"there is sufficient evidence of potentially harmful effects of electromagnetic fields on fauna, flora and human health."** For this reason, the European Council considers necessary "to react and protect the health and environmental risks potentially serious."

In this sense, the European Commission cites several studies indicating that the signals can cause cancer and could affect the developing brains of children. Therefore, the **European Commission will** propose to the member states to take measures relating to the use of mobile phones and Wi-Fi networks.

Among the measures proposed is banning the use of mobile phones and Wi-Fi networks in schools and kindergartens. The Council considers this measure an act of prevention and protection for children.

In addition to the prohibition of these technologies in schools, it has been recommended that set new limits on the levels of exposure to waves emitted by mobile teams. The Council has also included in its proposed labeling system for the devices to be alerted to the existence of electromagnetic emission.

For complete information, we propose **"targeted information campaigns aimed at teachers, parents and children to alert about the specific risks of early use, reckless and prolonged mobile phones and other devices that emit microwave"**.

New plans for population information and new research on the impact of these technologies are other proposals of the continental body, which aims to raise awareness about the consequences of exposure to this type of signals.

The European Council can not force states to abide by these measures, but their proposals are usually well received and often follow their advice.

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