Results of the BIK Policy Mapping 2018

Brian O’Neill
Dublin Institute of Technology

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WHAT DOES THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION DO TO PROMOTE A SAFER INTERNET?

The European Strategy for ‘Better Internet for Kids’ sets out a series of actions for online safety:

1. Coordination at EU level of the Insafe-INHOPE Networks who:
   - Organise in February each year the Safer Internet Day to raise awareness of child online safety across the world.
   - Coordinate Safer Internet Centres in 27 Member States plus Norway and Iceland. Their main task is to raise awareness and foster digital literacy among minors, parents and teachers, regarding risks minors may encounter online and ways to protect them. Safer Internet Centres also offer helpline counselling for minors and hotlines to report illegal content.
   - Provide the platform (www.betterinternetforkids.eu) as a single entry point to online tools and services for EU citizens and the Safer Internet community.

2. Legislation: Several legal measures cover the protection of minors online, such as the eCommerce Directive, the General Data Protection Regulation, the Directive on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) currently under revision.

3. Self-regulation through the Alliance to better protect minors online, a multi-stakeholder initiative gathering over 40 leading ICT and media companies, NGOs, UNICEF, etc. It aims to improve the online environment for children and young people and to address emerging risks that minors face online, such as harmful content and behaviour.
The BIK Policy Map provides an overview of BIK policy making and implementation in EU Member States. Alongside a report, an interactive tool allows for further exploration at national level.
European Strategy for a Better Internet for Children

May 2012: Follow up the Safer Internet Programme

Five main fields of activity or pillars

- Stimulating quality content online for youngsters ✓
- Digital/media literacy in education ✓
- Stepping up awareness & empowerment ✓
- Tools and regulation for an online safe environment ✓
- Legislation and law enforcement against child sexual abuse & exploitation ✓

What are the 5 pillars of the Better Internet for Kids strategy?

www.betterinternetforkids.eu/bikmap
• All 26 countries have addressed BIK in some form
• Gaps remain both in terms of policy governance and in stakeholder participation since the last BIK mapping (2014).
Coordination

- Lack of coordination – just one third report a formal mechanism for BIK policy
- Just 3 report existence of a multi-stakeholder body

In just under 1/3 of countries there is no formal coordination mechanism for BIK policy

In most countries between 4-6 ministries are involved in developing BIK policies

Better Internet for Kids
POLICY MAP:
Focus on policy coordination

www.betterinternetforkids.eu/bikmap
- Lack of an **evidence base**
- **Reactive** policy making
- Policy coherence

Better Internet for Kids
POLICY MAP: Focus on policy design

- Ministries take the lead
- Regular national surveys on BIK-related topics in 5 countries
- In 50% of countries new policy development was influenced by specific events related to kids’ online safety

www.betterinternetforkids.eu/bikmap
• Reliance on the public sector
• Ministries and Safer Internet Centres (SICs) are the lead actors
• Central role of SICs
• Limited children’s involvement
**BIK Activities that have increased in last 3 years**

- Critical thinking and evaluating content for truthfulness, reliability: 69
- Reinforce informal education about online safety: 62
- Support public-private partnerships in online safety: 58
- Provide for online safety policies in schools: 58
- Increased resources for law enforcement bodies that fight against child abuse material online: 58
- Mechanisms for reporting content and contacts that may be harmful for children such as...: 46
- Promote democratic participation and fundamental rights: 46
- Include teaching online safety in schools: 46
- Initiatives to monitor the effective functioning of reporting mechanisms at a national level: 46
- Awareness raising activities regarding age-appropriate privacy settings: 46
- Industry dissemination of awareness material either online or at point of sale: 46
- Initiatives to facilitate cooperation between helplines and law enforcement: 46
- Involvement of children when developing national campaigns: 46
- Activities to promote the adoption of age rating and content classification among relevant...: 39
- Effective safeguards in place to ensure democratic accountability in the use of investigative...: 39
- Support industry in developing codes of conduct regarding inappropriate advertising: 39
- Self-regulatory measures by industry about age-appropriate privacy settings: 39
- Monitor implementation of codes of conduct at the national level: 35
- A complaints process for the effective functioning of such systems: 35
- Initiatives to monitor the effective functioning of reporting mechanisms at a national level: 27
- Involvement of children when developing legislation with an impact on their online activities: 27
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- Involvement of children when developing legislation with an impact on their online activities: 8
What new opportunities and online risks are emerging?

- Development of a “No Hate Speech” National Committee (Austria).
- Creation of a special department within the Ministry of the Interior to analyse “fake news” in cyberspace (Czech Republic).
- Increase in cases of “revenge porn” prompting parliament to legislate to protect individuals against malpractice (Malta).
- IWF (Internet Watch Foundation) granted permission by the UK government to proactively search for images and videos of child sexual abuse (UK).
- Publication of guidelines on the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in 2016 (Italy).
THANK YOU!

For further information, see
www.betterinternetforkids.eu/bikmap
or contact
brian.oneill@dit.ie
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- Under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), EUN Partnership aisbl develops and maintains – on behalf of the European Commission – a Better Internet for Kids (BIK) core service platform to share resources, services and practices between national providers of the services – the European Safer Internet Centres (SICs) – and to provide services to their users, including industry.

- As part of this contract, the Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) was subcontracted by European Schoolnet to carry out the BIK Policy Map study. Please refer back to the BIK platform in any subsequent uses of this presentation - www.betterinternetforkids.eu/bikmap.