Children’s Rights in the Digital Environment
Strategy on the Rights of the Child (2016-2021)

Growing up in a digital world

Exposure to new opportunities:
- Freedom of expression, participation, education, play, assembly and association.

Exposure to harmful content:
- Privacy concerns, data protection, online sexual exploitation and abuse,
Children’s Views: It’s Our World

Equal rights

Independent leisure = ability to play safely

Privacy = data protection and protection from commercial exploitation (adverts, profiling)

Education: mainstream and include critical thinking

Protection = inform children of remedies, make platform providers responsible and increase self-help, peer support and parental controls

Adapt Terms and Conditions to the child’s age so they can understand what they are agreeing to

https://rm.coe.int/1680765dff
Gaps identified

- Privacy discussed in abstract terms
- Provision rights largely absent from policy documents
- The child’s right to participation largely ignored
- Lack of relevant case law
- Short term initiatives
- Lack of co-ordinated approach at policy level

Background report
Guidelines to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child in the digital environment

CM/Rec 2018/7

Best interests of the child

Fundamental principles and rights

Evolving capacities

Non-discrimination

Right to be heard

Engage other stakeholders
Balancing rights

Data Protection
Privacy

Freedom of Expression and Access to information
Measures Regarding Child Sexual Abuse Material

Prevent

Protect

Assist
End Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse @ Europe

- International Cooperation key to enhance investigation and prosecution
- Harmonise standards
- Mainstream children’s rights
- Victim focus/ child-friendly investigations
End Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse @ Europe

**Policy**
- Review legislation
- Enhance cooperation
- Implement standards

**Capacity**
- Investigate
- Prosecute
- Victim focused

**Prevention**
- Risks and causes
- Multi-stakeholder response to combat
Thanks

naomi.trewinnard@coe.int

www.coe.int/children