

Global Alliance Against Child Sexual Abuse Online – 2014 Reporting Form

ROMANIA

Policy Target No. 1

Enhancing efforts to identify victims and ensuring that they receive the necessary assistance, support and protection.

Operational Goal: Increase the number of identified victims in the International Child Sexual Exploitation images database (ICSE database) managed by INTERPOL by at least 10% yearly.

A) *Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report*

Romania committed to improve the procedures for investigating Online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE) cases and victim/suspect ID. This objective was assumed by the Countering Organized Criminality Directorate (COCD), within the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), and from 2013 is ongoing. Also, COCD works together with prosecutors specialized in investigating cybercrimes from the Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism of the Romanian Public Prosecutor's Office.

As mention in the 2013 report, in 2008, the non-governmental organization Save the Children, won the action for the project **Sigur.info** (as part of Safer Internet Plus), having as partners Positive Media and the Romanian Centre for Missing and Exploited Children – FOCUS.

This project is a multi-annual program sustained by the European Commission, which aligns Active National Centres throughout the EU, with the overall purpose of promoting a safer use of Internet and new online technologies by children. The overall objective of the **Saferinternet** project is to promote Internet safety for children by developing and combining awareness activities, with a Hotline and a Helpline. Therefore, two contact points were developed, one for reporting (the Hotline), and one for counselling (the Helpline).

Also, the project aims to provide teachers, parents and child protection specialists, the necessary knowledge and tools in order to protect the children in the new technological environment.

Another objective of this programme is to combat illegal or harmful content and Internet-

related offences (child pornography, abusers' grooming), but also to influence the decision making process by bringing together key stake-holders in order to develop and implement accurate policies.

At national level, this project is developed by a Consortium of two non-governmental organizations and one company with extensive expertise in areas directly connected to children's rights, to child protection and to the current technologies which might call for special preventive measures.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

In order to pursue the shared policy target and to increase the number of identified victims in the International Child Sexual Exploitation images database (ICSE database) managed by INTERPOL, the Countering Organized Criminality Directorate (COCD) assigned 1 more police officer in order to investigate online child sexual exploitation cases, supported Interpol's initiative to create the Baseline database in order to cooperate with the private sector and to achieve operational goal 4-1, and furthermore initiated the procedures to create a national database of Child Exploitation Material (CEM) resulted in the investigations conducted in OCSE cases.

The new *Hotline*, developed thru the *SaferInternet Project*, is a highly effective mechanism that contributes in the identification of persons who posted the material on internet and then the victims. This is a reporting tool that takes a preliminary assessment of the materials reported and then redirects the case to the proper authority. Thus, according to the Romanian Centre for Missing and Sexually Exploited Children – FOCUS, in three years (2011-2014), over 940 cases of child abuse materials were reported. Also, the number of pornographic material depicting minors reported to the Romanian Hotline has increased from 78 in 2011, to 265 in 2013.

Also, from the statistical data centralised by the Public Ministry related to the cases, the defendants and the victims of crimes in the field of child pornography, in 2013, have been registered 2 cases of referral to court for the child pornography, regarding 6 defendants and 3 victims, where as in the year 2012 have been registered 4 cases of referral to court, with 6 defendants and 7 victims, thus, resulting a reduced casuistry in this matter.

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up

In order to fulfill the established objectives, the COCD, in cooperation with Interpol, will organize trainings for more Romanian investigators in order to become ICSE users. Also, the COCD will improve the procedures for investigating CPC cases and victim/suspect

ID - on a regular basis.

All the schools will continue offering assistance and support to students, their families and teachers by counselling them both in prevention and intervention to address child sexual abuse online. This is has been done at school level as well as by the Centres for Psycho - Pedagogical and Educational Assistance.

Policy Target No. 2

Enhancing efforts to investigate cases of child sexual abuse online and to identify and prosecute offenders.

Operational Goal: Establish the necessary framework for the criminalization of child sexual abuse online and the effective prosecution of offenders, with the objective of enhancing efforts to investigate and prosecute offenders.

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

As far as the criminal legislation is concerned, the following should be mentioned: during 2013, several pieces of legislation were adopted, as follows:

- Law no. 255/2013 for the implementation of Law no. 135/2010 on criminal procedure code
- Law no. 252/2013 on the organization and functioning of the probation system
- Law no. 253/2013 on serving the non-custodial penalties, educational measures and other measures ordered by the judicial bodies during criminal proceedings.
- Law no. 254/2013 on serving the custodial penalties and measures ordered by the judicial bodies during criminal proceedings.

As of February 1st 2014, all pieces of criminal legislation are in force and therefore, the perpetrators can be prosecuted for the offences provided under Law no. 286/2009.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

The national legislation has incriminated the child pornography by several normative acts.

Thus, pursuant to art. 18 par. 1 of Law no. 678/2001, the deed of exposing, selling or disseminating, of renting, distributing, manufacturing or producing in another way, of offering or making available or of possessing with the intent of disseminating of objects, movies, photographs, slides, logos or other visual material, that display sexual conduct or postures with pornographic character involving minors aged less than 18 years, constitutes the crime of child pornography and is punished with imprisonment between 3 and 10 years. The same punishment is applied for the import or delivering of objects such as the previous mentioned to a carrier or to a distributor for the purpose of their

selling or distributing (art. 18 par.2 of the law).

Also, according to art. 51 par. 1 of the Law no. 161/2003, it has constituted a crime and was punished with imprisonment between 3 and 12 years and forbidding of some rights, the production in view of disseminating, offer or making available, dissemination or transmission, procurement for himself or for another of pornographic material involving minors, through a computer system, or the possession, without right, of pornographic materials involving minors on a computer system or on another mean for storage of computer – data.

Both legal texts have been abrogated on 1 February 2014 by the Law no. 187/2012 for entering into force of Law no. 286/2009 regarding the Criminal Code.

Starting with 1st of February 2014, the new Criminal Code foresees, at art. 374, the offence of child pornography with the following wording:

“The production, possession in view of exposing or disseminating, the acquisition, storage, exposure, promotion, distribution, as well as making available, in any way, of pornographic material involving minors, are punished with imprisonment between one and 5 years” (par. 1).

“If the deeds foreseen in par. (1) have been committed through a computer or another storage mean for cyber-data, the punishment is imprisonment between 2 and 7 years” (par. 2).

“Accessing pornographic materials involving children, through computers or another means of electronic communication without right is punished with imprisonment between 3 months and 3 years or with a fine” (par. 3).

Also, art. 222 of the Criminal Code represents a legislative novelty, incriminating “The recruitment of minors for sexual purposes”, consisting in “the deed of the major person to propose to a minor, aged less than 13 years, to meet in view of committing an act of those foreseen at art. 220 or art. 221, including when the proposal has been made by means of remote transmission...” (imprisonment between 1 month and 1 year or fine).

Art. 220 and 221 incriminate the *sexual intercourses and any other sexual conduct committed against a minor or in his presence*.

Furthermore, another legislative novelty, which has been implemented by entering into force on 1 February 2014 of the Criminal Code, refers to the introduction in art. 154 par. 4 of the provision, according to which “In the case of crimes against the freedom and the sexual integrity, perpetrated against a minor, the limitation period begins to run from the day on which he became major. If the minor died before reaching adulthood, the prescription period begins to run from the day of death”.

Regarding the protection of victims of child pornography, **Law no. 678/2001**, institutes a

protection regime for them. In this respect, the court hearings in the cases regarding offences of child pornography are not public. The parties, their representatives, the lawyers, the representatives of the National Agency against Trafficking of Human Beings, as well as other persons, whose presence is considered as necessary by the court can attend at the hearings (art. 24 par. 1 of the law).

These protection measures for the victims of child pornography are completed with those foreseen by **Law no. 211/2004** regarding some measures for the assuring of protection of crime victims. According to the provisions of law mentioned previously, the victims of crimes have the right to be informed about their free procedural rights or the financial compensations made by the state, the right to psychological counselling.

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up

Operational Goal: Improve the joint efforts of law enforcement authorities across Global Alliance countries to investigate and prosecute child sexual abuse online.

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

At European level, Romania represented by the Ministry for Information Society (MIS), participated in the Safer Internet Programme Management Committee, coordinated by the European Commission.

At the national level, the MIS is member of the Safer Internet Romania Advisory Board, in order to identify and support the best actions for developing public awareness campaigns or other measures.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up

Since the Safer Internet Programme ended in 2013, MIS is willing to continue its involvement within the new established initiative – CEF Telecom Safer Internet which will run through Connecting European Facility (2014-2020).

Policy Target No. 3

Enhancing efforts to increase public awareness of the risks posed by children's activities online, including grooming and self-production of images that results in the production of new child pornography that may be distributed online.

Operational Goal: Develop, improve, or support appropriate public awareness campaigns or other measures which educate parents, children, and others responsible for children regarding the risks that children's online conduct poses and the steps they can take to minimize those risks.

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

In February 2014, in Romania, was organized Safer Internet Day within the project Safer Internet, under the "INSAFE" - European Safer Internet Network, European Commission Safer Internet Plus programme.

On this occasion, a national contest addressed to children, parents and teachers was organized. The Youth Panel promoted the activity and organized different educational activities in partnership with schools, school inspectorates, libraries, the National Authority against Trafficking, local/national media, industry and representatives of the local community.

In order to educate parents, children, and the community on the steps they can take to reduce the risks children are supposed to, there were organized workshops involving students, teenagers and parents. The events captured the highest media attention in order to better disseminate the information and make the public aware on the danger children can be faced in using internet without being trained on how to protect themselves.

Within the **project Safe Internet:**

- Counselling and information centre Internet Helpline (www.helpline.sigur.info) is available addressing to children and the public in order to learn about the risks of internet and about the ways they can protect themselves and the others;
- There were organized tours in upper secondary schools in Bucharest and other five cities from Romania, in order to create a safer on line medium by promoting the concepts regarding safety on internet and measures to be taken in this respect. Public personalities well known and beloved by the students were invited to be the Safe Internet ambassadors, Those got involved in informal discussion with the students, offering examples and solutions to prevent and address potential danger. The feedback of the tours was a very positive one.

Also, The Romanian Centre for Missing and Sexually Exploited Children – FOCUS,

operating in Romania the Internet Hotline Safernet.ro, developed and implemented the following activities, aimed to raise awareness regarding the on-line risks for children among general public and specifically among parents:

- a **TV spot** was produced, by adapting an INHOPE's TV spot, and was pro-bono broadcasted in Romania. There were 9 TV stations that accepted the broadcast (news, nature & science, sports, women's, movies), among which Romanian National TV, Discovery, AXN White, AXN Black, TCM.
- a **viral campaign** was launched to mark the *2014 Safer Internet Day*, based on the video spot "What did you use to do when you were 7 years old?" The idea of the spot is the following: We invited the public to remember what they used to do when they were 7 and 11 years in the '80s (e.g. playing hopscotch), '90s (e.g. watching Dallas) and early 2000s (e.g. listening to the first Romanian dance music bands) and making an analogy with the risks the children are exposed nowadays. We chose this idea, on one side, because people love to be reminded of their childhood, and, on the other hand, because we believe the effect produced by the comparison between the 80s – 90s – early 2000s childhood and the nowadays childhood is an efficient way to convey the message to the public. The video spot was posted on Safernet's YouTube channel, and was promoted through an online banner campaign and on Facebook, with posts and Facebook Ads (see below). Until the end of May 2014, the spot gathered over 6,500 views.
- An **on-line banner campaign** was also developed and implemented. We used visual elements from the viral spot and launched the challenge "Do you remember what you used to do when you were 7 years old?". 61 websites from various categories – men's, women's, teenagers', websites of daily newspapers, news agencies etc., accepted to post the banners for free.
- The **Facebook page** developed by the Hotline was regularly updated and a **second FB contest** with questions for parents regarding the on-line safety of their children was organised and implemented on the 2014 Safer Internet Day.
- The 3 video-tutorials and the radio-spot are currently under development.

As announced in the previous report, Save the Children, as coordinator of the SaferInternet Project in Romania, had proposed two actions in addition to the previous actions (2008-2013) stated in the reporting form :

1. Developing a Resource guide for schools to be used in classrooms.

After a work of three years developing the theoretical content, the Sigur.Info team launched, on Safer Internet Day 2014, the **School Guide on Safer Internet**, in a Press Conference which reunited the main supporters of the Safer Internet Center.

The purpose of this guide is to provide teachers and adults who want to work with children and youth on the topic of Internet safety easy to understand theoretical

resources, reinforced by practical applications that do not require the use of computers and advanced technologies.

After discussions with Ministry of Education officials, we have decided that in the 2014-2015 school year we will organize a series of "training of trainers" courses in each county of Romania to present to teachers how the guide should be used for the best results. Online lesson plans to be uploaded on the projects' website to be tested by the teachers. The resource consists of 180 pages structured in eight chapters

2. Meetings with authorities.

During the 2012-2014 timeframe, the Romanian Safer Internet Consortium has organised several meetings with the participation of public and private institutions:

General Advisory Board Assembly meeting – 25th March 2014

General Advisory Board Assembly meeting – 10th of December 2013

General Advisory Board Assembly meeting – 27th June 2013

General Advisory Board Assembly – 14th of July 2013.

During the meetings we have discussed major topics for the project strategy such as: Safer Internet Day preparation, Helpline Visibility, Ensuring Dissemination and reach of School Guide on Safer Internet, Enhancing collaboration between ISP's, Authorities and Child Rights' Organisations.

Also, another institution involved in increasing public awareness of the risks posed by children's activities is the Ministry for Information Society (MIS), according to the Government Decision no 548/2013, in performing its functions. Thus, the MIS meets also the following tasks: promotion and development of electronic communications services via Internet and supervision and enforcement of legal provisions in the field of electronic commerce, as regulatory and supervisory authority in accordance with Law no. 365/2002 on electronic commerce.

In this capacity, the MIS will support any initiative in order to increase public awareness of the risks posed by children' activities online, including grooming and self-production of images that results in the production of new child pornography that may be distributed online.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

During 2008-2014, in the course of the Safer Internet Plus Programme in Romania, Awareness activities have been concluded in the following awareness indicators:

Three Tv spots (European , national and *Where is Klaus*) broadcasted more than 8000 times on 20 national stations **TVR, Romantica, Realitatea, Universa,l Zone Reality, MGM, Sport 1, Dolce – Info, Dolce – Sport, AXN - Sci-Fi, AXN – Crime, NG Wild,**

Acasa, Kanal D, Prima TV, Discovery, National TV, N24Plus, Favorit) gathering more than 32.000.000 TV receivers.

Three outdoor banner campaigns – 150 displayed on public transportation in Bucharest, 76 city-lights and posters in fourteen big cities of the country.

Online versions of the spots viewed more than 150,000 times.

Four types of brochure containing 10 advices on online safety for children, teenagers, parents and teachers -

50,000 distributed during the informative sessions in schools, the outdoor campaigns and Sigur.info Caravan

2000 Press kits, **800** T-shirts, **50** Mouse pads, **500** USBs, **200** Carrier bags, 300 annual reports,

One Internet Safety Kit for teachers – 1000 distributed at an Educational Fair and during informative sessions.

One School Guide for Teachers

31 press releases and more than **600** articles (online, offline, TV, radio)

More than **300** online partners displaying our banners – 50 being official websites of schools, high schools and inspectorates.

48 training sessions for youth panelists held in Bucharest, Timisoara, Iasi, Oradea, Targu Neamt, Craiova, Arad, Constanta, Valcea, Ploiesti, Brasov, Galati, Fetesti, Suceava.

969 trained volunteers

Database with **4000** schools and high schools informed about Sigur.info activities

Over 100.000 children and Teenagers informed directly in schools.

21.500 adults informed during the outdoor campaigns

MIS has promoted **sigur.info** programme and the first school guide made by “*Salvati Copiii*” through its own website, aiming at raising the awareness among children and parents regarding the safe use of internet.

Also, the Ministry for Information Society has been involved during the judging stage of the national Safer Internet competition for children.

C) *Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up*

CONCRETE MEASURES:

Save the Children organization, together with the Ministry of Education officials, have decided that in the 2014-2015 school year will organize a **series of "training of trainers" courses** in each county of Romania to present to teachers how the School Guide on Safer Internet should be used for the best results. Also, teachers of different courses, that are the classes' headmasters, will be encouraged to talk about the safe use of internet. Online lessons plan to be uploaded on the projects' website to be tested by the teachers. The resource consists of 180 pages structured in eight chapters

Moreover, the Awareness Campaign developed by the SaferInternet Center will continue, focused on involving schools, teachers and parents, in order to ultimately reach children and youngsters. Special focus will be dedicated to online MOOC's (or e-learning platforms) which will be aimed primary at adults (mainly parents) for enriching them with relevant knowledge.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES – still pending

- **Project of Government Decision** for the extension of National Steering Committee on prevention and combat of child labour to include all forms of violence against children and domestic violence. National Steering Committee is an inter-ministerial and inter-institutional group, under the Ministry of Labour, which coordinates the activity in this field.

- **Project of order of Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Protection and Elderly (MLFSPE)** for the approval of an unitary set of instruments for monitoring the cases of violence against children and domestic violence.

As the actions undertook till now proved the fact that communication, cooperation and large partnerships have a positive influence on children concerning their use of internet and new technologies as well as on their education, we shall strengthen the partnership to develop resources available for children, parents and teachers in order to prevent children falling victims.

Operational Goal: Share best practices among Global Alliance countries for effective strategies to inform the public about the risks posed by online, self-exploitative conduct in order to reduce the production of new child pornography.

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

The Safer Internet Consortium has participated at a number of Insafe meetings and trainings as follows:

- 26/09/2012-28/09/2012: Budapest Training Meeting, two Safer Internet Representatives
- 15/05/2012-16/05/2012 Cyprus Insafe conference, two Safer Internet Representatives
- 27/03/2012-28/03/2012 Sofia Training Meeting, two Safer Internet Representatives
- 11/09/2013-13/09/2013 Malta Training Meeting, Two Safer Internet Representatives
- 12/03/2013-14/03/2013 Tallinn Training Meeting, Two Safer Internet Representatives
- 18/03/2014-20/03/2014 Bratislava Training meeting, one Safer Internet Representative

The Romanian SaferInternet programme also participated at contribution to European Network with articles on saferinternet.org community. We sent 4 articles :

- Saferpedia reached 1000 terms
- RESPLS! campaign in Romania
- SID 2013 in retrospective
- Summer School 2013

In order to improve the lobby and advocacy power at national and european level, Save the Children, as coordinator, is also a member of the European NGO Alliance for Child Safety Online (ENACSO) and has participated to the online and face to face meetings. There have been two participations in members' meeting in February 2013 and November 2013.

The Republic of Moldova had been included in our Safer Internet Center's activities since the previous project, with one visit in November 2011 for promoting the message and encouraging local stakeholders to take on the role of disseminating Safer Internet materials. In this contractual period, we have facilitated contacts in Romania and helped in organizing one conference, by "La strada" Organization in Republic of Moldova. Also, we have redirected two cases received on the Helpline (from Adults) to the

Moldavian Organizations which concerned the issues raised (personal data and bullying).

Between 23-25th of September 2013, the Romanian Safer Internet Center has hosted a working visit from the Serbian Safer Internet Center, namely four representatives from the Serbian Ministry of Interior and B92 Organization. The meeting's purpose was to present the Romanian Center's best practices in all project components: Hotline, Helpline, and Awareness. The meeting was hosted by representative from all the Consortium's organizations

C) *Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up*

As a future applicant for the Safer Internet Programme 2015-2016, Save the children Romania will continue to supply and support awareness material development and sharing with other countries.

Policy Target No. 4

Reducing as much as possible the availability of child pornography online and reducing as much as possible the re-victimization of children whose sexual abuse is depicted.

Operational Goal: Encourage participation by the private sector in identifying and removing known child pornography material located in the relevant State, including increasing as much as possible the volume of system data examined for child pornography images.

A) *Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report*

As foreseen in the 2013 Report, the Romanian Centre for Missing and Sexually Exploited Children – FOCUS, organised a workshop for professionals (social workers) from public and private sector, presenting the work and role of the Hotline and underlining their role in reporting Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) in order to reduce their availability and the re-victimization of children. The national conference foreseen to be organised at the end of the project was postponed, due to the extension of project implementation period until December 2014, in order to summarize all the activities of the project that will be carried out.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up

Operational Goal: Increase the speed of notice and takedown procedures as much as possible without jeopardizing criminal investigation.

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

C) Please indicate specific actions that will be undertaken as a follow-up

The Ministry of Informational Society, as regulatory and supervisory authority in accordance with Law no. 365/2002 on electronic commerce, will support any legal initiative to facilitate the reduction as much as possible of the availability of child pornography online.