

Global Alliance against Child Sexual Abuse Online

Cyprus

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
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
Actions ALREADY UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions <u>already undertaken</u>	<p>The Cyprus Police has improved, developed and supported protocols and standard procedures to identify victims through the International Child Sexual Exploitation Database managed by Interpol. It also contributes with images to the ICSE database.</p> <p>The Cyprus Police has a close cooperation and coordination with many other law enforcement agencies worldwide through existing communication channels.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Cyprus Police contributes to Europol's victim identification efforts, by participating to AWFs (Cyborg and Twins) and EC3.</p>
Actions that WILL BE UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions that <u>will be undertaken and timeframe</u>	As regards the development and improvement of procedures regarding the provision of services to identified victims, the competent authorities of the Republic of Cyprus (RoC) have begun consultations on the transposition of Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA.

Policy target No. 2: Enhancing efforts to investigate cases of child sexual abuse online and to identify and prosecute offenders

Operational Goal:	Improve the joint efforts of law enforcement authorities across Global Alliance countries to investigate and prosecute child sexual abuse 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
Actions ALREADY UNDERTAKEN	
<i>Description of the actions <u>already undertaken</u></i>	<p>The RoC has established the necessary legislative framework for the criminalization of child sexual abuse online by adopting the necessary legal instruments, including criminalization of all forms of online sexual abuse offences (including the possession of child pornography).</p> <p>The Cyprus Police has set up the Cyber Crime Unit, which is responsible for investigating all cyber related crimes including child sexual abuse. The Cyber Crime Unit works in close cooperation with other international and European law enforcement agencies and ensures adequate training to all members of the unit. Some of the members of the Cyber Crime Unit are trainers to other international and European law enforcement agencies. The Cyber Crime Unit uses various effective investigative tools for the investigation of such cases. There is a close cooperation with domestic private sector organisations, such as "Cyber Ethics".</p> <p>Lastly, it should be mentioned that the Ministry of Justice and Public Order is currently in the process of developing the national Cyber Crime Strategy. In this respect, consultations with all competent authorities are taking place.</p>
Actions that WILL BE UNDERTAKEN	
<i>Description of the actions that <u>will be undertaken and timeframe</u></i>	<p>The Cyprus Police plans to launch an awareness campaign and training programs for prosecutors and judges of the Republic of Cyprus, concerning child sexual abuse crimes and the trends of such crimes on a European and international level. There are constant efforts to secure more effective investigatory tools for the facilitation of the investigation of such crimes.</p> <p>When gaps are identified in the relevant legislation, which hinder the effective investigation of offences by the Cyprus Police or mutual international cooperation in this field, the Cyprus Police and Ministry of Justice and Public Order with the aid of the Law Office of the Republic, address the issue by submitting proposals to the House of Representatives for amendments to relevant legislation.</p> <p>Furthermore, the competent authorities of the RoC are currently engaged in the transposition of Directive 2011/93/EU.</p>

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

<p>Operational Goal:</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Actions ALREADY UNDERTAKEN</p>	
<p><i>Description of the actions already undertaken</i></p>	<p>The Cyprus Police has developed public awareness material in order to inform the public about the risks posed online. It is especially addressed to parents, teachers and children. The material is also available in the English language.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Cyber Crime Unit of the Cyprus Police visits on a regular basis schools (elementary and high schools) in order to inform the students about the dangers posed by the internet and to give them guidelines on how to use it in a safe way.</p> <p>Also the Cyber Crime Unit informs the public about the risks of using the internet, through media, by taking part in TV and radio programs or through articles in the press.</p> <p>Also interagency seminars are frequently organized on cyber threats and safe use of the Internet, which are open to the public.</p> <p>Lastly, the Cybercrime Unit gives lectures to government officers and recruits of the Cyprus Police on the risks posed by the internet and how to handle suspicious incidents.</p>
<p>Actions that WILL BE UNDERTAKEN</p>	
<p><i>Description of the actions that will be undertaken and timeframe</i></p>	<p>The RoC is willing to contribute to the development of a common public awareness material, in order to inform the citizens of the global alliance countries, about the risks posed online.</p>

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.
Operational Goal:	Increase the speed of notice and takedown procedures as much as possible without jeopardizing criminal investigation
Actions ALREADY UNDERTAKEN	
<i>Description of the actions already undertaken</i>	There is no provision in the legislation to force private sectors/ISP providers to identify and eliminate known child pornography images. However, at least one ISP in Cyprus implements an identification system of CP material online, which blocks the access to such material.
Actions that WILL BE UNDERTAKEN	
<i>Description of the actions that will be undertaken and timeframe</i>	<p>The ROC is currently setting up a cyber-crime platform, through which citizens will be able to report to the police if harmful material is posted online.</p> <p>This platform is expected to be fully operational by summer 2013, so that the public will be able to report all kinds of complaints regarding cybercrime.</p> <p>The RoC is also in consultation on the development of new legislation and / or amendments to the existing legislation, so that “Notice and Take Down” orders can be issued for known child pornography Images / material.</p> <p>In case of difficulties in adopting and / or implementing the above mentioned legislative measures, the signing of agreements with ISPs could be considered in order to achieve the same goal.</p>