

Report – EU Internet Forum Senior Officials Meeting, 12 December 2024

Ahead of a new policy and legislative cycle, the objective of the meeting was to take stock of the work done and achievements of the EU Internet Forum since its creation in 2015. It was also intended to gather views on the direction, scope - including possible extension- and future priorities to address existing and emerging online harms.

The discussions highlighted the added value of the EU Internet Forum as unique platform to bring together Member States, their law enforcement agencies, tech industry and civil society organisations to exchange on latest threats and joint responses. Members exchanged about priority areas and concrete proposals for a restructuring of EUIF formats. Members also discussed the terrorist and violent extremist threat landscape, including reference to the situation in the Middle East and Syria. The emerging trend of online recruitment of youngsters for organised crime gangs was also discussed with concrete ideas for next steps.

It was agreed to restructure the working arrangements of the EU Internet Forum, by focusing on expert topical meetings, one in-person Senior Officials Meeting and one Ministerial per year. In addition, it was agreed to expand the scope to migrant smuggling online and to organise a technical meeting with selected companies on this topic in 2025.

The next technical meeting on risks and opportunities of generative AI for child sexual abuse and terrorist and violent extremist purposes will take place on 23 January 2025 (hybrid).

The Commission will prepare a proposal for a revised EU Internet Forum format and activities for 2025. EUIF members will be consulted on both proposals early next year.