



## <children, risk and safety on the internet>

Research and policy challenges in comparative perspective

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## EU Kids Online seeks to enhance knowledge of European children's use, risk and safety online

### Released this week

**Major new report:** Meaning of online problematic situations: results of a major new qualitative cross-cultural investigation in nine European countries:

- [Press release](#): Children are influenced by sensationalist media.
- Interviews show that younger children's awareness of online risks reflects the concerns of the media and parents, while older children draw more on personal and peer experiences.
- Children report encountering violent, vulgar or sexual content; perpetrating or witnessing hateful, vulgar or nasty messages; being killed, cursed or excluded in online games; sending inappropriate "friend" requests and communicating with older/adult strangers.
- The report also reveals a diverse set of ways in which children try to cope with online risk of harm.
- Though many parents try to help, children find some parental accounts of what's 'bad' online more confusing than helpful.

EU Kids Online has contributed to mapping media education policy and practice around Europe:

- 29 country [reports](#) make generally dismal reading, showing uneven or lapsed support for children's media education in the digital age.
- On 28<sup>th</sup> May, UNESCO offered in-principle support to a [Declaration](#) on 'Augmented Media and Information Literacies' internationally.

### Recently announced

**Report:** Policy influences and country clusters: a comparative analysis of internet safety policy and implementation:

- Reveals a divide between parts of Europe that enjoy better or lesser public support for internet safety.
- Finds that 'Unprotected networkers' and 'Semi-supported risky networkers' country clusters

display uneven commitments, with lower levels of investment, coordination and public sector involvement.

- Recommends that support for a broad and coordinated spectrum of activities involving multiple stakeholders and using diverse methods is vital.

[Presentation](#) to the ICT Coalition, Brussels:

- Rise in cyberbullying, especially for girls, though offline bullying is still greater
- A rise in exposure to negative user-generated content
- A rise in the percentage who self-report exposure to harmful experiences online
- Overall decline in digital safety skills among youth

[Book](#): Towards a Better Internet for Children: Policy pillars, players and paradoxes.

[TEDx Talk](#): How children engage with the internet.

[Presentation](#) to an EC workshop on parental controls.

[European evidence database](#), [report](#) on available research and methodological [FAQs](#) are all recently updated.

### Further information

The EU Kids Online network is busy in its [33 countries](#) analysing our [survey](#) results and qualitative interviews with children about the changing online environment.

Visit [www.eukidsonline.net](http://www.eukidsonline.net) for links to all our reports and project information. Please join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and [email us](#) for updates.

Do pass on this message to others interested in our work.

The EU Kids Online network  
<http://www.eukidsonline.net>

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