A Digital Decade for children and youth: BIK+ to protect, empower and respect!

Thursday, 27 October 2022
(hybrid format – Brussels, Belgium and online)
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The Safer Internet Forum (SIF) is a key annual international conference in Europe where policy makers, researchers, law enforcement bodies, youth, parents and carers, teachers, NGOs, industry representatives, experts and other relevant actors come together to discuss the latest trends, opportunities, risks and solutions related to child online safety and making the internet a better place.

This year’s edition will take place in a hybrid format in Brussels, Belgium and online on Thursday, 27 October 2022 with a theme of **A Digital Decade for children and youth: BIK+ to protect, empower and respect!**

In May 2022, the European Commission published its new European strategy for a better internet for kids (BIK+). The updated BIK+ strategy is the digital arm of the rights of the child strategy and reflects the recently proposed digital principle that ‘Children and young people should be protected and empowered online’. It takes into account the European Parliament Resolution on children’s rights, the Council Conclusions on media literacy, and the Council Recommendation establishing a European Child Guarantee.

The new BIK+ strategy is based on an extensive consultation process with children and young people, complemented by targeted consultations with parents, teachers, Member States, ICT and media industry, civil society, academics and international organisations. It will support the implementation of EU legislation on child safety, including the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD), the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the strengthened provisions on child online safety in the Digital Services Act (DSA), the proposed Artificial Intelligence (AI) Act and the newly adopted proposal for new EU legislation to protect children against sexual abuse.

Against this background, Safer Internet Forum 2022 will provide an opportunity to discuss the BIK+ strategy in detail and identify its key objectives and priority actions for the coming years. It will explore the roles and responsibilities for public and private stakeholders, along with how to monitor its impact and effectiveness. To mark the European Year of Youth, the event is being organised in a youth-led manner, with young people playing an active role in the planning, preparation and delivery of the Forum.

Throughout the day, we will hear from many young people on how they use the online world, what their likes and dislikes are, and their hopes and dreams for the future of the internet. Along with multiple stakeholders, they will reflect on the various pillars of the new BIK+ strategy and identify the key priorities to be addressed. They will also consider how the effectiveness of the BIK+ strategy can be assessed moving forward and how young people can continue to play an active role in this, also ensuring that the provisions of the strategy are future-proof.

We take this opportunity to thank the members of the SIF Youth Advisory Group, BIK Youth Panel and other youth contributors for their dedication and commitment to helping to create a safer and better internet for their peers and young people across the globe.

As is typical of the Safer Internet Forum, participants will have the opportunity to participate in a number of deep dive discussions, across two sessions each focusing on the pillars of the BIK+ strategy. Discussions will further explore some of the opportunities and challenges as they relate to protecting, empowering and respecting children and young people online, and how these can be addressed by various stakeholders.
The first session will focus on the Safe digital experiences pillar of the BIK+ strategy, specifically:

- Addressing cyberbullying (awareness and helpline counselling).
- Child and young consumers.
- Effective age assurance/verification methods.
- Non-consensual sharing of intimate content (revenge porn).

The second session will focus on the Digital empowerment and Active participation pillars of the BIK+ strategy, specifically:

- Monitoring the impact of the digital transformation on well-being.
- Children in vulnerable situations (digital divide, migrant backgrounds, refugees, ...).
- Peer-to-peer and child-to-adult training and support.
- Co-creating policies, products and services with children and young people.

Please browse the full agenda on the following pages.

As participants in Safer Internet Forum 2022, we hope that you will find it to be both a thought-provoking and inspiring opportunity. Whether joining onsite or online, we encourage you to use the event to:

- keep track of emerging trends and issues, especially as they relate to the rights of all children and young people to be protected, empowered and respected in the digital environment.
- facilitate knowledge, experience and good-practice sharing.
- identify opportunities to collaborate with others on new ideas, resources and projects.
- contribute to the implementation of the new European strategy for a better internet for kids (BIK+) and ongoing policy work in this field.

We look forward to working with you today, and in the future, to continue the mission of creating a Better Internet for Kids. Find out more at www.betterinternetforkids.eu.

A Forum report, presentations, and session recordings (where available) will be made available after the event and progressively published at www.betterinternetforkids.eu/sif.

Safer Internet Forum (SIF) 2022 is organised by European Schoolnet on behalf of the European Commission in the framework of the EC’s Better Internet for Kids (BIK) initiative, with funding provided by the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF). In the future, actions will be funded through the Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL).

In case of queries, please contact the Safer Internet Forum Secretariat at: saferinternetforum@betterinternetforkids.eu
## Agenda

### Thursday, 27 October 2022

Please note: all times are in Central European Summer Time (CEST)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30 - 09:30</td>
<td>Arrival and registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30 - 09:40</td>
<td><strong>Welcome and introduction: BIK+ and the voices of youth</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Safer Internet Forum (SIF) 2022 will start with an impactful video bringing in – from the outset – the voices of a number of children and young people sharing their views of life online and why the BIK+ strategy is important to them.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Chairs:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Hans Martens, European Schoolnet</td>
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<td>· Manahil, SIF Youth Advisory Group, Germany</td>
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<td><em>Online participants will follow a live stream of this session within the virtual meeting environment.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>09:40 – 11:15</td>
<td><strong>High-level opening remarks</strong></td>
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<td>Following video addresses from Dubravka Šuica, Vice-President for Democracy and Demography, and Thierry Breton, Commissioner for the Internal Market, two members of the SIF Youth Advisory Group will lead an interactive discussion with European and national policy makers to open the conference and underline the importance of BIK+.</td>
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<td><strong>Chairs:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· George, SIF Youth Advisory Group, Malta</td>
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<td>· Molly, SIF Youth Advisory Group, Ireland</td>
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<td><strong>Panellists:</strong></td>
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<td>· Ivan Bartoš, Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation and Minister for Regional Development of the Czech Republic</td>
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<td>· Catharina Rinzema, MEP (The Netherlands) and Vice-Chair of the Intergroup on Children’s Rights</td>
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<td>· June Lowery-Kingston, Head of Unit, Accessibility, Multilingualism &amp; Safer Internet, DG CONNECT, European Commission</td>
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<td><em>Online participants will follow a live stream of this session within the virtual meeting environment.</em></td>
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<td>10:15 – 11:15</td>
<td><strong>Keynote session: The BIK+ strategy – a view from youth</strong></td>
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<td>In this session, two young influencers will set the scene by sharing their personal testimonies which demonstrate the importance of the BIK+ strategy.</td>
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<td><strong>Chairs:</strong></td>
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<td>· Sabrina Vorbau, European Schoolnet</td>
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<td>· Dimitris, SIF Youth Advisory Group, Cyprus</td>
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<td><strong>Speakers:</strong></td>
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<td>· Jacob Donegan, Content creator, Ireland</td>
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<td>· Lijana Risen, Mindset influencer, Germany</td>
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<td>This will be followed by a youth-led interactive debate, where BIK Youth Panellists will exemplify the BIK+ strategy, building upon the results of the #DigitalDecade4YOUth consultations. They will share their own online experiences and those of other young people to outline opportunities, risks and challenges and, most importantly, how the BIK+ strategy will address these. They will present innovative ideas and share inspiring practices which, in their view, can help to make the BIK+ vision a reality.</td>
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<td><em>Online participants will follow a live stream of this session within the virtual meeting environment.</em></td>
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11:15 – 11:45 | Coffee break

11:45 – 13:00 | Deep dives into the BIK+ strategy: Session 1 – *Safe digital experiences*  
**Chairs:**  
- Karl Hopwood, European Schoolnet  
- Yevgeny, SIF Youth Advisory Group, Malta

Following a 5-minute introduction of the BIK+ *Safe digital experiences* pillar, SIF participants will be asked to participate in 2 x 25-minute discussions, in a World Café format, each time starting with a short ‘firestarter’ presentation by a BIK Youth representative. Four sub-areas of the BIK+ pillar will be covered as follows:

- Addressing cyberbullying (awareness and helpline counselling).
- Child and young consumers.
- Effective age assurance/verification methods.
- Non-consensual sharing of intimate content (revenge porn).

Each discussion will follow a set structure as follows:

- Introduction by the table leader (2-minute statement on the sub-area) and BIK Youth representative (3 minutes to share their views and the views of the wider youth panel on the three areas – priorities, actions to be taken, and how progress can be monitored).
- Participant exchange to agree on:
  - Priorities.
  - Key actions to be taken.
  - How to monitor progress in the coming years.

There will be 15 minutes for table leaders to report back from the deep dive discussions.

*Online participants will take part in parallel deep dive discussions within the virtual meeting environment.*

13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch break

14:00 – 15:15 | Deep dives into the BIK+ strategy: Session 2 – *Digital empowerment and Active participation*  
**Chairs:**  
- Karl Hopwood, European Schoolnet  
- Aveli, SIF Youth Advisory Group, Estonia

Following a 5-minute introduction of the BIK+ *Digital empowerment and Active participation* pillars, SIF participants will be asked to participate in 2 x 25-minute discussions, in a World Café format, each time starting with a short ‘firestarter’ presentation by a BIK Youth representative. Four sub-areas of the BIK+ pillars will be covered as follows:

- Monitoring the impact of the digital transformation on well-being.
- Children in vulnerable situations (digital divide, migrant backgrounds, refugees, ...).
- Peer-to-peer and child-to-adult training and support.
- Co-creating policies, products and services with children and young people.

Each discussion will follow a set structure as follows:

- Introduction by the table leader (2-minute statement on the sub-area) and BIK Youth representative (3 minutes to share their views and the views of the wider youth panel on the three areas – priorities, actions to be taken, and how progress can be monitored).
- Participant exchange to agree on:
  - Priorities.
  - Key actions to be taken.
  - How to monitor progress in the coming years.

There will be 15 minutes for table leaders to report back from the deep dive discussions.

*Online participants will take part in parallel deep dive discussions within the virtual meeting environment.*
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>15:15 – 15:45</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<td>15:45 – 16:30</td>
<td>Future-proofing the BIK+ strategy&lt;br&gt;This final panel session will include some concluding thoughts on how the effectiveness of the overall BIK+ strategy can be assessed, and how young people can continue to play an active role in this. It will also consider the international dimension, with reference to the Youth Action Plan, while bringing in views – through a range of video statements – from public and private stakeholder representatives from beyond the European Union.&lt;br&gt;Panellists will be asked to propose and discuss some concrete actions – from the perspective of policy makers, industry, Safer Internet Centres, and so on – which can help to ensure that the BIK+ strategy is making an impact, while also reflecting on how this may be felt beyond Europe.&lt;br&gt;Chair:&lt;br&gt;- June Lowery-Kingston, Head of Unit, Accessibility, Multilingualism &amp; Safer Internet, DG CONNECT, European Commission&lt;br&gt;Panellists:&lt;br&gt;- Josianne Galea Baron, Programme Specialist (Child Rights and Business), Business Engagement and Child Rights, UNICEF&lt;br&gt;- Nel Broothaerts, Chief Prevention and Development Officer, Child Focus (Belgian Safer Internet Centre)&lt;br&gt;- Billie, SIF Youth Advisory Group member, Ireland&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Online participants will follow a live stream of this session within the virtual meeting environment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 – 16:45</td>
<td>Closing remarks from the European Commission and official close of Safer Internet Forum 2022&lt;br&gt;Online participants will follow a live stream of this session within the virtual meeting environment.</td>
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<td>16:45</td>
<td>Networking reception for onsite participants</td>
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This year’s Safer Internet Forum (SIF) has been organised in a youth-led manner, with young people playing an active role in the planning, preparation and delivery of the Forum.
The SIF Youth Advisory Group 2022

The SIF Youth Advisory Group is formed of young people from various European countries. Over recent months, they have worked collaboratively at preparatory meetings aimed at sharing their respective views on the three main pillars of the new BIK+ strategy and shaping the development of the Forum’s agenda.

Meet the SIF Youth Advisory Group members here:

Anisa (she/her)
Hi! I’m Anisa and I am 18 years old. I have been involved with online safety for over five years both nationally and internationally, ultimately wanting to use my voice to aid and encourage change. Becoming a hugely digitised generation, it is important that as young people we are not only heard but also encouraged, while also maintaining safety online. Exciting yet challenging, it is an opportunity to put change into action for the generations to come.

Aveli
Hi, I’m Aveli! Since 2020 I have been working closely with the Estonian Union for Child Welfare where I was, at first, part of the Youth Council and am now an Ambassador of Child Rights. In 2021, I was offered a place as a BIK Youth Panellist which I, of course, accepted. This has led me here, to the SIF Youth Advisory Group. My mission is to make children’s voices heard and remind people that not only should we do things for children and not only are children our future, but that we should also do things with children as they are also our present.

Billie (she/her)
My name is Billie, and I am 18. I’ve been actively involved in internet safety for the last four years both within my own country and within Europe. I’ve been working as a BIK Youth Ambassador and now as a SIF Youth Advisory Group member since 2020. I feel beyond lucky to be involved in such a community, all working towards the same thing; at the end of the day, internet safety is an issue that faces everyone today.

Dimitris (he/him)
My name is Dimitris and I’m 16 years old. Starting in 2017, I began to get involved in internet safety activities through my school’s participation in programmes organised by my national Safer Internet Centre. The following school year (2018-2019), I was invited to participate in the Cyprus Cyber Safety Youth Panel, of which I’ve been a member and have been involved in many activities since. I was a participant in the BIK Youth Panel and Safer Internet Forum 2021 representing my country, and I’m currently a BIK Youth Ambassador.
George (they/them)
Hey, I’m George and I’m 15. I’m studying Business Studies and Computer Science in my last year of secondary education. I’ve been interested in speaking up about issues that interest me since I was young. Last year, Safer Internet Forum gave me a unique opportunity where I collaborated with people from all around Europe, and made friendships I never would have otherwise. I believe in LGBTIQA+ rights, women’s rights, minority rights, and the freedom to be yourself in general, as long as you aren’t harming anyone else.

Lili (she/her)
I have been involved in online safety issues since 2015. I started attending the Safer Internet Forum back then as a youth representative for my national Safer Internet Centre and participated in discussions at local and international events. Since then, I’ve been even more involved and became one of the many BIK Youth Ambassadors. I was able to develop a game about cyberbullying with which I won second place at the Safer Internet Awards. From 2018 until 2022, I worked as the Youth Coordinator at the Safer Internet Centre Austria. Since 2018, I have been studying law at the University of Vienna.

Manahil (she/her)
Hi everyone! I’m Manahil, better known as Mani, an 18-year-old small-town girl who just graduated and is trying to find herself in a fast-moving world in which opinions on the internet collide with each other, as hail does on car roofs. In recent years, I have made it my mission to support those opinions that stand for inclusion and uniqueness, so that those who cannot raise their own voices can also participate in everyday life online and offline. Don’t you want to support us too? :-) 

Molly (they/them)
Hello, my name is Molly, and I am 18 years old. I’ve been involved in internet safety since I was 15 and I started working with BIK two years ago, firstly with the BIK Youth Panel, then as a BIK Youth Ambassador, and now with the SIF Youth Advisory Group. Over the past few years, I have been so lucky to have had the opportunity to work with such amazing people. I also have the space to voice my opinions on important issues so that, maybe someday, the world of social media will become a more inclusive place for all!
Solveig (she/they)
Hi! My name is Solveig Emilie; I usually just go by Sol and I’m 17 years old. My main interests are mental health, human rights and online safety. I have been part of BIK since 2020 which makes this my third year, first in the BIK Youth Panel, then as a BIK Youth Ambassador, and now I’m a member of the SIF Youth Advisory Group. I feel really lucky to be able to have my voice heard on this important and current topic.

Yevgeny (he/him)
I am Yevgeny, and I’m 16. I started my post-secondary education this autumn. I am really into history and politics, and I am fond of the French language. I started my involvement in BIK in 2020 after I represented my national Safer Internet Centre in the BIK Youth Panel. Following that, I was made a BIK Youth Ambassador and have been involved in advisory groups, workshops and other meetings, the most recent being part of the SIF Youth Advisory Group to create the agenda for this year’s Safer Internet Forum. I love travelling, and getting to know people and their cultures and lifestyles.

The BIK Youth Panel 2022
Each year, a Better Internet for Kids (BIK) Youth Panel is organised prior to and during the Safer Internet Forum (SIF). Drawn from national youth panels convened by Safer Internet Centres across Europe, BIK Youth Panellists are encouraged to voice not just their personal opinions and challenges, but also those of their peers whom they are representing at a European level.

Since the beginning of September, through a series of online meetings, BIK Youth Panellists have been actively preparing their contributions to this year’s Forum by sharing their respective perspectives on better and safer internet issues with their peers, agreeing on key themes, and preparing awareness materials on these topics.

In the days preceding this year’s Forum, a group of 27 BIK Youth Panellists have come together, face-to-face in Brussels, to finalise their work which they will present throughout the course of the day. Together with the SIF Youth Advisory Group, they will also lead on various deep dive discussions, to ensure that their voices can inform the perspectives of the various stakeholders participating in the Forum, and to influence ongoing work in this field.

We take this opportunity to thank the members of the SIF Youth Advisory Group, BIK Youth Panel and other youth contributors for their dedication and commitment to helping to create a safer and better internet for their peers and young people across the globe.
Meet the other Forum speakers and contributors

Ivan Bartoš
Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation and Minister for Regional Development of the Czech Republic

As Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation, Ivan Bartoš’ portfolio consists of the digital transformation of the Czech governmental and public services, European digital affairs, digital cooperation with businesses, and other topics on the digital agenda. He is also responsible for the negotiations within the EU Telecommunication Council during the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU. He also takes an interest in the topics of cybersecurity, digital education, and the protection of privacy in digital environments. Ivan Bartoš stepped into office in December 2021 and has been the leader of Česká pirátská strana (the Czech Pirate Party) for many years, as he was one of its founders in 2009. He has been a member of the Parliament of the Czech Republic since autumn 2017. He spent four years in the Chamber of Deputies as the Chair of the Committee on Public Administration and Regional Development; in addition to this, he has also been involved in fields such as digitalisation. Apart from his political career, his professional path has included several posts at Czech and multinational IT companies, such as Newton IT, Monster Worldwide, and T-Mobile. He also launched the employment portal Air Jobs.

Thierry Breton
European Commissioner for the Internal Market (video message)

Thierry Breton has been the European Commissioner for the Internal Market since 2019. He is responsible for industry, digital, defence and space, as well as tourism, services and audiovisual. From 2009 to 2019, Mr Breton was CEO of a major European digital technology company, chairing in parallel the French National Research and Technology Association. In 2008-2009, he taught governance in Boston, USA, at Harvard Business School. In 2005, he was appointed Minister for Economic Affairs, Finance and Industry of France, a post which he held until 2007. Prior to this, he ran a number of large companies in the IT and telco sector. An engineer in computer science, Thierry Breton began his career as a tech entrepreneur.
Nel Broothaerts
Chief Prevention and Development Officer, Child Focus (Belgian Safer Internet Centre)

Nel Broothaerts graduated as Master in Pedagogical Sciences at the University of Ghent. In 2002, she was responsible for the development of an educational programme for young children in Guatemala. After her return to Belgium, she worked within the education system for children with special needs (Special Primary Education), where she was responsible for the development of pedagogical tools for teachers. Between 2005 and 2007, Nel worked within the Youth Service as a home counsellor/parenting advisor for families in problematic parenting situations. In May 2007, she joined Child Focus and, as project manager, was responsible for the policy and development of prevention initiatives around eSafety. In September 2013, she became the coordinator of the project team. In October 2017, she became Chief Prevention and Development Officer, responsible for all prevention initiatives through tools, materials, education or training, and new developments in the Foundation.

Jacob Donegan
Content creator

Jacob Donegan is a 21-year-old content creator, with over 1.2 million followers on TikTok. Jacob is a transgender man, female to male. He has been creating content (mainly on TikTok) for over seven years, promoting self-love and the importance of living life as who you truly are with no shame or fears. Jacob is always promoting positivity, trying to convey that with every negative there is a positive, and that finding the love within yourself gives you strength in anything you wish to do, whether mentally, physically, career-wise, or in your personal life. Jacob struggled for many years in his own body, not being born as a cis man. With this, he found a passion for fitness and is now promoting body positivity throughout his page with fitness tips for all types of people. He is especially trying to help other young trans guys that struggle with dysphoria and with getting the motivation to become who they ultimately designed in their minds.

Josianne Galea Baron
Programme Specialist (Child Rights and Business), Business Engagement and Child Rights, UNICEF

Josianne Galea Baron is part of UNICEF’s Business Engagement and Child Rights Team, within the Programme Group Leadership Team. The team leads UNICEF’s engagement around responsible business conduct in relation to children’s rights. In this role, Josianne is the technical lead on how companies in the technology sector can take action to respect and support children’s rights throughout their activities.
This includes developing tools and guidance for businesses in different industries, from online gaming to mobile network operators. Josianne also coordinates and supports UNICEF’s country offices and national committees in their engagements with digital businesses, and other stakeholders on topics related to responsible business conduct and child rights impacts. Prior to joining the team, Josianne led the digital agenda within the children’s rights and business unit at UNICEF’s national committee in the UK. She has a Master’s in Development Management from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Karl Hopwood
Independent Online Safety Expert/Insafe Helpline Coordinator, Digital Citizenship Team, European Schoolnet

Karl Hopwood is an independent online safety expert. He is a member of UKCIS (UK Council for Internet Safety) and works extensively with schools to support children and young people in developing safer online behaviours, as well as to promote digital literacy. In the past, he has worked with the European Commission, the UN (ITU), CEOP, Becta, and the South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL), as well as with several local authorities within the UK. Karl has been employed for the last fifteen years as an in-house consultant for the Digital Citizenship Team at European Schoolnet where he is responsible for the coordination of the Insafe helpline network. He is also a Trustee of Childnet International and was formerly Chair of the Board of the Marie Collins Foundation.

June Lowery-Kingston
Head of Unit Accessibility, Multilingualism & Safer Internet, and Deputy to the Director, Data, DG CONNECT, European Commission

June Lowery-Kingston is Head of Unit Accessibility, Multilingualism & Safer Internet, and Deputy to the Director for Data at the European Commission’s Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology (DG CONNECT). She has worked for the EU institutions in Luxembourg for over 25 years in a wide variety of fields including publications, finance, logistics, and digital inclusion. Her current responsibilities include web accessibility, language technology, and online safety for children. Her work aims to promote a better internet for children by protecting and empowering children online, under the new BIK+ strategy. As Equality Coordinator in DG CONNECT, she also maintains an overview of the implementation of the Union of Equality within the DG. She is passionate about her job, and about making the digital world safer for children, and more accessible, inclusive and multilingual for all.
Hans Martens  
Head of Digital Citizenship, European Schoolnet

Hans Martens (PhD) is Head of Digital Citizenship at European Schoolnet. He is responsible for the Digital Citizenship strategy of the organisation, managing a team of 15+ dedicated to a variety of public and private projects covering aspects such as digital skills, media literacy, online safety, and children’s rights in a digital world. Within this context, Hans is leading – on behalf of the European Commission – the Better Internet for Kids (BIK) initiative while coordinating the Insafe network of Safer Internet Centres, among other activity lines. With a background in research and teaching at the University of Antwerp, combined with an advisory role in various Flemish, European, and American media literacy networks and projects, Hans joined European Schoolnet in February 2012. His key tasks include governance, management and outreach, team and project coordination, liaising with various Ministries of Education and European Commission units, as well as being the point of contact for other key strategic partners, from government, civil society and industry.

Catharina Rinzema  
MEP (The Netherlands) and Vice-Chair of the Intergroup on Children’s Rights

Catharina Rinzema was born into a ministerial family in Soest, The Netherlands in 1985. She studied law and legal and political philosophy at Leiden University. Love brought her to Belgium and, as a result, she has been dividing her time between Brussels and The Hague for eight years. Catharina has since worked for Google’s European headquarters, Stichting Lezen&Schrijven and ABN AMRO’s Global Centre of Expertise for Behaviour, Ethics and Compliance Learning, among others. Catharina has a clear focus on diversity, inclusion, integrity and civic engagement. In her campaign, she took the initiative to work together with two female candidates from other parties. In this way she wanted to show that cooperation is possible and necessary, also in politics. After all, this is something she strongly believes in.

Lijana Risen  
Mindset influencer

Lijana was a contestant on Germany’s Next Topmodel, as hosted by Heidi Klum, and voluntarily dropped out of the final to make a statement against cyberbullying. Since then, she has started the non-profit organisation Love Always Wins e.V. and she is fighting for more self-love, respect and less hate.
Dubravka Šuica

European Commission Vice-President for Democracy and Demography (video message)

Since December 2019, Dubravka Šuica has been Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Democracy and Demography. Mrs Šuica is a Croatian politician from the city of Dubrovnik where she served for two terms as its first female mayor and was awarded the 2006 World Mayor Award. Dubravka Šuica entered politics in the 1990s as a Member of the Croatian Democratic Union and served as a Member of the Croatian Parliament and Vice-Chair of the EU Integration Committee. Between 2004 and 2009 she was a Board Member of the Union of the Association of Towns and Municipalities of the Republic of Croatia. For ten years, she was the Vice-President of Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. From 2013 to 2019, Dubravka Šuica served as a Member of the European Parliament and Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee. In June 2019, Šuica was elected as the first Vice-Chair of the EPP Group in the European Parliament. Since 2012, she has been the Vice-President of EPP Women.

Sabrina Vorbau

Project Manager, Digital Citizenship Team, European Schoolnet

Sabrina Vorbau is Project Manager at European Schoolnet and has been a member of its Digital Citizenship Team since 2014. She manages a number of European Commission (EC) funded projects in the area of online safety and media literacy, such as CO:RE – Children Online: Research and Evidence, KID ACTIONS, and Facts4All – Schools as community hubs against disinformation and the European Film Factory. In addition, Sabrina coordinates the youth activities and annual pan-European Youth Panel as part of the Better Internet for Kids (BIK) project. As part of her work in the Digital Citizenship Team, Sabrina also represents the team in expert meetings and international conferences in the field of children’s rights and internet governance. Prior to joining EUN, she worked at the European Agency for Fundamental Rights in Vienna.