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# Safer Internet – Network of SICs

- **Safer Internet Centres (SICs)** provide online safety information, educational resources, public awareness tools and counselling and reporting services for children and youth, parents/carers, teachers and educators, and other professionals working with children;
- They support the implementation of the Better Internet for Kids (**BIK+**) strategy (COM(2022)212);
- This includes providing support for EC priorities, such as the implementation of the Digital Services Act (DSA).



# Network of SICs - BIK+

## BIK+ Better Internet for Kids strategy (COM(2022)212)

**Age-appropriate** digital services, with **no one left behind** and with **every child** in Europe **protected, empowered & respected** online

### **1** PROTECT

- Safe digital experiences
- A comprehensive EU code of conduct on age-appropriate design
- Supporting a secure EU-wide proof of age system

### **2** EMPOWER

#### **Safer Internet Centres (SICs)**

- National awareness centres
- Helplines
- Hotlines
- Youth Panels

#### [betterinternetforkids.eu](https://betterinternetforkids.eu) Portal

- EU-wide coordination
- Public awareness hub (children, teachers, **parents**, carers)

### **3** RESPECT

- Support children in developing and practising citizens skills
- Get children's view on policies that affect their (online) lives
- Involve children in the development of digital programmes and services
- Support peer-to-peer training and child-to-adult teaching



## Network of SICs – Scope

### **The three main strands** of a Safer Internet Centre

- **Raise awareness** about online opportunities and risks for those under 18
- Provide a **helpline** offering advice and support on issues related to children's use of digital technologies and services
- Operate a **hotline** for tackling Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) according to the national legal environment



## Awareness raising in national & relevant language(s)

- Devise informative and innovative awareness campaigns and resources to equip children to avoid and cope with online risks;
- Promote positive online experiences;
- Engage with children, including those in situations of vulnerability;
- Organise relevant training on children's rights online;
- Promote relevant online training modules for teachers;
- Evaluate the impact of the awareness campaigns;
- Promote dialogue and exchange of information with key players.



## Network of SICs – Helplines

- Offer one-to-one conversations via telephone, email and online chat services, with trained helpers to give advice and support to children, young people and their parents on online related issues;
- Develop/launch an ambitious national communication strategy
- Draw up or update the operating guidelines
- Provide qualitative and quantitative feedback at European level to identify emerging trends



## Network of SICs – Hotlines

- Receive information from the public relating to potential CSAM;
- Cooperate with INHOPE and connect to the secure platform ICCAM (I see child abuse material);
- Notice and take down CSAM / Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) where legally possible;
- Monitoring of take down;
- Provide statistics and an ambitious national communication strategy;
- Notice and take down of CSAM for countries without a national hotline.

3. Who are the types of main stakeholders that are addressed?

4. Is there a key actor (eg. Partnership or other) driving this?



## Network of SICs – Key actors

Participation is open to all eligible entities as established by Article 18 of the Digital Europe programme, in particular public sector as well as private sector organisations, including SMEs, NGOs and international organisations.





# Network of SICs

## Background documents

- [Compendium of relevant BIK+ legislation and policy](#)
- [European Strategy for a Better Internet for Kids COM/2022/212 final](#)
- [Digital Services Act](#)
- [European Digital Rights and Principles](#)



# Thank you – Questions?



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