



Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)



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Geneva, 21 May 2025

To:

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- ITU-D Sector Members
- ITU Academia
- National Regulatory Authorities
- United Nations Funds, Programmes,
Specialized agencies and IAEA

Subject: Online session on ‘AI and Emerging Technologies: Prioritizing Children’s Rights and Safety’ - 5 June 2025 14h00 to 16h00 CET

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite your organization to join the first session of the new quarterly discussion series: *Industry Connect: “Child Online Protection in Action – Industry Perspectives”* organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to be held online on 5 June 2025 from 14h00 to 16h00 CET.

This closed two-hour fully virtual event will bring together ITU Member States, industry leaders, academia and civil society to explore how AI and emerging technologies can better uphold children’s rights and safety in digital environments.

About the Series

As per the request of ITU’s Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP), which brings together Member States, ITU sector members, and experts, this series of events aims to provide a neutral platform for information sharing between Industry stakeholders and ITU Member States to explore opportunities for collaboration on pressing issues related to child online protection.

Objectives of the Series:

- Provide a platform for cross-sector dialogue to exchange insights, address key challenges, and explore collaborative strategies on child online protection.
- Facilitate meaningful engagement between policymakers and industry leaders on emerging trends and potential responses.
- Encourage the exchange of good practices and innovations through active participation from leading industry stakeholders.
- Identify practical and actionable outcomes to support global efforts in advancing child online protection.

- Enable multi-stakeholder collaboration through ITU's unique role as a neutral convenor of governments, regulators, and industry partners.

Session Focus

AI and Emerging Technologies – Prioritizing Children's Rights and Safety

As AI becomes increasingly embedded in children's digital experiences, this session will explore how AI-driven platforms can mitigate risks such as privacy breaches, bias, misinformation, and exploitation while enhancing child safety. Participants will discuss key challenges, share innovative solutions, identify collaborative strategies and generate practical recommendations for child safeguarding in online environment.

Format

- Expert Perspectives (15 min): Scene-setting insights from UN agencies, academia, and civil society.
- Industry Presentations (45 min): Leading tech companies and industry experts share challenges and solutions.
- Moderated Discussion (60 min): Interactive dialogue with Member States and stakeholders, focusing on key questions for policy and action.

The concept note, including the provisional agenda of the event is attached in Annex-1. More information about the event, as well as provisional agenda, can be found on the event website: [COP Industry Connect](#).

We would be honoured to have you join this important conversation and contribute your perspective on how the ICT Industry and Governments can work together to leveraged AI to shape a safer digital future for children.

In order to join the event, please register using this link: [Event Registration](#) at [Calendar of Events](#)

For additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Fanny Rotino (fanny.rotino@itu.int).

I look forward to the active participation of your organization in this event.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director



5 June 2025
14:00-16:00 (Central European Time)

Industry Connect Event Series

Session 1:

AI and Emerging Technologies: Prioritizing Children's Rights and Safety

Online

Session Overview

Artificial intelligence and emerging technologies are reshaping the digital landscape at an unprecedented pace. While these technologies hold immense promise for advancing societal goals, they also present new and complex risks to children's safety and rights online. From the generation of harmful content—such as AI-generated child sexual abuse material and deepfakes—to concerns around surveillance, algorithmic bias, and misinformation, the threats are evolving rapidly.

At the same time, AI can be a powerful tool for protection—capable of identifying at-risk children, detecting harmful content, and supporting real-time interventions across platforms. This session will convene diverse actors across sectors—governments, industry, academia, the UN, civil society, and youth—to explore both the risks and opportunities presented by AI in child online protection.

Through the intersectoral dialogue, and thanks to a wide range of experience shared by AI driven technology platforms, participants will leave with a nuanced understanding of AI's dual role, the potential for cross-sector collaboration, and concrete strategies for ensuring that AI systems are designed, governed, and deployed in ways that uphold children's rights and enhance online safety.

Session Focus

Theme: **AI and Emerging Technologies – Prioritizing Children's Rights and Safety**

This session will examine how AI-powered platforms can mitigate risks such as privacy violations, discriminatory algorithms, and exploitative practices while also enabling stronger safeguards for children in digital spaces. Through a series of expert insights, case studies, and open dialogue, participants will discuss emerging threats, share innovative practices, and generate actionable recommendations for rights-based AI governance.

Session Structure

1. Opening & Scene-Setting (15 minutes)

Framing remarks from UN representatives and leading experts to provide an overview of AI's evolving impact on children's digital lives, by contextualizing child rights frameworks within the digital era and examining how these rights are interpreted and challenged by AI-powered environments. This section is to set the stage for an inclusive, solutions-focused discussion.

2. Industry Showcases (45 minutes)

Presentations from key technology companies to explore how AI can be leveraged to prevent, identify, and mitigate online risks and harm against children, and to discuss the current gap in its implementation and practices. These briefings will spotlight emerging trends, industry leadership, and real-world applications of AI in child online protection

3. Interactive Moderated Dialogue (50 minutes)

A dynamic, facilitated discussion engaging all participants. Experts and stakeholders will share insights, raise questions, and identify collaborative, cross-sectoral solutions.

Discussion Topics:

- **Part 1: Transparency, Accountability, and Inclusiveness of AI Systems Affecting Children**

Objective: Identify strategies for the ethical and inclusive design of AI systems that impact children.

1. How can AI systems be designed to effectively protect children online while also safeguarding their privacy and data rights?
2. What approaches can promote transparency and shared responsibility in AI decision-making processes that affect children, especially between governments and technology providers?
3. What collaborative mechanisms or best practices can help ensure accountability for upholding children's rights and safety in the development and use of AI technologies?
4. What strategies can AI developers adopt to ensure that safety tools and algorithms are inclusive and equitable, particularly in mitigating biases that may disproportionately impact children from marginalized communities?

- **Part 2: Collaborative solutions for Child-centred and Rights-based AI Governance**

Objective: Define pathways for joint action across sectors to promote responsible AI governance that centers children's rights.

1. What global or regional regulations, or standards can guide child-centered AI governance?
2. What role should human oversight play in monitoring AI's impact on children?
3. How can tech companies be supported and incentivized to uphold children's rights in the design and deployment of AI systems, and to proactively integrate child protection into AI governance frameworks?
4. How can public sector and private sector work together to develop AI policies governance structures, and regulatory frameworks that prioritize child rights?

Event website

For more information, visit the event page at: [COP Industry Connect](#)

Registration

The Registration is supported by ITU for prospective participants to register for these activities by completing the online form from Zoom using the following link: [Event Registration](#)

Provisional agenda

| Date and Time Central European Time (GMT+2) | Session 1: AI and Emerging Technologies: Prioritizing Children's Rights and Safety (virtual) |
|---|---|
| 14:00-14:05 (5 Mins) | Opening and introductory remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITU • a child representative |
| 14:05-14:15 (10 Mins) | Scene-Setting Outline AI's evolving impact on children's digital lives and rights frameworks. UN representatives / Leading experts |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF • WeProtect Global Alliance |
| 14:15-15:00 (45 Mins) | Presentations from key technology companies Share insights on emerging trends, industry leadership, and real-world applications of AI in child online protection. |
| 15:00-16:00 (50 Mins) | Interactive Moderated Dialogue |
| 15:00-15:25 (25 Mins) | Part 1: Transparency, Accountability, and Inclusiveness of AI Systems Affecting Children Identify strategies for the ethical and inclusive design of AI systems that impact children. |
| 15:25-15:50 (25 Mins) | Part 2: Collaborative solutions for Child-centred and Rights-based AI Governance Define pathways for joint action across sectors to promote responsible AI governance that centers children's rights. |
| | Group photo |
| 15:50-16:00 | Closing and wrap up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITU • A child representative |

Event Coordinator

Contact ITU focal point on Child online protection:

Ms. Fanny Rotino at fanny.rotino@itu.int