

**Fostering a culture of child  
online protection:  
Roll-out of the ITU COP  
Guidelines in Europe -  
24/9/21 conference**

ITU Industry Guidelines

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Session 1:  
Overview of the Child Online  
Protection Guidelines

[www.itu-cop-guidelines.com](http://www.itu-cop-guidelines.com)



“*Every child everywhere must be Protected online. We must make it our global priority and we must act now.*”

Her Majesty Queen Slivia of Sweden  
at the launch of the COP 2020 Guidelines,  
23 June 2020

# Current World situation



71%

Of children are  
already online



1/3

Of all internet users today  
are children



At the global level  
**one in three**  
internet users is a child  
**under the 18 years**  
**of age**



18 children are  
Affected by  
Violence, abuse or  
Neglected every  
year



In 2019,  
**more than half**  
of the world's  
population used  
the internet.

**53,6%**

~ 4.1b users

# COP Guidelines for industry



- **For Telecom Operators**
- **For Broadcasters**
- **For Social media**
- **For Internet service providers**
- **For their Regulators**

# Child Online Protection

## Introduction

1. What is child online protection?
2. Key areas of protecting and promoting children's rights
3. General guidelines for all related industry
4. Feature-specific checklists





### FOLLOW UP OF THE GUIDELINES

- ITU has launched a global implementation campaign of the COP guidelines (funded by Saudi Arabia)
- 2 workstreams:
  - Training
  - Support to policy making
- ITU regional offices play a crucial role in this sense and the European one is very active with actions already made in Albania, Georgia, Ukraine
- Also G20 digital track (under Italian presidency) has focused on Children and their needs



# Partners for Implementation

“ *National Broadcasters*  
(public and private)

“ *Internet Service Providers*  
(national)

“ *Telecom Operators*  
(national and paneuropean ones)

“ *Internet platforms*  
(global through local branches)

“ *Regulators : TELCO,  
Broadcasting, Privacy*  
(National and Pan European)

“ *Children protection  
authorities*  
(National and Pan European)

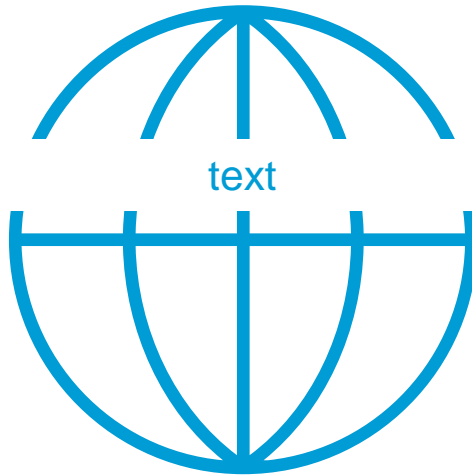


# Italian privacy authority and Tik Tok

January 21: Dead by suffocation in Palermo of a 10 years' old girl registered as being 13 years old

From 9 February 2021 Tik Tok restarts its operations in Italy but engages to make age verification on all its Italian clients

September 17 the most important Italian newspaper publish the case of a senior journalist that opened an account pretending to be a teen-ager. No verification from Tik Tok



January 22, 2021: Italian Privacy authority suspends all Tik Tok activities all over Italy

On going: accounts of children under 13<sup>th</sup> are closed. Tik Tok verification system is made through A.I.

Italian privacy authority urges Irish privacy authority to apply sanctions



# Child on line protection can only succeed if it is a collaborative effort in which everybody plays a part

Regulators, national authorities and operators are those operating on the field. National authorities needs to set the scene, bring to a table of discussion operators, fix guidelines and make all operators accountable. ITU through its guidelines and COP initiative it's a stimulus and a valid support to kick off the process.



Child Online Protection

# ITU Global Programme

*Only acting together we shall overcome*

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