

# Youth Protection Roundtable



youth protection roundtable newsletter nr. 9

april 2009

## news from the field

30.04.09 eNACSO launched in Brussels

30.04.09 The loss of privacy

28.04.09 German cabinet votes for access blocking against child pornography

27.04.09 Surveillance instead of confidence?

22.04.09 Commission calls on mobile operators to continue to improve child safety policies

21.04.09 Participants in the conference "Safer Internet for Children" adopt the Prague Declaration

17.04.09 Protecting privacy in the digital age

## YPRT editorial

Dear Readers,

On April 3rd, the first international youth media protection conference took place in Berlin, Germany. It was the fifth meeting of the Youth Protection Roundtable - this time open to the public.

The YPRT outcomes - Principles and Toolkit for the improvement of youth protection online developed by the network - were presented to 230 participants in the conference. High-level representatives from the European Parliament, the European Commission, the UNESCO, from welfare organisations and companies around Europe discussed the European approach of shared responsibility for the improvement of youth protection online promoted by the Youth Protection Roundtable. Members of the YPRT presented their examples for implementation of the YPRT Toolkit.

The conference was accompanied by an exhibition of good practise examples of technical and educational approaches to youth protection. Fifteen exhibitors presented their activities for a safer Internet and the empowerment of users by training for digital literacy to the public.

Please be kindly invited to read more about the conference and the YPRT outcomes on the next page or at [www.yprt.eu](http://www.yprt.eu)

  
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## YPRT report

### The YPRT Principles and Toolkit for the improvement of youth protection online

The 5th Youth Protection Roundtable Meeting was held as a conference open to the public intending to present the YPRT Principles and Toolkit to a broader audience and to discuss the impact of the YPRT's outcomes on a European approach to youth protection on the Internet.

With a view to the two different types of documents the Youth Protection Roundtable has developed, it is necessary to explain the interdependencies of both.

The [YPRT Principles](#) for the improvement of youth protection online are eight principles to which the YPRT members commit themselves and declare their intent to co-operate on their implementation and dissemination. The [YPRT Toolkit](#) is a detailed catalogue of references for the improvement of youth protection online, comprising

- a description of risks
- a description of supportive technologies and their effectiveness
- eight chapters of references
  - for technical developments in respect of educational issues and
  - for the use of filter technologies (product-neutral) and educational measures in private and public areas
- an inventory of instruments and organisations of self regulation in Europe
- an inventory of legal regulations as regards youth protection in Europe

With these documents, the YPRT follows an approach of shared responsibility for youth protection online. Bearing in mind that at the Youth Protection Roundtable technicians and providers of supportive technologies as well as providers of websites and online platforms gathered with educators and other stakeholders from children's welfare organisations, it was the intention of the YPRT to provide for final documents that comprise educational and technological strategies.

The eight YPRT Principles address various stakeholders and encourage them to have their share in the improvement of youth protection online, each in the area they can deal with most efficiently.

The YPRT Principles, on the one hand, encourage providers and operators to improve supportive technologies and also their products' usability, to help users to protect themselves by implementation of supportive widgets and to implement policies for sustained Internet safety. On the other hand, the YPRT encourages parents and educators to improve their literacy in regard to the use of digital media and supportive technologies but also in regard to making use of technology in an autonomous and responsible way and to raise awareness about the positive impact of Internet usage on young people's development.

With the YPRT Toolkit each of the stakeholders has a bundle of references at their disposal, how to implement the principles practically into their own work. Several members of the YPRT presented their examples of implementation at the conference. While the Mannerheim League from Finland builds their strategy on the recommendations for the involvement of young people themselves in the empowerment for a safe use of the Internet, the German Kinderschutzbund places emphasis on training for parents. In addition to these educational efforts, the German company [scoyo](#) acceded the YPRT implementation process and showed how their platform for children's online learning will be shaped in accordance with the toolkit references. Several other organisations and companies expressed their interest to commit themselves to the YPRT Principles and asked for support and guidance in the process of implementation of the YPRT Toolkit's references.

How the YPRT approach spread beyond European borders was shown by the Net-Aman Internet Safety Youth Group from Egypt. The young people presented how their work is supported by the YPRT outcomes, thus proving the value of the documents for stakeholders beyond Europe and showing their demand for co-operation. We will continuously report on the ongoing development in further issues of the YPRT newsletter.

Presentations and pictures from the conference are available at <http://www.yprt.eu>

## research in the field

### Norton Online Living Report 2009 presents the E-family

The Company Symantec has published its second Norton Online Living Report. The Report of 2009 shows insights of the fast growing use of the Internet, new technologies and the social influence of the technology concerning families and individuals. For this study 6.427 adults and 2.614 kids and teenagers aged 8-17 were interviewed about their online behaviour. The survey was accomplished in twelve countries: Australia, Brazil, China, Germany, France, Great Britain, USA, India, Italy, Japan, Sweden and Canada.

The Internet might be a medium for bringing families together: Seven out of ten adults share the opinion that the Internet is responsible for their better relationships. Furthermore 45 percent of them said that the Internet improved their family relationships in general. This point of view seems to be understandable because with the new technologies like E-Mails, mobile phones or webcams the connection between persons is easier to maintain. But on the other hand six percent of the kids in Japan and seven percent of the kids in Germany, surveyed by Company Symantec, disagree that it is easier to discuss touchy subjects via the Internet.

The survey also presents a new form of relationship: Altogether 14 percent of the surveyed population belong to the so called 'E-Family' with its special characteristics like strong cohesion and high Internet usage. For 70 percent of the children parents have set rules regarding Internet usage and parents and kids concur that they are following the rules 80% of the time. On the other hand six out of ten adults worldwide agree with the fact that the children spend too much time online.

### New insights from BVDW: 35 percent of the German people use the mobile Internet

The German Bundesverband Digitale Wirtschaft, BVDW published an abstract about the long-term study "BVDW Mobile Meter" which reports about the most important developments regarding the Internet usage via mobile devices. Altogether 966 German people were asked: "Have you already used Internet services with your mobile phone?" One of the main finding was, that already 35 percent of the German people use the Internet via mobile devices, receive emails or use the service of downloading music or videos.

The survey revealed that 56 percent of the German people, surveyed by the BVDW, are interested in the mobile Internet and appreciated several applications, f.e. sending emails or surfing the web. More precisely, eight percent are planning to use this kind of digital communication during the next year. On the other hand 44 percent are not interested in using mobile Internet during the next year.

## Generations Online in 2009

Contrary to the image of Generation Y (Born 1977-1990, Ages 18-32) as the "Net Generation," Internet users in their 20s do not dominate every aspect of online life. Generation X (Born 1965-1976, Ages 33-44) is the most likely group to bank, shop, and look for health information online.

Boomers (Younger Boomers: Born 1955-1964, Ages 45-54 and Older Boomers: Born 1946-1954, Ages 55-63) are just as likely as Generation Y to make travel reservations online. And even Silent Generation (Born 1937-1945, Ages 64-72) Internet users are competitive when it comes to email (although teens might point out that this is proof that email is for old people).

The web continues to be populated largely by younger generations, as over half of the adult Internet population is between 18 and 44 years old. But larger percentages of older generations are online now than in the past, and they are doing more activities online, according to the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project surveys taken from 2006-2008. The biggest increase in Internet use since 2005 can be seen in the 70-75 year-old age group. While just over one-fourth (26%) of 70-75 year olds were online in 2005, 45% of that age group is currently online. Much as it is to watch demographic and age groups move up in "degrees of access", it can be expected to see these bars become more level as time goes on.

## events in the field

**05.05.09 Protecting children using the internet**  
Brussels, Belgium

**02.06.09 - 03.06.09 Conference on Online Paedophile Activity**  
Paris, France

**11.06.09 EU Kids Online Conference**  
London School of Economics, London, UK

**22.06.09 - 23.06.09 New types of violence amongst young people**  
Bildungsstätte des Landessportbundes Hessen

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