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# Protecting children online - Council of Europe approach

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# Third CoE Summit mandate (2005)

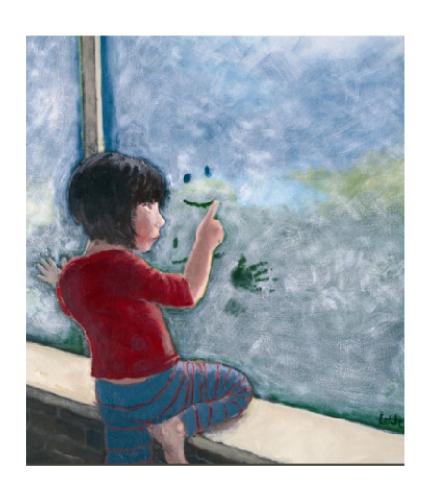
- 1. Support the implementation of international standards
- 2. Mainstream children's rights into all policies and activities
- 3. Reinforce action against violence, in particular sexual violence





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# Focus in 2009-2011:



- Promotion of children's access to justice
- **Elimination of all forms of violence against children**
- Promotion of child participation and influence of children in society
- Safeguarding the rights of vulnerable children



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# **Methods of work**

#### Combination of tools:

- Standard setting
- Monitoring
- □ Policy development
- Awareness raising
- □ Technical assistance

Inter-Secretariat Task Force and Co-ordination Unit

#### Mobilisation of 4 actors:

- Governments
- Parliaments
- Local authorities
- ☐ Civil society

Platform on the Rights of the Child





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# **Protecting children online:**



- ☐ Child-rights based approach (UNCRC, ECHR, European Social Charter)
- Miltidisciplinary approach
- ☐ From fragmented actions towards national integrated strategies on the rights of the child and elimination of violence against children



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# Two clusters

- Empower children in the new information and communication environment
- Protect the dignity, security and privacy of children in the cyberspace





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# Empowerment

## **Learning about children's rights**

- Theseus database childrenrelated case law of the European Court of Human Rights
- Children's rights manuals "Compass" and "Compasito"
- ■"I have rights" initiative





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# Empowerment

Media education - promote active, critical and discerning use of the media by children

- PACE recommendation on Media Education (2000)
- "Education for Democratic Citizenship" programme
- "Pestalozzi" programme

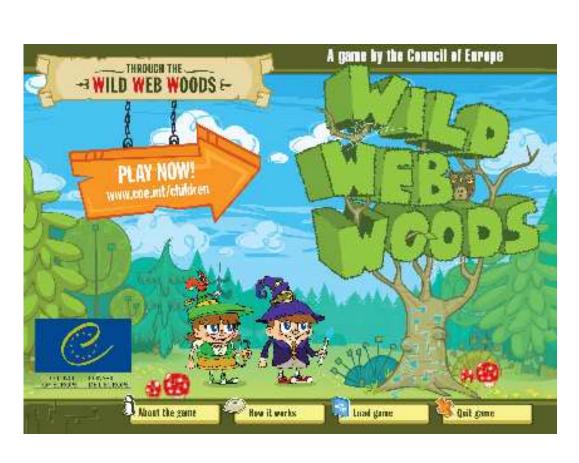


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### **Empowerment**

#### **Internet safety skills**

- Internet Literacy Handbook
- Online game "Through the Wild Web Woods" (available in 24 languages)
- Teachers Guide 10 model lessons based on the "Wild Web Woods" game (available in 7 languages)





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# Empowerment

#### **Child and youth participation**

- Congress of Local and Regional Authorities recommendation on "Electronic democracy and deliberative consultation on urban projects" (2008)
- New CoE project on child and youth participation (2009-2011)
- CoE Forum for the Future of Democracy



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# > Protection of dignity, security and privacy

## Combating violence in the media

- Committee of Ministers Recommendation on national integrated strategies for the protection of children from violence (2009)
- Committee of Ministers Recommendation on the Portrayal of violence in the electronic media (1997)





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# > Protection of dignity, security and privacy



#### **Strengthening security:**

- **▶** 2001 Convention on Cybercrime
- ► 2005 Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
- ► 2007 Convention on the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse
- ► end of 2010 pan-European campaign to stop sexual violence against children



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# > Protection of dignity, security and privacy

#### Raising awareness of service providers:

- **▶** 2008 Human Rights Guidelines for Internet Service Providers
- ► 2008 Human Rights Guidelines for online game providers





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#### more information at:

# www.coe.int/children children@coe.int

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