



**offline photography  
exhibition about  
online safety**

*or how could online  
child abuse  
be prevented*

# offline exhibition about the online environment

*Or how can online sexual abuse against children be prevented*

Acknowledging the danger of child sexual abuse and exploitation, in 2011 the Republic of Moldova ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (signed on October 25, 2007, in Spain, Lanzarote).

*However, the phenomenon of child sexual abuse and exploitation remains to be an alarming one in the Republic of Moldova, and the online environment currently poses multiple risks to which both children and young people are subject.*

*“Offline exhibition about the online environment or how can online sexual abuse against children be prevented”* was carried out by the National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (CNPAC) in partnership with the Youth Media Centre, with the support of the Council of Europe, aiming at the sensitization of the decision-makers, parents and caregivers, as well as children and young people, about the phenomenon of online child sexual abuse and exploitation.

The 20 photographs exhibited demonstrate the perils to which children and young people are subject in the online environment, primarily the ones related to risks and mechanisms of constraint/manipulation used for luring the victims into exploitative relationships.

The scenarios for the photographs have been developed together with a group of young women, survivors of abuse back in their childhood. Every photograph is accompanied by a message addressed to children, young people and parents, aiming at attracting the attention to certain aspects that are usually seen to be less visible and credible.

The exhibition is dedicated to the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, marked annually on November 18. The photographs will be displayed consecutively in 12 localities from Moldova until June 2020: Chisinau, Balti, Ungheni, Singerei, Comrat, Ceadar-Lunga, Orhei, Straseni, Leova, Hincesti, Causeni, Criuleni.

The activity is performed in the framework of the projects “Raising awareness on online child sexual abuse and exploitation in the Republic of Moldova” and “Protecting children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in the Republic of Moldova”, implemented by NCCAP with the support of the Council of Europe.

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Use the Internet in an intelligent manner. It offers useful resources for personal development and to prevent risks in cyberspace.

A child has the right to education, which is directed to the development of his or her skills and capabilities in a non-discriminatory manner.

*(UN Convention on the Rights of a Child, art. 29)*



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Act with discretion in whatever you are posting online.

Internet has no borders and it can provide a false feeling of anonymity.

*(Internet Literacy Handbook, factsheet 1, 2nd Edition, Council of Europe)*



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Do not offer your personal data to strangers: *name and surname, date of birth, personal identification number, home address, school and class where you are studying, your own phone number or your parents' number, email address, personal photographs and audio/video recordings, IP address.* You can be easily identified by this data and vulnerable to exploitative relationships.

A child has the right to the protection of his or her public image and his or her intimate, private and family life.

*(UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, art. 16, European Convention on Human Rights, Article 8)*



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Ignore friend requests from strangers or from suspect profiles.

It is recommended that information should only be accepted from trustworthy sources.

*(Internet Literacy Handbook, 2nd Edition, Council of Europe)*



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Be careful and check the content that you are going to post on social media or YouTube carefully to see what you are really posting in your video or livestream.

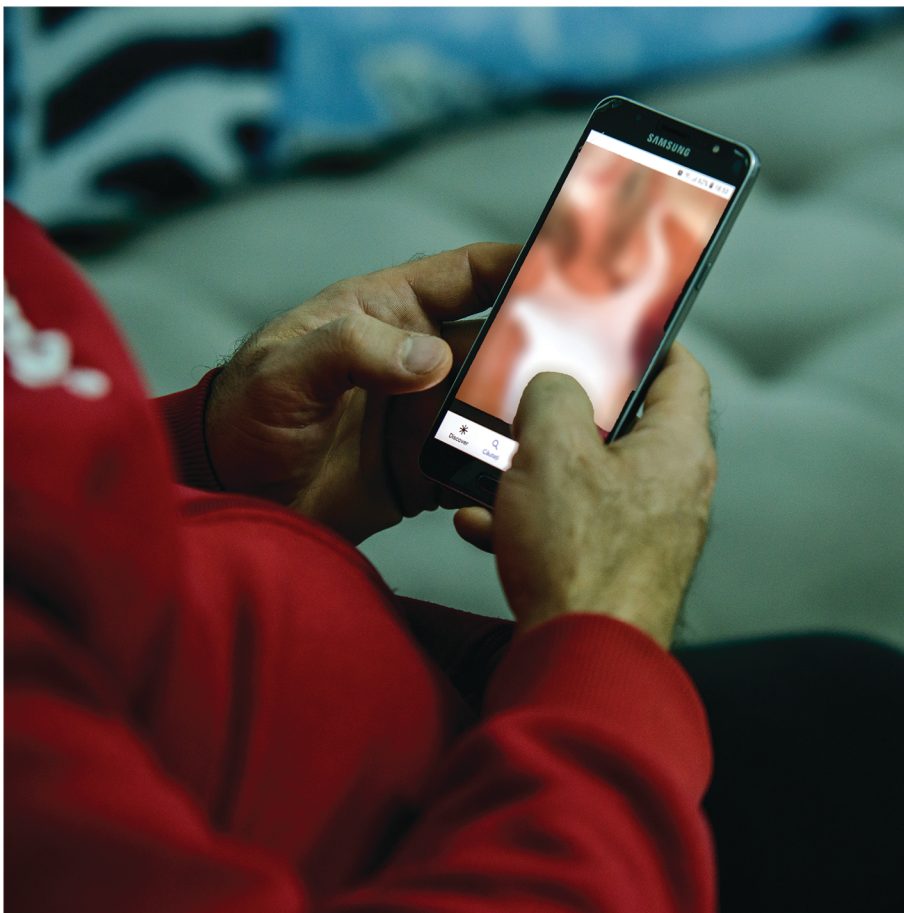
Self-protection and being responsible help to minimize the risks of online sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

*(Internet Literacy Handbook, 2nd Edition,  
Council of Europe)*



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Never post pictures of a sexual nature online.  
Beware that whatever you are posting online – will remain stored there forever and may be shared beyond your control.

Abusers often use pictures of a sexual nature to manipulate a child for sexual and commercial exploitation. Intimidation through mobile phones is becoming a greater concern.

*(Internet Literacy Handbook, 2nd Edition,  
Council of Europe)*



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Be very careful while using the Internet. Don't send pictures with sexual connotations online.

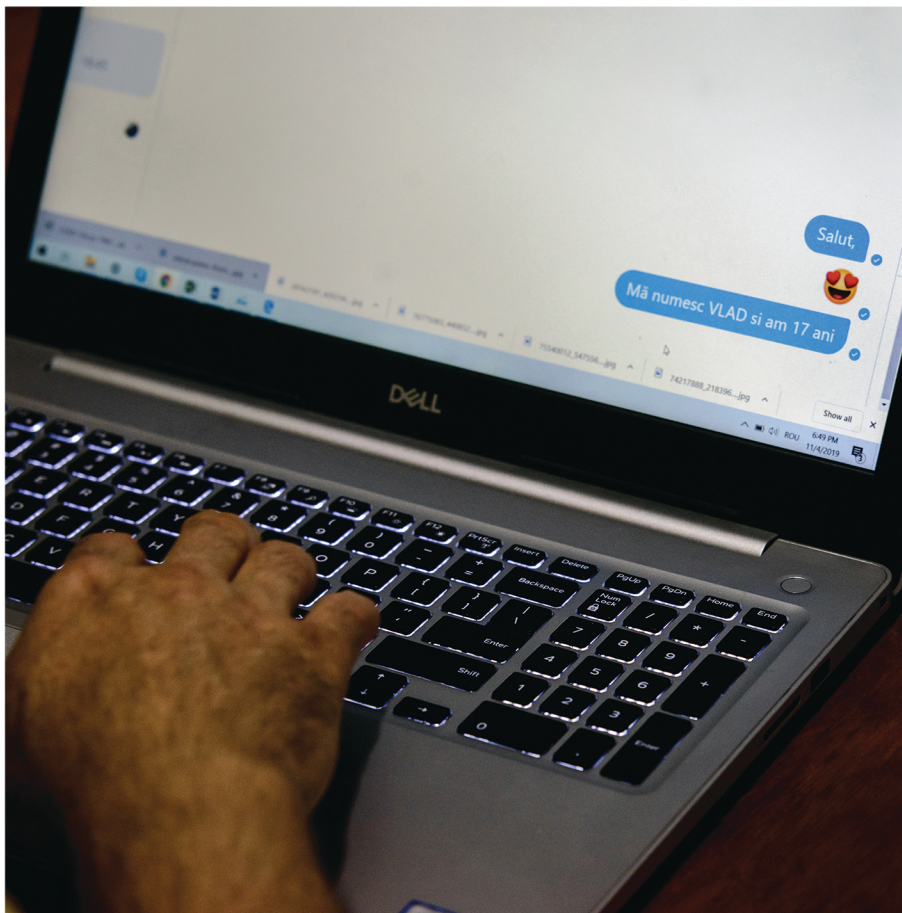
Both boys and girls may find themselves in risky situations and may experience feelings of shame, guilt, stress, etc. even if they were manipulated!

*(12PLUS Program, NCCAP)*



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Get informed about the persons you are engaging with in online discussions.

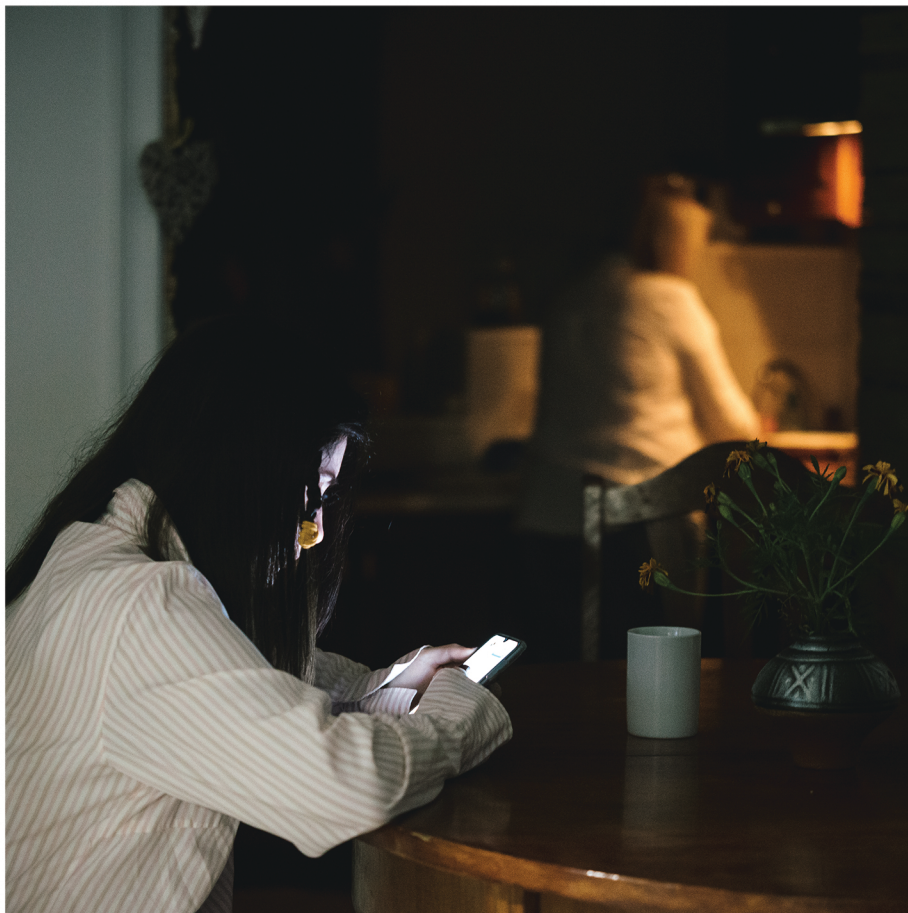
In most of the cases, sexual predators engaging with children online do not present themselves as they are in real life.

*(Internet Literacy Handbook, 2nd Edition, Council of Europe)*



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You can be subject to online harassment anywhere, even while being at home, in a safe environment.

All children have the right to be informed about the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, as well as about the means of protection themselves.

*(Lanzarote convention, art. 6)*



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Block the users who are trying to engage in online discussions of a sexual nature with you.

Online games are also platforms for online communication with strangers, which increases the risk of children/teenagers being exposed to risky situations which could lead to sexual exploitation.



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Avoid being publicly exposed in intimate positions; do not create and do not share such content about other persons.

Such content may trigger severe forms of bullying and online harassment. The online intimidation causes fear and distrust.

*(Internet Literacy Handbook, 2nd Edition, Council of Europe)*



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Be careful if you meet unknown persons.  
Beware - offline meetings with somebody you got to know online could be risky.

It is recommended that a child should be accompanied by an adult the first time they meet an online friend.

*(Internet Use Guide 2nd Edition,  
Council of Europe)*



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Communicate with your child in an open and friendly manner.

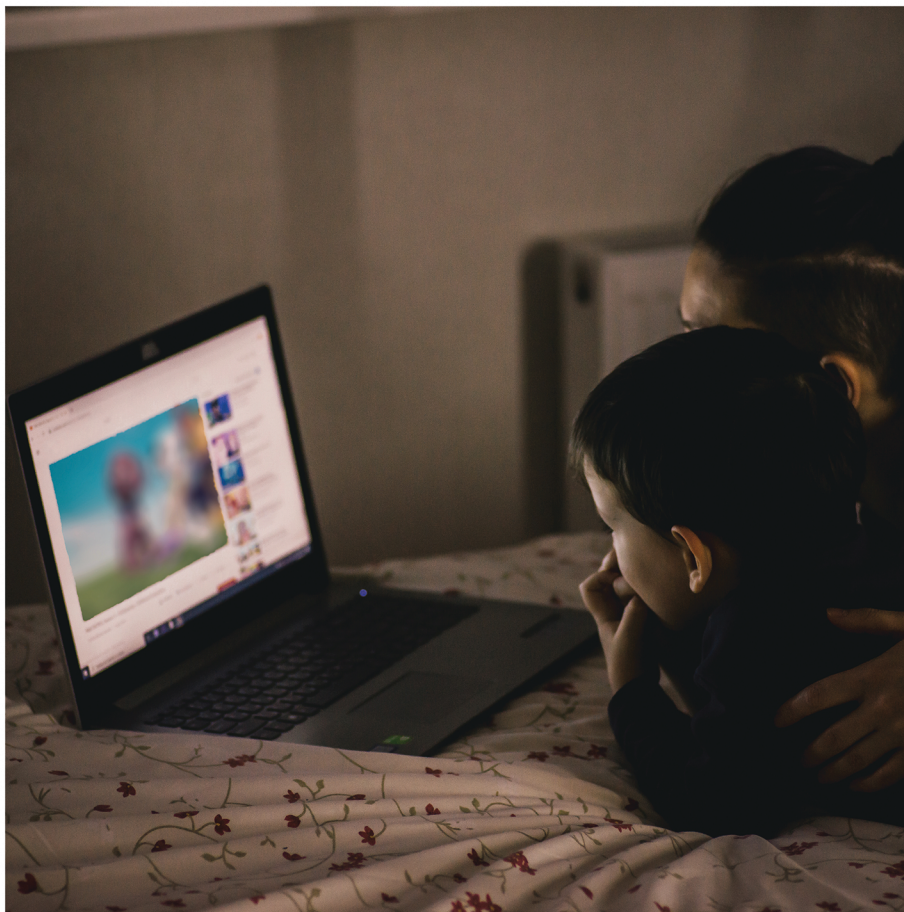
A child will only talk about what is happening with trusted adults, including online experiences.

*(Strategy “Support for parents and caregivers”, INSPIRE)*



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Spend some time online together with your child.

Experts recommend that parents should show interest in the online activities enjoyed by their child and spend some time together online with their children.

*(Internet Literacy Handbook, factsheet 20, 2nd Edition, Council of Europe)*



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Check what your child is posting online. Installing parental control apps may help to minimize the risks.

Parental control programmes allow you to block access to illegal and harmful content and to avoid downloading apps and games that are inappropriate for your child's age.



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You have the right to protection against sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

Child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse have the right to general protection measures as well as to assistance for physical and psychological recovery.

*(Lanzarote Convention, art.23; Penal Code of the Republic of Moldova, art. 1751)*



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Ask for help if you are being harassed or bullied online. There is no shame in asking for help in these situations.

Helplines should offer confidential counselling that respects anonymity.

*(Lanzarote Convention, art. 13)*



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Report any suspected case of sexual abuse against children to a trusted adult.

Professionals are obliged to notify the competent authorities about suspected cases of solicitation, harassment or sexual abuse against children.

The confidentiality rules applied to certain categories of specialists are not an obstacle for reporting.

*(Lanzarote Convention, art. 12;  
the RM Governmental Decision no. 270 of  
08.04.2014)*



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Do not be afraid to speak about the abuse you have experienced.

Online solicitation for sexual purposes is punishable.

*(Lanzarote Convention, art.23; Penal Code of the Republic of Moldova, art. 1751)*



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# Do you find yourself or someone you know in a risk situation?

**Report that,** we will help you!  
The services are free of charge and confidential!

**Ask for advice.** Get in touch with a consultant  
on [www.siguroonline.md](http://www.siguroonline.md)  
or [www.12plus.md](http://www.12plus.md).  
The discussion will remain confidential.

**Talk** to someone you trust.  
Call **116 111** or access  
[www.telefonulcopilului.md](http://www.telefonulcopilului.md)

If you find yourself in real danger,  
call **112** – the single emergency  
phone number.



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