



FACTSHEET – LIECHTENSTEIN

Lanzarote Committee Implementation Report on:

“The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies (ICTs): addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos (CSGSIV)”

This factsheet was prepared by the Secretariat in March 2023.

It has been updated with information submitted by the Government of Liechtenstein in March 2025 displayed in orange and blue text boxes.

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I. Introduction

One of the main functions of the Lanzarote Committee (“the Committee”) is to monitor the effective implementation of the Lanzarote Convention (“the Convention”). The monitoring procedure is divided into rounds, each concerning a specific thematic area and involving all State Parties (“the Parties”) simultaneously. The monitoring rounds start with the launch of a thematic questionnaire, to which the national authorities are asked to respond, and which other relevant stakeholders can comment on. After carrying out its **evaluation procedure**, consisting of the analysis of such replies, the Committee adopts an **implementation report** where it draws conclusions about the different national frameworks, strategies and policies in place, makes recommendations to Parties, and highlights promising practices as well as some challenges. Sometime after the adoption of the implementation report, the Committee conducts a **compliance procedure** with the aim of assessing whether Parties comply with the recommendations made by the Committee as part of the evaluation procedure.

The compliance procedure seeks to assess the follow-up given by Parties to the recommendations made by the Committee in the evaluation procedure. In the [implementation report of its 2nd monitoring round concerning the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos](#), the Committee made **three types of recommendations**:

- **“Require”**: when the steps the Committee recommends Parties to take correspond to obligations arising from the Convention, as clarified by its explanatory report.
- **“Request”**: when the steps the Committee recommends Parties to take correspond to obligations arising from the Convention, as clarified by documents adopted by the Committee (such as previous monitoring round findings, opinions or other documents).
- **“Invite”**: when the steps the Committee recommends Parties to take correspond to promising practices or other measures to enhance protection of children against sexual violence even beyond specific requirements of the Convention.

At its 41st meeting (13-15 February 2024), the Lanzarote Committee agreed on a new methodology for the assessment of State Parties’ compliance with the 2nd monitoring round recommendations ([see point 4 of the Appendix to the List of decisions](#)). It entrusted the Secretariat to insert boxes in the 2nd monitoring round country [factsheets](#) to highlight where information on follow-up measures taken or changes occurred may be inserted. It is recalled that these factsheets are a synthesis of the Committee’s implementation report findings with respect to specific Parties. The factsheets are structured along the lines of the implementation report and the footnotes in this document refer to the specific paragraphs of the implementation report.

The orange boxes contain information submitted by the State Party regarding progress made towards the implementation of the recommendation.

The blue boxes contain examples of national promising practices that respond to “invite” recommendations made by the Committee.

II. Legal frameworks

Interpreting the Convention, in conjunction with its [Opinion on child sexually suggestive or explicit images and/or videos generated, shared and received by children](#) (6 June 2019), the Committee identifies what Parties ought to have in place as well as what they are encouraged to do to better protect children against the exploitation of their self-generated sexual images and/or videos (CSGSIV).

Observations and recommendations of the Committee on the legal framework specific to Liechtenstein

General remarks

The Committee notes that the legal framework of Liechtenstein refers explicitly to child self-generated sexual material,¹ and uses the term “child pornography” as defined within Article 20(2) of the Convention.²

The Committee **invites** Liechtenstein:

- to rather use the term “child sexual abuse material” (CSAM) in the development of future national, regional and international legal instruments and policies addressing the prevention of and protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, as the Committee acknowledges that using the term “child pornography” can undermine the gravity of the crimes it refers to.³

Reservations allowed by Article 20(3) as regards own sexual images consensually produced and possessed by children for private use

The Committee highlights that Article 20(3) second indent foresees exemption from liability for the production and possession of one’s sexually explicit images only where the children in question are above the age of sexual consent and where the material is produced/possessed with their consent for their own private use. Liechtenstein made such a reservation:⁴ “adolescent persons (from 14 to 18) are exempt from penalties relating to “child pornography” in such circumstances.⁵

The interplay of the age of criminal responsibility and the age of sexual consent

The Committee notes that the majority of Parties do not prosecute the production and possession of CSGSIV as they may subject the criminalisation

to other conditions (e.g. the context of the possession, the legal age for sexual activities, etc). On this, Liechtenstein pointed at the age of criminal responsibility below which children cannot be held criminally liable for acts they commit to demonstrate compatibility with the exclusion of criminal liability for the production and possession of CSGSIV, which is 14 years old.⁶ Liechtenstein also noted that production and possession of self-generated material were not criminalised when the child(ren) in question have reached the legal age for sexual activities. However, the Committee underlines that relying on the age of sexual consent alone, to exclude criminal responsibility for the scenarios listed in paragraphs 3-6 of the 2019 Opinion, is insufficient as, in such case, younger children may not be covered from the exemption of criminal responsibility.⁷

- The Committee **requests** that Liechtenstein ensures in its legal framework that a child will not be prosecuted when he/she possesses their own CSGSIV; CSGSIV of another child with the informed consent of the child depicted on them; or CSGSIV as a result of receiving them passively without actively asking for them.⁸

Follow-up actions:

Pursuant to § 219(6) of the Criminal Code (StGB), any person who produces or possesses a pornographic depiction of an adolescent with the adolescent's consent and for the adolescent's or the person's own use shall not be punished. Pursuant to § 219(6a) StGB,

¹ Para. 43.

² Para. 49.

³ Recommendation II-3.

⁴ Para. 55.

⁵ Para. 56.

⁶ Para. 71.

⁷ Para. 73.

⁸ Recommendation II-6.

there shall likewise be no punishment for any person who produces, possesses, or offers to others for their own use, procures, passes on, presents or otherwise makes accessible a pornographic depiction of himself/herself as an adolescent. Moreover, there shall be no punishment for any person who possesses a pornographic depiction of himself/herself as an underage person (persons who have reached the age of criminal responsibility and possess photos of themselves as underage persons).

Sharing own self-generated material and other children's self-generated material

The Committee observes that children are potentially criminally liable for the distribution or transmission of their own CSGSIV in Liechtenstein.⁹ Furthermore, Liechtenstein has rules that lead to the criminalisation of the distribution by children of CSGSIV of other children.¹⁰

The Committee **requests** that Liechtenstein ensures that:

- a child will not be prosecuted for sharing his/her CSGSIV with another child when such sharing is voluntary, consensual, and intended solely for their own private use.¹¹

Follow-up actions:

See previous answer.

- the distribution or transmission by children of CSGSIV of *other* children is prosecuted as a last resort when such images and/or videos qualify as "child pornography" in accordance with Article 20(2) of the Convention.¹²

Follow-up actions:

See previous answer.

On the "sexual extortion of children":

The Committee notes that Liechtenstein reported that, at the time of responding, there had been no such cases tried at court.¹³

In cases where the sexual extortion is intended to procure additional sexual images or videos, the Committee observes that Liechtenstein prosecutes for offences related to "child pornography", in concurrence with offences where threat is a core element, such as extortion or coercion.¹⁴

Liechtenstein referred to a further offence which may be established, in recognition of the constituent elements of coercion/extortion: corruption of children.¹⁵

When it is intended to procure other sexual favours from the child depicted on the images/videos or from another children, Liechtenstein reported that it would prosecute for sexual abuse of a child in accordance with Article 18 of the Convention, for offences related to child prostitution, to participation in pornographic performances and corruption of children.¹⁶ In addition, Liechtenstein prosecutes conduct relating to the possession of the initial child sexual image or video as an offence related to "child pornography" under Article 20.¹⁷ Liechtenstein would also prosecute for sexual assault and for coercion and aggravated coercion.¹⁸

In the case where it is intended to procure a financial gain, or other property from the child, Liechtenstein indicated that the conduct will be qualified as extortion or aggravated extortion.¹⁹

- When dealing with sexual extortion cases involving children, the Committee **invites** Liechtenstein to ensure that sexual extortion of children involving CSGSIV is investigated and prosecuted²⁰ and to take into account the situation where CSGSIV are used to force, coerce or threaten the child to give additional CSGSIV, other sexual favours, a financial gain or other gain to the offenders by:

⁹ Para. 78.

¹⁰ Para. 82.

¹¹ Recommendation II-8.

¹² Recommendation II-9.

¹³ Para. 95.

¹⁴ Para. 98.

¹⁵ Para. 100.

¹⁶ Para. 102.

¹⁷ Para. 103.

¹⁸ Para. 104.

¹⁹ Para. 106.

²⁰ Recommendation II-12.

- either creating a specific incrimination to address this situation,

- or prosecuting both the initial detention of CSGSIV and the act of extortion.²¹

Generic recommendations of the Committee on the legal framework

On the legal framework, the Committee **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to introduce a definition of CSAM for material depicting acts of sexual abuse of children and/or focusing on the genitalia of the child, following the guidance set out in the [“Terminology Guidelines for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse”](#).^{22 23}
- to introduce explicit references in its respective legal frameworks to conduct concerning CSGSIV, identifying the circumstances when children should not be held criminally liable and when they should be prosecuted only as a last resort.²⁴
- to contemplate appropriate legal responses to conduct involving non-visual CSGSIV produced by children in the context of offences covered by the Convention.²⁵
- to adopt legislative or other measures which promote as a priority educational and other measures that will aim to support children in safely exploring their sexual development while understanding and avoiding risks deriving from the production and possession of CSGSIV.²⁶
- to consider criminalising the offence of "grooming" (solicitation of children for sexual purposes), even when it does not lead to a face-to-face meeting or producing CSAM.²⁷

²¹ Recommendation II-11.

²² The Terminology Guidelines also refer to the term “child sexual exploitation material”, indicating that this term can be used in a broader sense, see [“Luxembourg Terminology Guidelines”, pages 38-40 in particular](#).

²³ Recommendation II-1.

²⁴ Recommendation II-2.

²⁵ Recommendation II-4.

²⁶ Recommendation II-7.

²⁷ Recommendation II-10.

III. Investigations and prosecution

In its [Interpretative Opinion on the applicability of the Lanzarote Convention to sexual offences against children facilitated through the use of information and communication technologies](#) (ICTs) (12 May 2017), the Committee called on Parties to ensure effective investigation and prosecution of ICT facilitated sexual exploitation and sexual abuse by providing resources and training to responsible authorities.

Observations and recommendations of the Committee on Investigations and Prosecution specific to Liechtenstein

The Committee observes that in Liechtenstein, which does not have specialised units in law enforcement, cases of ICT facilitated sexual offences against children are managed by units specialised in combating serious crimes.²⁸ The Committee also notes that the Crime Investigation Division is able to conduct separate complex forensic examinations as one of its main capacities.²⁹

- Therefore, the Committee **requests** Liechtenstein to establish specialised law enforcement units, services or persons in charge of dealing with ICT facilitated sexual offences against children.³⁰

Follow-up actions:

See answer to the generic recommendation in Chapter V. International cooperation.

Liechtenstein specified that it does not have specialised training in place for law enforcement agents.³¹

- Therefore, the Committee **requires** Liechtenstein to ensure training on sexual offences against children to all law enforcement agents who are likely to come into contact with such cases, including front desk officers, rather than reserving it to specialised units.³²

Follow-up actions:

Police candidates for the National Police are trained at the Police Academy of Eastern Switzerland. The curriculum includes lessons relating to domestic violence and sexualised violence. Sexual offences against children included are discussed as part of the lessons on criminal law – Special Part, law of criminal procedure, and criminal tactics. Candidates gain practical understanding of how to deal with victims of sexual offences. Thanks to its size and organisational structure, the National Police can ensure the availability of specialised investigators in the field of sexual offences at all times.

- The Committee also **requests** Liechtenstein to include ICT facilitated sexual offences against children in training of law enforcement agents who are likely to come into contact with such cases.³³

Follow-up actions:

See the answer to the Committee's next request in this chapter.

The Committee observes that Liechtenstein has training in place for prosecutors on aspects of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, composed of its own training programme, used either in full or in part to carry out such training.³⁴ However, Liechtenstein specified that no specialised training was in place for judges.³⁵

²⁸ Para. 117.

²⁹ Para. 121.

³⁰ Recommendation III-1.

³¹ Para. 155.

³² Recommendation III-12.

³³ Recommendation III-13.

³⁴ Paras. 156, 157.

³⁵ Para. 169.

- Therefore, the Committee **requests** Liechtenstein to ensure that training on ICT-facilitated sexual offences against children is available for prosecutors and judges who are or will be working on these issues.³⁶

Follow-up actions:

This is ensured for the Office of the Public Prosecutor, in particular by the possibility of participating in training for this purpose in Austria and Switzerland.

See also response to the general recommendation regarding specialization and training of authorities.

Liechtenstein indicated that it has victim identification units within law enforcement for cases of ICT facilitated sexual offences against children, and that such units are located within cybercrime or high-tech crime departments.³⁷ Furthermore, Liechtenstein informed the Committee that it can access the National Image Hash Value Database (NDHS) of the Swiss Cybercrime Coordination Unit.³⁸

The Committee notes that Liechtenstein is connected to the ICSE database, but does not actively contribute to it, because of a lack of national experts specialising in the identification of victims of online CSAM.³⁹

- Therefore, the Committee **invites** Liechtenstein to ensure that any obstacles to active contribution to INTERPOL's ICSE's database are removed and that national contributions are implemented in practice, regardless of the nationality of the victims.⁴⁰

Regarding challenges encountered during the course of investigations and prosecution,

Liechtenstein mentioned the assessment of (potential) victims' ages as a challenging and time-consuming task,⁴¹ the use of the Darknet and virtual private networks which make it more difficult to detect offences and their perpetrators,⁴² and the obtention of electronic evidence that can be validly used before courts.⁴³

- To improve the effective implementation of the Convention, the Committee **requests** Liechtenstein to take the necessary legislative or other measures, in conformity with the fundamental principles of its internal law, to ensure an effective investigation and prosecution of ICT-facilitated sexual offences against children, allowing, where appropriate, for the possibility of covert operations.⁴⁴

Follow-up actions:

The National Police has the technical means to carry out its own internet monitoring, which facilitates the identification of consumers and providers of prohibited pornography (in particular child pornography) in Liechtenstein. Additionally, the National Police has an agreement with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC), under which CyberTipline reports are transmitted to the National Police. The National Police also has access to a platform (the EU's ARICA project) which analyses darknet forums to improve the capabilities of law enforcement authorities in investigating online child sexual abuse material (CSAM). A consultation procedure is currently underway to create the legal basis for new investigative methods for the optical and acoustic surveillance of individuals.

³⁶ Recommendations III-16 and III-18.

³⁷ Para. 180.

³⁸ Para. 183.

³⁹ Para. 188.

⁴⁰ Recommendation III-27.

⁴¹ Para. 182.

⁴² Para. 195.

⁴³ Para. 203.

⁴⁴ Recommendation III-28.

Generic recommendations of the Committee on investigation and prosecution

On the specialisation and training of authorities:

- Mindful of the different contexts in the Parties as recalled in para. 235 of the Explanatory Report, the Committee **requests** those Parties that are not already doing so to ensure that law enforcement and prosecution units, services or persons specialised in ICT facilitated sexual offences against children are adequately financed to ensure sufficient resources, including staff, equipment and training.⁴⁵

Follow-up actions:

The Office of the Public Prosecutor has sufficient financial and human resources. Moreover, the Office of the Public Prosecutor has the opportunity to apply to the Government and Parliament for an increase in financial and human resources each year as part of the budget process. The administrative agreement with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Justice (BMJ) on the participation of Liechtenstein judges, public prosecutors, and candidate judges in continuing education and training events organised by the Austrian justice system ensures that public prosecutors receive uninterrupted basic and continuing training. A continuing training obligation in this regard will be introduced by law on 1 January 2026 (the Report and Motion No. 105/2024 for this purpose was adopted in the November session of Parliament). The judicial preparatory service (Article 26 of the Office of the Public Prosecutor Act (StAG) in conjunction with Articles 6 et seq. of the Judicial Service Act (RDG)) serves to train both judges and public prosecutors. As part of this training, candidates are specially prepared for the office of judge or public prosecutor and acquire the necessary skills and knowledge. Part of the training can be completed abroad, such as in Austria pursuant to the above-mentioned administrative agreement.

The Committee **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to ensure that the capacities of any investigative unit specialised in ICT-facilitated sexual offences against children take into account evolving technologies and online behaviours and reflect current practices used by perpetrators.⁴⁶
- to ensure that law enforcement units, services or persons specialised in ICT facilitated sexual offences against children adequately cover and/or are specialised in offences against children involving CSGSIV.⁴⁷
- to ensure that units, services or persons within courts responsible for ICT-facilitated sexual offences against children have the necessary specialisation in the intersecting areas of children's rights, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children, and ICT technical knowledge.⁴⁸
- To ensure that units, services or persons within courts responsible for ICT-facilitated sexual offences against children have sufficient specialisation in offences involving CSGSIV.⁴⁹
- To have units, sections or persons specialised in ICT-facilitated sexual offences committed by children against other children for authorities responsible for investigation and for authorities responsible for prosecution.⁵⁰
- To provide specific training on ICT facilitated sexual offences against children, including when such offences involve CSGSIV, and ICT facilitated coercion or extortion to law enforcement agents who are likely to come into contact with such cases.^{51 52}
- To ensure that training on the challenges raised by CSGSIV and ICT-facilitated coercion or extortion of children is available to prosecutors and to judges.⁵³ to offer joint (or "joined-up") training for professionals, and particularly law enforcement, prosecutors and judges, involved in legal proceedings

⁴⁵ Recommendations III-3 and III-7.

⁴⁶ Recommendation III-4.

⁴⁷ Recommendation III-5.

⁴⁸ Recommendation III-9.

⁴⁹ Recommendation III-10.

⁵⁰ Recommendation III-11.

⁵¹ Such trainings can also be part of broader training programmes.

⁵² Recommendation III-14.

⁵³ Recommendations III-17 and III-19.

involving ICT-facilitated child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, in order to ensure consistency at all stages.⁵⁴

- to ensure that training on ICT-facilitated sexual offences against children for law-enforcement, prosecutors and judges contains a practical element, involving simulated or real cases.⁵⁵

On measures to ensure the effective investigation and prosecution:

- The Committee **requires** all Parties to ensure that investigations and criminal proceedings in ICT facilitated sexual offences against children are treated as priority and carried out without any unjustified delay.⁵⁶

Follow-up actions:

Pursuant to § 10 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the National Police is obliged to investigate every criminal offence which is subject to indictment and suspicion of which has been brought to its attention. For this purpose, the National Police must without delay carry out investigations to ascertain the facts and issue such orders as are necessary to prevent the removal of the traces of the criminal act or the escape of the suspect. The National Police attaches great importance to the prosecution of sexual offences in the digital space. For this reason, an employee of the Digital Crime Unit attended and successfully completed the course on combating child pornography in the digital

world at the German Bundeskriminalamt (Federal Criminal Police Office) in July 2024.

It also **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to ensure that measures, services and technology available to those in charge of identifying child victims of ICT-facilitated sexual offences are up to date, reflect current practices across Parties, including establishing and using national child abuse material databases, and that resources are sufficiently allocated.⁵⁷
- to engage in and strengthen inter-Party cooperation for the purpose of identifying child victims and perpetrators of ICT facilitated sexual offences, including, where appropriate, by providing access to each other's databases or shared databases, including those containing information on such perpetrators.⁵⁸
- to take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that preservation of specified stored computer data in connection with a specific criminal investigation or proceedings is made possible, fully upholding the rights of the parties involved.⁵⁹
- to take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the investment in human, financial and physical resources is sufficient to have data generated by ICTs analysed in a timely manner so that investigations are carried out without any unjustified delay.⁶⁰

⁵⁴ Recommendation III-20.

⁵⁵ Recommendation III-21.

⁵⁶ Recommendation III-30.

⁵⁷ Recommendation III-24.

⁵⁸ Recommendations III-25, III-29.

⁵⁹ Recommendation III-31.

⁶⁰ Recommendation III-32.

IV. Jurisdiction rules

Due to their online component, offences related to conducts involving CSGSIV have an inherently international aspect. As the prosecution of offences related to this material may involve more than one jurisdiction, the report analyses the jurisdictional rules in place in the Parties, enabling the determination of which Party may prosecute a particular case and under what conditions.

Observations and recommendations of the Committee on jurisdiction rules specific to Liechtenstein

Jurisdiction in cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs committed on the territory of a Party: the territoriality principle (Article 25(1)(a-c))

The Committee notes that Liechtenstein has not established laws clarifying the circumstances in which its national criminal law will apply to a transnational situation following the territoriality principle, or has not communicated so to the Committee.⁶¹

- Therefore, the Committee **requests** Liechtenstein to take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over transnational cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs, when one of the constituent elements of the offence has taken place in Liechtenstein.⁶²

Follow-up actions:

Pursuant to § 64(1)(4a) StGB, Liechtenstein jurisdiction can arise for various sexual offences (aggravated sexual abuse of underage persons, sexual abuse of underage persons, initiation of sexual contacts with underage persons, child pornography, etc.) if the perpetrator or the victim is a Liechtenstein citizen or has their habitual abode in Liechtenstein. If an element of the offence has been fulfilled in Liechtenstein, § 62 StGB applies in any case and Liechtenstein jurisdiction arises *ex lege*.

Jurisdiction based on nationality and residency (Article 25(1)(d), (e))

It appears that Liechtenstein has jurisdiction over offences covered by the Convention committed by one of its nationals or by a person who has its

habitual residence in its territory.

Jurisdiction not subordinated to the condition that prosecution can only be initiated following a report from the victim or denunciation from the State where the offence was committed (Article 25(6))

Liechtenstein did not provide information as to whether it applies this condition for prosecution.

- The Committee **requires** Liechtenstein, to improve the effective implementation of the Convention, to remove the requirement that prosecution can only be initiated following a report from the victim or a denunciation from the State of the place where the offence was committed for offences of sexual abuse, offences concerning child prostitution, the production of “child pornography” and offences concerning the participation of a child in pornographic performances, when committed by one of its nationals or by a person who has his or her habitual residence in its territory.⁶³

Follow-up actions:

Pursuant to § 21 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (StPO), the Office of the Public Prosecutor shall, *ex officio* and with the assistance of the National Police, be responsible for investigating all punishable acts of which it gains knowledge and which are not subject to investigation and punishment merely at the request of an involved party, and it shall prosecute those suspected of committing the punishable acts in order to enable the court to do what is necessary for investigation and punishment.

⁶¹ Para. 214.

⁶² Recommendation IV-1.

⁶³ Recommendation IV-5.

Jurisdiction not subordinated to the condition that the acts are criminalised at the place where they were performed (Article 25(4)): the dual criminality principle

Liechtenstein reported that it would assume jurisdiction over offences involving sexual abuse or sexual exploitation of children, irrespective of the laws of the State where the offence was committed, if committed by one of its nationals or by a person who has his or her habitual residence in its territory.⁶⁴ Furthermore, Liechtenstein indicated that its law will be applicable to offences related to child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse committed by a foreigner present in Liechtenstein who cannot be extradited.⁶⁵

Jurisdiction in cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs committed against nationals or habitual residents of a Party: the passive personality principle (Art. 25(2))

The Committee observes that the passive personality principle is applied in Liechtenstein in respect of offences committed against a national or persons who have their habitual residence in Liechtenstein, but only for offences punishable of imprisonment of at least 6 years.⁶⁶ The Committee further notes that in order to apply

the passive personality principle in Liechtenstein, the dual criminality principle is not a prerequisite of prosecution.⁶⁷

The Committee **requests** Parties that are not already doing so, including Liechtenstein:

- to endeavour to take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over any offence established in accordance with the Lanzarote Convention where the offence is committed against one of its nationals or a person who has his or her habitual residence in its territory.⁶⁸

Follow-up actions:

This is covered by § 64(1)(4a) StGB, as all of the offences listed in Articles 18 to 23 of the Lanzarote Convention are explicitly listed in §64a(1)(4a) StGB (§§ 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 209a, 212(1), 214, 215a, 219 StGB).

Generic recommendations of the Committee on the Jurisdiction rules

- The Committee **invites** Parties, including Liechtenstein to remove the requirement for dual criminality when committed by one of their nationals, for offences of:
 - possessing, offering, distributing, transmitting, procuring child pornography, and the fact of knowingly gaining access to child pornography through ICTs, when CSGSIV are involved,⁶⁹
 - solicitation of children for sexual purposes.⁷⁰

⁶⁴ Para. 224.

⁶⁵ Para. 230.

⁶⁶ Para. 231.

⁶⁷ Para. 232.

⁶⁸ Recommendation IV-9.

⁶⁹ Recommendation IV-7.

⁷⁰ Recommendation IV-8.

V. International cooperation

The implementation report also analyses cooperation practices and examples of coordinated international responses, not only in the fight against sexual exploitation and abuse of children, but also in areas related to the prevention, protection and assistance of child victims and persons related to them.

Observations and recommendations of the Committee on international cooperation specific to Liechtenstein

Liechtenstein did not provide information as to whether it allows children who fall victims when they are in the territory of a Party other than the one where they reside may make a complaint before the competent authorities of their State of residence.

- The Committee **requires** Liechtenstein to ensure that victims of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse in matters related to CSGSIV in the territory of a Party other than the one where they reside may make a

complaint before the competent authorities of their State of residence.⁷¹

Follow-up action:

§ 64(1)(4a) StGB entails that a victim can file a complaint in Liechtenstein if Liechtenstein is the residence or habitual abode of the victim or the victim has Liechtenstein citizenship. Accordingly this is covered by § 64(1)(4a).

Generic recommendations of the Committee on international cooperation

- On international cooperation, the Committee **requests** all Parties, including Liechtenstein to extend their international cooperation with other Parties to improve the effective implementation of the Convention.⁷²

Follow-up actions:

The National Police has a very good international network. The Digital Crime Unit works closely together with the cybercrime units of the Swiss cantonal police forces and participates in INTERPOL and Europol working groups on specific phenomena. Moreover, the National Police draws on a network of liaison officers responsible for Switzerland and Liechtenstein. To strengthen this network, the National Police organises regular meetings with liaison officers from Australia, Canada, France, Georgia, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, the UK, and the US.

The Committee **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to assess, strengthen and develop international cooperation with other Parties to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children and to provide assistance to victims in matters related to CSGSIV.⁷³
- to expand international cooperation with countries which are not Parties to the Convention to disseminate the standards of the Convention, including for the purpose of preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, for the purpose of protecting and providing assistance to victims and concerning the offences established in accordance with the Convention, in matters related to CSGSIV.⁷⁴

⁷¹ Recommendation V-17.

⁷² Recommendation V-3.

⁷³ Recommendations V-6, V-11.

⁷⁴ Recommendations V-4, V-7, V-12, V-15.

- to regularly assess the difficulties that they face when dealing with international cooperation and remedy them.⁷⁵
- to strengthen cooperation with relevant intergovernmental bodies and with transnational networks and other international organisations and initiatives due to their capacity to mobilisation, their worldwide scope, and their flexibility to work, for the purpose of preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children as well as for protecting and providing assistance to victims, in matters related to CSGSIV.⁷⁶
- to consider requesting the establishment of cooperation projects managed by the Council of Europe to assist them in their efforts to preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children in matters related to CSGSIV.⁷⁷
- to support regional and international capacity building efforts to improve policy and operational measures including the pooling and sharing of successful education and awareness-raising tools for the purpose of preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children in matters related to CSGSIV⁷⁸ to maintain and develop efforts to strengthen international cooperation with other Parties and non-Parties to the Convention, in investigation and proceedings concerning the offences established in accordance with the Convention, in particular in the area of police cooperation, namely ensuring that their law-enforcement agencies can connect and contribute to the Europol and INTERPOL databases, and develop the areas of data, training, vetting, and selection, in matters related to CSGSIV.⁷⁹
- to integrate, where appropriate, prevention and the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children in matters related to CSGSIV, in assistance programmes for development provided for the benefit of third States.⁸⁰

⁷⁵ Recommendation V-5.

⁷⁶ Recommendations V-8, V-13.

⁷⁷ Recommendation V-9.

⁷⁸ Recommendation V-10.

⁷⁹ Recommendations V-14, V-16.

⁸⁰ Recommendation V-19.

VI. Assistance to victims

This chapter provides a comparative study of national mechanisms and measures for assisting child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, particularly where this results from the CSGSIV.

Observations and recommendations of the Committee on assistance to victims specific to Liechtenstein

The Committee observes that in Liechtenstein, helplines for children are accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.⁸¹

- To improve the effective implementation of the Convention, the Committee **requires** Liechtenstein to take the necessary legislative or other measures to encourage and support the establishment of information services, such as telephone or internet helplines, to provide advice to child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs as well as persons wishing to help them, in a confidential manner or with due regard for their anonymity. Furthermore, these information services should be made available as widely as possible. This can be done in several ways: the service is available at extended hours, it is delivered in a language that the caller, especially the child, can understand, and it is free of charge.⁸²

Follow-up actions:

In Liechtenstein, children and young people can access low-threshold support services via the 147 helpline (24 hours a day, 7 days a week), via WhatsApp chat, or via the 147.li internet portal. This service is not limited to sexual violence and sexual exploitation,

however, but covers all issues that can be challenging for children and young people. The Institute for Social Services (ifs) Vorarlberg offers more specific telephone advice or advice in person for Liechtenstein children and young people. This service is limited to contact during business hours, however.

The Committee observes that Liechtenstein has legislation containing adequate provisions to assist child victims which focuses on assistance to child victims of sexual violence.⁸³

The Committee highlights that Liechtenstein is one of only two Parties to provide independent psychotherapists and psychiatrists as services that child victims can access free of charge through their health insurance. This practice provides children with greater opportunities to access services.⁸⁴

However, the Committee notes that Liechtenstein has numerous services to assist victims and their families, including the aforementioned service of private practitioners and the 24/7 Crisis Intervention Team, but offers no statistical data on any dimension of the proportion of child victims in such contexts.⁸⁵

Generic recommendations of the Committee on assistance to victims

The Committee also **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to promote awareness raising or specialised training for professionals who advise children through telephone or internet helplines on ICT-facilitated sexual exploitation and abuse of children – including the risks associated with CSGSIV – and how to provide appropriate support to victims and to those who wish to help them.⁸⁶

⁸¹ Para. 280.

⁸² Recommendation VI-1.

⁸³ Paras. 286, 287.

⁸⁴ Para. 294.

⁸⁵ Paras. 296, 299.

⁸⁶ Recommendation VI-2.

VII. Civil society involvement and cooperation

Civil society's involvement in protecting children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse is crucial and acknowledged by the Convention. Projects and programmes carried out by civil society, as well as cooperation between the competent state authorities and civil society, cover a wide range of issues.

Observations of the Committee on civil society involvement and cooperation specific to Liechtenstein

The Committee recognises Liechtenstein's efforts to develop and support different activities aimed at raising the awareness of not only children but also adults, such as parents, educators, doctors and social workers, about the existing risks and dangers of ICTs for children.⁸⁷

Other civil society projects in Liechtenstein - whether or not carried out in cooperation with the State - aimed at preventing abuses related to the sharing of such content are educational activities.⁸⁸

Generic recommendations of the Committee on civil society involvement and cooperation

The Committee **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to expand cooperation with civil society to better prevent sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including when facilitated by ICTs and the challenges raised by the exploitation of CSGSIV.⁸⁹
- to ensure that the forms of cooperation that take place with civil society in the field of prevention and protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse are of a sustainable nature.⁹⁰
- To support civil society to carry out projects and programmes that include the issue of CSGSIV.⁹¹
- to encourage the participation of children, according to their evolving capacity, in the development and implementation of state policies, programmes or other initiatives⁹² and to seek children's views at the stage of drafting new legislation concerning the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including when facilitated by ICTs and as regards CSGSIV.⁹³

⁸⁷ Para. 315.

⁸⁸ Para. 323.

⁸⁹ Recommendation VII-3.

⁹⁰ Recommendation VII-4.

⁹¹ Recommendation VII-5.

⁹² Parties are also invited to provide example(s) of how children's views are taken into account in the context of the participation of children.

⁹³ Recommendations VII-6, VII-7.

VIII. Promoting awareness of the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse faced by children generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves

The Articles 5, 6 and 8 of the Convention establish that States Parties should take the necessary measures to prevent all forms of child sexual exploitation and abuse and to protect children from their effects. Awareness-raising is one type of preventive measure.

Generic recommendations of the Committee on promoting awareness of the risk of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse faced by children generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves

The Committee **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to ensure that explanations of the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse faced by children generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves, with or without coercion, are included in the awareness-raising campaigns that they promote or conduct, whatever the target audience.⁹⁴
- to ensure that awareness-raising for children about the risks that they face when generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves takes place early enough, before they reach their teens, and that it is “adapted to their evolving capacity” or, in other words, their age and degree of maturity.⁹⁵
- to use unchanged, wherever possible, the awareness-raising tools, materials and activities mentioned in this report or else to adapt them to their national contexts and their own languages and, if necessary, develop new ones, concentrating on videos and distribution through social media.⁹⁶
- to have available awareness-raising tools, materials, and activities suitable for children with disabilities.⁹⁷
- to ensure that awareness-raising for children regarding the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse that they face when generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves is led first and foremost by their peers.⁹⁸
- to promote themselves and to encourage the information and communication of the technology sector, the media, and other professionals to raise awareness among children, their parents, persons having regular contact with children, and the general public about the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse faced by children generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves and about the preventive measures that can be taken.⁹⁹
- to step-up awareness-raising for parents and persons with parental authority about the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse faced by children generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves and about the preventive measures that can be taken.¹⁰⁰
- to promote or conduct awareness-raising campaigns for the general public providing information about the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse faced by children generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves and about the preventive measures that can be taken.¹⁰¹

⁹⁴ Recommendation VIII-1.

⁹⁵ Recommendation VIII-2.

⁹⁶ Recommendation VIII-3.

⁹⁷ Recommendation VIII-4.

⁹⁸ Recommendation VIII-5.

⁹⁹ Recommendation VIII-6.

¹⁰⁰ Recommendation VIII-7.

¹⁰¹ Recommendation VIII-8.

- to take the necessary measures to ensure co-ordination between the agencies responsible for raising awareness of the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse faced by children generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves.¹⁰²

¹⁰² Recommendation VIII-9.

IX. Education for children

While the protection of child victims and the prosecution of offenders are key elements in the fight against the sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, preventing them from occurring in the first place is paramount. Informing children about the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and how to protect themselves is the cornerstone of prevention.

Observation of the Committee on education for children specific to Liechtenstein

The Committee observes that in Liechtenstein, information related to child sexual exploitation and abuse and/or challenges raised by ICTs is provided during secondary education only.¹⁰³

Generic recommendations of the Committee on education for children

- The Committee **requires** all Parties, including Liechtenstein, to ensure that all children at primary and secondary level receive information about the risks of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs. Organising lectures and/or activities on this topic should not be left to the discretion of schools or teachers.¹⁰⁴

Follow-up actions:

As part of the Liechtenstein curriculum (LiLe), age-appropriate, holistic and comprehensive sexuality education and the topic of media literacy are central components of the compulsory school curriculum and are therefore mandatory for all schools and teachers. Prevention takes place within the framework of subjects such as “Life Skills”, the LiLe module “Media and IT” and love.li workshops. The touring exhibition “My body belongs to me!” is offered every year for the 3rd grade of elementary school. The aim of the exhibition is to prevent abuse and sexual violence. The “Love Limits” course, which is designed for secondary schools, revisits the topic of sexual violence, focusing on sexual violence among young people. The school social workers are also very familiar with the issues and act professionally and quickly.

The Committee **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to address in educational contexts the issue of the risks of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs, including as regards CSGSIV.¹⁰⁵
- to ensure that information on the risks of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs, including as regards CSGSIV, is provided to children during both primary and secondary education (whether as part of the national curricula or in the context of non-formal education for children at these levels).¹⁰⁶
- to consistently involve children in the development of internet safety awareness programmes.¹⁰⁷
- to ensure that there is a standing national internet safety resource, with an ongoing programme of activities.¹⁰⁸
- to provide information to children on child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, facilitated by ICTs, including as regards CSGSIV, in their national curriculum or other non-formal educational contexts, in a form which is adapted to the evolving capacity of the children and therefore which is appropriate for their age and maturity.¹⁰⁹
- to provide information to children on the

¹⁰³ Para. 393.

¹⁰⁴ Recommendation IX-3.

¹⁰⁵ Recommendation IX-1.

¹⁰⁶ Recommendation IX-2.

¹⁰⁷ Recommendation IX-4.

¹⁰⁸ Recommendation IX-5.

¹⁰⁹ Recommendation IX-6.

risks of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs, including CSGSIV, within a more general context of sexuality education.¹¹⁰

- to ensure that parents, caregivers, and

educators are involved, where appropriate, in the provision of information to children on the risks of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs, in particular as regards CSGSIV.¹¹¹

¹¹⁰ Recommendation IX-7.

¹¹¹ Recommendation IX-8.

X. Higher education curriculum and continuous training

Persons who have regular contact with children in the education, health and social protection sectors and areas related to sport, culture and leisure are at the forefront of the prevention of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, as they have the most interaction with children under their supervision in these different settings. However, they may not be adequately equipped to inform children about their rights, to detect situations where a child is at risk of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse and to respond appropriately. It is therefore of crucial importance that they are well informed about the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, both during their education and continuously during their careers, to enable them to adapt to emerging trends and risks in the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including when facilitated by ICTs.

Observations and recommendations of the Committee on higher education curriculum and continuous training specific to Liechtenstein

The Committee notes that in Liechtenstein some of the professionals working in contact with children have been trained and/or received education on how to identify potential situations where a child is a victim of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse.¹¹² Similarly, only some of the professionals working in contact with children seem to have been trained on the possibility to report situations where they have reasonable grounds for believing that a child is a victim of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse.¹¹³ Furthermore, some persons working in contact with children receive awareness of the protection and rights of children, in different frameworks and on different topics.¹¹⁴

- Therefore, the Committee **requests** Liechtenstein to ensure that the persons who have regular contact with children have adequate knowledge of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including when facilitated by ICTs, for example through education or continuous training.¹¹⁵

Follow-up actions:

Firstly, teachers have adequate knowledge of the sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children thanks to the training they have received at teacher colleges. They are also made aware of these issues as part of further training for teachers in Liechtenstein, which is available to all teachers in Liechtenstein free

of charge.

The Committee also **requires** Liechtenstein:

- to ensure that teaching or training on the rights of children and their protection for persons who have regular contacts with children (i.e. in the education, health and social protection sectors and in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities) is not optional.¹¹⁶

Follow-up actions:

This training is already a mandatory component of the courses offered by teacher training colleges and is therefore compulsory.

- to ensure that the persons who have regular contacts with children are equipped to identify any situation of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children:
 - in the health sector
 - in the social protection sector
 - in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities.¹¹⁷

Follow-up actions:

Liechtenstein regularly organises events to train persons who work with children. The aim is to raise their awareness so that they can recognise sexual violence, providing them with the necessary knowledge regarding the forms of sexual violence as well as the approaches adopted by perpetrators;

¹¹² Para. 428.

¹¹³ Para. 429.

¹¹⁴ Para. 432.

¹¹⁵ Recommendation X-1.

¹¹⁶ Recommendation X-4.

¹¹⁷ Recommendation X-5.

however, this training does not currently take place on a regular basis or cover all persons who work with children. Liechtenstein is currently examining how this situation could be optimised. Starting in 2025, training in this area has been included in the continuing education programme for teachers. This training is voluntary and not mandatory, however.

- to ensure that the persons who have regular contacts with children are informed of the possibility for them to report to the services responsible for child protection any situation where they have “reasonable grounds” for believing that a child is a victim of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children:
 - in the education sector
 - in the health sector

- in the social protection sector
- in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities.¹¹⁸

Follow-up actions:

Liechtenstein strives to hold regular training for persons who work with children to make them aware of their obligation to report sexual violence against children. However, this training does not currently take place on a regular basis or cover all persons who work with children. Liechtenstein is in the process of improving this situation and examining how to optimise it. In addition, the Expert Group on Protection from Sexual Abuse is developing workflows for professionals on how to proceed in cases of suspected sexual violence against children.

Generic recommendations of the Committee on higher education curriculum and continuous training

The Committee also **invites** all Parties, including Liechtenstein:

- to ensure that the persons who have regular contacts with children (i.e. in the education, health and social protection, sectors and in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities), have an adequate knowledge of the risks associated with CSGSIV, for example through education or continuous training.¹¹⁹
- to ensure that all the sectors where professionals work in contact with children, including when working on a voluntary basis, have adequate knowledge of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including when facilitated by ICTs and with specific reference to the risks associated with CSGSIV.¹²⁰

¹¹⁸ Recommendation X-6.

¹¹⁹ Recommendation X-2.

¹²⁰ Recommendation X-3.

XI. Research

Effective prevention mechanisms and responses to tackle sexual exploitation and abuse of children require an understanding of the issues at stake, as well as knowledge of the prevalence and characteristics of the phenomenon. Accurate and precise information may be necessary to develop quality and targeted policies and measures. The gathering of information and understanding of the phenomenon is particularly important in the context of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs, in light of their rapid development and increased use.

Observations and recommendations of the Committee on research specific to Liechtenstein

Liechtenstein informed that no research was undertaken on issues raised by CSGSIV and/or on the psychological effects on persons who have had such material shared online.¹²¹

Liechtenstein not being isolated in this respect, the Committee **invites** all Parties:

- to collect data and undertake research at the national and local levels to observe and evaluate the phenomenon of CSGSIV.¹²²
- to ensure that data on the phenomenon of CSGSIV and the risks associated with it is regularly collected and research on the issue is regularly undertaken.¹²³
- to build on the findings from existing

research on CSGSIV, when available, to ensure that policies and measures are best developed and appropriately targeted to tackle the issues raised by CSGSIV.¹²⁴

- to take the necessary legislative or other measures to set up or designate mechanisms for data collection or focal points at the national or local levels and in collaboration with civil society to observe and evaluate the phenomenon of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including on the issues arising from CSGSIV, with due respect for the requirements of personal data protection.¹²⁵

¹²¹ Para. 443.

¹²² Recommendation XI-1.

¹²³ Recommendation XI-2.

¹²⁴ Recommendation XI-3.

¹²⁵ Recommendation XI-4.