



# Co-Operation at National and International Level

The multidimensional Approach of jugendschutz.net

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# What is youth protection on the internet today?

- Social media and smartphones are an **integral part** of children's lives
- ...they offer **potentials**
  - allow to chat with friends, meet new people, be entertained mobile
  - platforms for self-presentation, identity formation, (social) learning
- ...but are also associated with **risks**
  - cyberbullying, sexual exploitation, self-harm behavior, extremism etc.
- Aim of **modern youth protection** is to enable children to use the internet freely and reduce risks
  - promote children's rights to **protection** and **participation**
  - sensibly combine regulation, technical measures and education

## jugendschutz.net – who we are

- Founded in 1997 by the supreme state youth authorities
- Operating as the joint center on federal and state level for the protection of minors on the internet
- Funded by the German states (“Länder”), the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs and the European Commission
- Based in Mainz, staff of 55 persons
- Tasks defined in the **Interstate Treaty on the Protection of Minors in the Media (JMStV)**

# Interstate Treaty on the Protection of Minors in the Media

- Defines the tasks of jugendschutz.net
  - support the Commission for the Protection of Minors in the Media (KJM) and the supreme state youth authorities
- Regulates illegal online content
- Regulates duty of content providers
- In conjunction with the German Criminal Code (StGB), German Interstate Broadcasting Treaty (RStV), German Telemedia Act (TMG)

# Interstate Treaty on the Protection of Minors in the Media

- Illegal content
  - must not be distributed
  - e.g. Holocaust denial, incitement to hatred, Glorification of violence/war, child sexual abuse material and depictions of sexual poses, violation of human dignity
- Content illegal for minors
  - may be distributed on the condition that access is strictly limited to adults
  - rules apply to pornography
- Content impairing the development of minors
  - content provider must take precautions for minors normally not having access
  - e.g. implement technical measures

# jugendschutz.net – what we do

## 1. Actions taken

- Check the internet for violations of youth protection laws
- Run a hotline accepting user reports regarding harmful content
- Make sure that quick action is taken
  - forward cases to providers in order to get content removed (notice and takedown)
  - forward serious German cases to the Commission for the Protection of Minors in the Media (KJM) for further supervisory actions
  - contact law enforcement authorities in case of serious crimes or danger ahead

# jugendschutz.net – what we do

## 2. Research and awareness raising

- Look at risks in internet services specifically attractive to young users
  - research about new trends and phenomena
  - risky online contacts in communities and messengers, self-harm behavior, political extremism, child sexual exploitation etc.
- Share our insights with stakeholders
  - inform government, international political institutions and civil society
- Create practical handouts and conduct workshops
  - support pedagogues, practitioners, parents and young people

# jugendschutz.net – what we do

## 3. Cooperation

- Cooperate closely with IT companies
  - offer support for issues of youth media protection
- Exchange with national and international partners
  - Cooperation within EU-projects
  - International Association of Internet Hotlines (INHOPE)
  - International Network Against Cyber Hate (INACH)



# The Work of the CSE Department

- Sexual exploitation of children increasingly take place *on or through* the internet
- Beside Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) numerous phenomena endangering and sexually exploiting young people
  - e.g. sexualised poses of children, online grooming, sexual harassment and everyday depictions in sexualized context
- As in the “offline world”: child sexual abuse and exploitation online can take on a variety of forms

# The Work of the CSE Department

- Pedocriminals well-networked through social media
- Sharing of sexualized depictions of children ('posing photos'), easy to find by using typical keywords
- Children face sexual harassment in interactive services, high risk...
  - ...when children disclose too much personal data
  - ...operators do not protect children's privacy
  - ...strangers can get in touch with children without prior consent

# Hotlinework (CSE Department)

## Memorandum of Understanding

- **Federal Criminal Office (BKA):** NTD in Germany and further investigation
- **Hotlines: internetbeschwerdestelle.de (eco/FSM e. V.) and jugendschutz.net:** NTD in foreign countries where INHOPE-partners exist
- **Federal Review Board for Media Harmful to Minors:** indexing pages  
(banned from search engines)

*\*fighting every kind of violation against StGB and JMStV*

### Homepage

#### Make a report

Hotline procedures

### Youth protection today

How we work

Legal basis

### Reduce online risks

Cyberbullying and sexual harassment

Self-harm behavior

Political extremism

Sexual exploitation

### Reports and other materials

Annual reports

Flyers and brochures

### Report violations of youth protection laws

Have you stumbled across content on the internet you think is illegal, endangering for young people or harmful to children? Please inform us about it:




Please describe with keywords your **cause** for concern, **how** you found the content and **where** it exactly is.

I hereby agree that the data I provide is stored and processed by jugendschutz.net to take appropriate action. For more information please see [data protection declaration](#). \*



\* = indicates a required field

For more information about jugendschutz.net's procedures please see [Hotline procedures](#).

### jugendschutz.net's Websites



Klick-Tipps



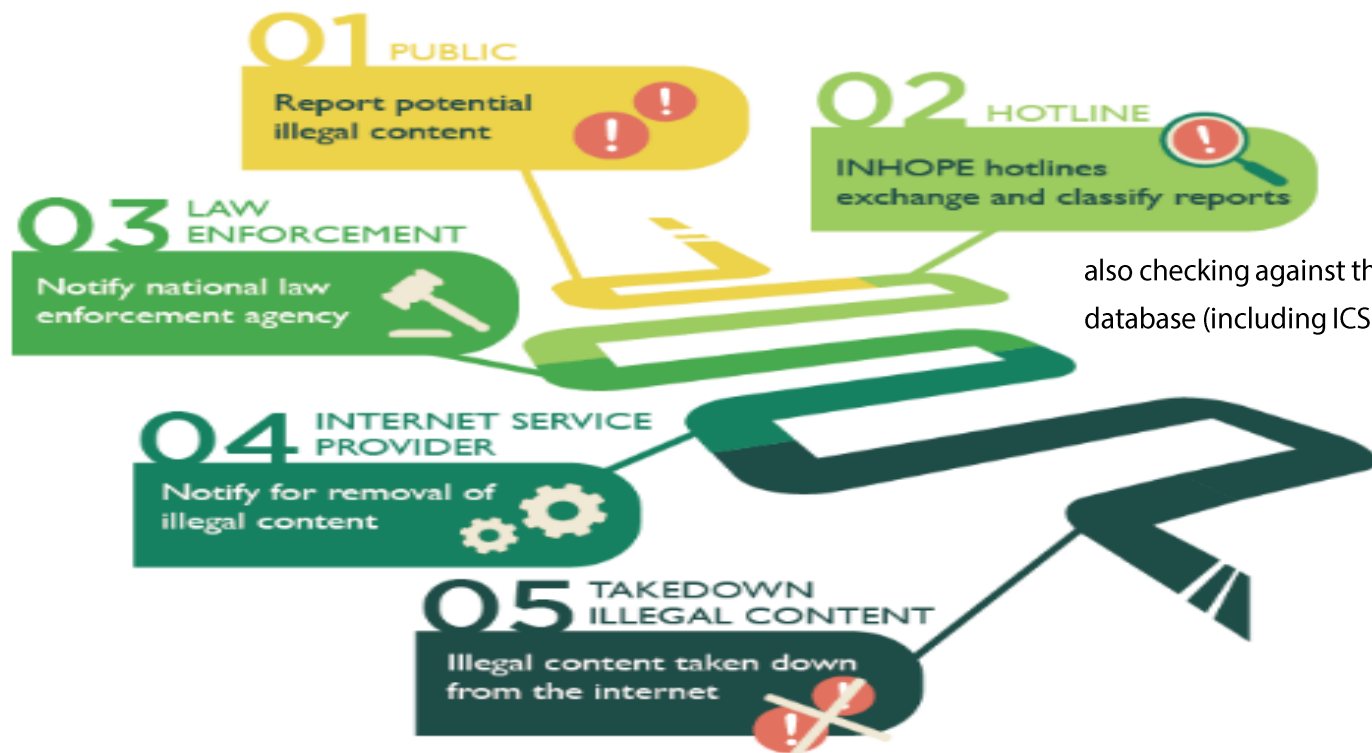
Chatten ohne Risiko



# Priorities Grid

- Type Of Violation (Order by degree)
- Platform is youth oriented
- Violation is done in, hosted by or in any way connected to German citizens or companies
- Spreadability of the content
- Special Grid to follow depending on who made the report

# Journey of a Report



also checking against the implemented hash database (including ICSE-hashes)

<https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/>

# Quality Assurance

- **Hotline Analysts are well trained** (ICCAM Core training and Interpol content assessment training)
- **INHOPE Quality Assessment:** Evaluators regularly visit randomly chosen partner hotlines to ensure they are working within the INHOPE Quality Standards
- **INHOPE Database ICCAM:** Ensuring safe and legal exchange of necessary data regarding all cases and violations found
- **Own Database (MYRA):** collecting data regarding each report that is helpful to make valid conclusions regarding e. g. hosting, type of violation, platform, sitetype etc.  
(annual statistics)


# Developments for the Future

- As reports are on a high level and decreasing trends not in sight, developments must be considered
  - *Automatized check if content is still online*
  - *Filtering duplicates (if known content, but new hosting, processing should also be done automatically)*
  - *Whois-data look-up should also be done automatically*



# Developments for the Future

- *Canada, United Kingdom currently using their own web-crawling systems; Netherlands using their Hashchecker*
- *Project Arachnid (Canada) in a trial phase at jugendschutz.net*
- *Testing google API (prefiltering via AI) as soon as possible*



# Allow children and young people to grow up well in a digital world

More info: [www.jugendschutz.net](http://www.jugendschutz.net)

Contact: [as@jugendschutz.net](mailto:as@jugendschutz.net)

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