

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day promotes a safer and more responsible use of online technology by children and young people around the world.



EC

Safer Internet Day 2022 logo

Over the years, Safer Internet Day (SID) has become a landmark event in the online safety calendar. It started in 2004 under the first safer internet action plan, as an initiative of the EU-funded SafeBorders project. It was then taken up by Insafe, the network of Safer Internet Centres. Now, Safer Internet Day has grown beyond its traditional geographic zone and is celebrated in around 200 countries and territories across all continents, and reaches millions of people worldwide.

Each year SID calls for action from the many players involved in providing a safer and better digital environment for young users, including:

- decision makers at EU, national and international levels
- industry representatives
- civil society organisations
- educators and parents
- young people themselves

The internet is a powerful tool with enormous opportunities for learning, enhancing skills and acquiring new abilities and knowledge, as highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, with opportunities come risks. The goal of SID is to raise awareness, while at the same time taking concrete actions to provide protection for and empowerment of children and young people online.

The digital world knows no borders, and we need everyone to join in and work with others in a way that ensures a better digital experience for all of us, especially younger users.

‘Together for a better internet’

This year, which is also the European Year of Youth, Safer Internet Day celebrations took place on 8 February, under the familiar slogan ‘Together for a better internet’. The European Commission marked the day especially on social media:

- Vice-President Šuica and Commissioner Breton featured with young people to discuss children’s digital rights and online safety and the EU’s actions in those areas.
- A series of videos was published with Better Internet for Kids (BIK) Youth Ambassadors and Youth panellists from different corners of Europe talking about their priorities online, the importance of digital skills and their vision for better online experiences in the future.
- A live Twitter Spaces event was broadcast on how the EU is helping young people feel safer online through legislation and awareness raising.

In addition, the Better Internet for Kids annual report 2021 was published.

Previous editions

In 2021, the outcome of the Youth Pledge launched on SID 2020 was presented, followed by a round table discussion on the way forward for a more trustworthy digital transformation.

For SID **2020** the European Commission organised an expert workshop to explore the potential of artificial intelligence in fight against online child sexual abuse material and hosted a launch of the Youth Pledge, a youth-led co-creation process with industry partners.

SID **2019** was one of the milestones of the #SaferInternet4EU campaign, which had reached over 30 million people in 2018 with over 1800 new resources on online safety, media literacy and cyber hygiene.

The **2018** theme, ‘Create, connect and share respect: A better internet starts with you’ highlighted every user’s responsibility and role in engaging with others in a respectful way online. The #SaferInternet4EU campaign was launched.

The slogan of **2017**, ‘Be the change: Unite for a better internet’, emphasized the importance of collaboration and unity. The industry Alliance to better protect minors online was established.

Safer Internet Day **2016** encouraged each of us to play our own part – in other words taking the responsibility in our own hands.

The Safer Internet Day **2015** promoted the collaborative approach of all stakeholders – ‘Let’s create better Internet together’

More information

To discover resources on online safety and more information about the network of European Safer Internet Centres visit the Better Internet for Kids website.

To find out what is happening in your country check the Safer Internet Day website.

Better Internet for Kids website

Safer Internet Day website

Latest News

PRESS RELEASE | 20 June 2022

Commissioner Breton participates in the Digital Assembly 2022 to mobilise digital support for Ukraine

Tomorrow, Commissioner for Internal Market, Thierry Breton, will participate online in the annual Digital Assembly, the occasion to discuss and exchange views amongst experts, administration and industry representatives, researchers and

other digital policy stakeholders.

PRESS RELEASE | 11 May 2022

New EU strategy to protect and empower children in the online world

The Commission has adopted a new European strategy for a Better Internet for Kids (BIK+), to improve age-appropriate digital services and to ensure that every child is protected, empowered and respected online.

PRESS RELEASE | 11 May 2022

Fighting child sexual abuse: Commission proposes new rules to protect children

Today, the Commission is proposing new EU legislation to prevent and combat child sexual abuse online.

PRESS RELEASE | 23 April 2022

Digital Services Act: Commission welcomes political agreement on rules ensuring a safe and accountable online environment

The Commission welcomes the swift political agreement reached today between the European Parliament and EU Member States on the proposal on the Digital Services Act (DSA), proposed by the Commission in December 2020.

[Browse Better Internet for Children](#)

Related Content

Big Picture

Creating a better Internet for kids

The strategy for a better Internet for children provides actions to empower young people as they explore the digital world.

See Also

Safer Internet Forum

The Safer Internet Forum is the key annual international conference on child online safety in Europe.

A European strategy for a better internet for kids (BIK+)

Digital participation, empowerment and protection finely balanced in the new European strategy for a better internet for kids (BIK+).

Self-regulation for a better Internet for kids

Self-regulation is one of the instruments of the European strategy to create a better Internet for children.

Expert group on Safer Internet for Children

The expert group on safer Internet for children helps improve coordination and cooperation among EU Member States to keep children safe when using the internet.

Safer Internet Centres

Safer Internet Centres inform, advise and assist children, parents, teachers and carers on digital questions and fights against online child sexual abuse.

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