

### How can we reduce risks for young people online?

The interlinking of computing devices, communication networks and services with all the corresponding risks have made the internet a convergent medium. Endangering and harmful content is more and more disseminated in communication services. The risk of stumbling across content that frightens, unsettles and impairs children and young people is far higher on the internet than it is in traditional media. Here, specifically platform providers are challenged to take proactive measures and protect their young users.

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#### Bullying and sexual harassment

The anonymity of the internet lowers the inhibition threshold for bullying activities. In social networks, children and young people are often victims of sexual harassment or publicly exposed by photos or rumors posted.

Read more [Cyberbullying and sexual harassment](#)

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#### Political extremism

For right-wing extremists and Islamists the internet is the key platform for spreading their propaganda.

In communities, video portals and blogs they specifically target a young audience.

Read more [Political extremism](#)

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#### Eating disorders and self-harm

Self-harm behavior is increasingly glorified as a lifestyle choice. During teen self-discovery when young users build their self-esteem, they are particularly at risk of copycat behavior.

Read more [Self-harm behavior](#)

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#### Sexual exploitation of children

Depictions of the sexual exploitation of children make their abuse remain online forever and might make them feel scared to protect themselves from sexual attacks.

Read more [Sexual exploitation](#)