Pan Eu YOUTH

Youth Manifesto
for a Better Internet

ins@fe

European Schoolnet

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The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the European Commission, European Schoolnet, or the Insafe network. All information and web links were correct at the time of publication, but may change over time.

Contents

Introduction

This Youth Manifesto outlines the ten key principles that European youth have identified as essential to creating a better internet for the future. The Manifesto is publically available but specifically aimed at European policy makers, industry and other key stakeholders as reflected throughout the publication. The aim of the Youth Manifesto is to encourage young people to understand and reflect on what would make the internet a better place for all, and to promote active citizenship and participation skills that would encourage young people to promote their rights and interests online, and thus get involved in society at large by reaching out and making their voices heard by those who have the power to make changes.

The Youth Manifesto initiative was launched in February 2014 by a group of young ambassadors as part of Safer Internet Day in the presence of the former Vice-President of the European Commission, Neelie Kroes. The overall objective was to gain the perspective of Europe's future digital citizens on what needs to done to achieve the full potential of the internet as a universal tool for communication and learning.

The final Youth Manifesto principles presented here are the result of a year-long process, led by young people with the support of the European Commission, the Insafe network of Safer Internet Centres, the eTwinning network and European Schoolnet. It has involved two Europe-wide consultation stages and a series of online mentoring sessions.

From February to June 2014, more than 1,000 youngsters submitted, discussed and voted on ideas for a better internet in country-specific online debates. These were then whittled down to a 'short list' of about 30 main principles by a pan-European youth panel in early July 2014. In a second stage lasting until late November 2014, young people took part in a pan-European online vote for their preferred short-listed proposals. Once the most voted-for principles had been identified, groups of young people held online meetings with industry and civil society mentors in January 2015 to further explore and define the principles.

The resulting Youth Manifesto contains ten principles reflecting the digital rights and opportunities that Europe's young people view as most essential for building a better internet.

"This is a fantastic initiative, giving young people from all across Europe the opportunity to research and discuss the complexity of the social and economic opportunities and issues that the internet offers."

Session mentor, Paul Cording, Vodafone

Youth Manifesto for a Better Internet

THE TOP 10

YOUTH MANIFESTO PRINCIPLES

for a better internet that young people across Europe voted on and discussed during mentoring sessions are:

1 **Free, unrestricted access:** We want free, unrestricted access to the internet so we can learn and share.

2 **Education and support:** We want support and education about the internet - for everyone!

3 **Privacy and data protection:** We want to be able to protect our data and privacy online.

4 **Respect online:** We want an online world free from bullying, racism and intolerance.

5 **Infrastructure and connectivity:** We want more investments in ICT infrastructures to provide widescale high-quality, high-speed connectivity.

6 **Terms and conditions:** We want terms and conditions that are simple to understand.

7 **Good quality and reliable content:** We want access to good quality and reliable content online.

8 **A hack-free online environment:** We want our personal information kept safe from online hackers.

9 **Freedom of expression:** We want to be able to express ourselves freely online.

10 **Democracy online:** We want an open and democratic internet.

Call for action:

What more can You(th) do?

Let's create a better internet together by involving all stakeholders in valuable discussions on the future of the internet!

Join the debate on Twitter using #YouthManifesto to tell us your views.

Connect with us on social media:

https://www.facebook.com/paneuyouth

https://twitter.com/paneuyouth

https://www.youtube.com/user/PanEUyouth

Timeline: Youth Manifesto for a Better Internet

Launch event on Safer Internet Day 2014

01

The Youth Manifesto initiative was launched on Safer Internet Day, which took place on 11 February 2014. In the presence of former Vice-President of the European Commission, Neelie Kroes, several young ambassadors gathered in Brussels to kick off a Europe-wide consultation to define what digital rights and opportunities should be enshrined in the future internet.

02

Crowd-sourcing exercise

The first stage of the consultation began in February 2014 via an online 'crowd-sourcing' tool[1]. During almost five months, more than 1,000 youngsters used the tool to take part in online national debates; submitting, discussing and voting on ideas for a better internet. At the same time, national activities were held by Insafe youth participation coordinators with youth panellists to discuss and debate their ideas for the Manifesto.

Website at www.youthmanifesto.eu for young people and teachers

03

At the beginning of July 2014, a European-level youth panel came together to discuss, debate and refine the ideas gathered from young people across Europe. The panel compiled a 'short list' of approximately 30 proposals for further discussion and debate on a new website: www.youthmanifesto.eu.

[1] www.tricider.com/brainstorming/1NgYq

04 Dissemination via offline and online channels

A number of toolkits were also produced to enable teachers to initiate discussions in the classroom to prompt young people to think about some of the issues and consider what they would like the internet of the future to look like. A resource exchange was opened to young Europeans who were invited to create resources that reflect their ideas of a better internet. Teachers and eTwinning ambassadors were encouraged to work on the Youth Manifesto with their students and share their resources on the website.

Voting of the Youth Manifesto principles 05

In the second stage of the process, from mid July to the end of November 2014, more than 4,500 votes were received from young people who took part in a pan-European online vote on their preferred proposals to select the top ten principles for creating a better internet out of the principles shortlisted.

06 Mentoring sessions with stakeholders

In January 2015, the ten principles for a better internet were further explored in a series of online mentoring sessions, bringing together 15 youth representatives with industry and civil society professionals. The mentoring sessions aimed to discuss the full extent of the principles contained in the Youth Manifesto, to investigate where responsibility lies for their implementation and to define goals for the future. The output of these sessions is detailed throughout this publication.

Dissemination via offline and online channels

- 6 toolkits for teachers;
- young people engaged in discussion

Voting of the Youth Manifesto principles

- mid-July to end of November 2014;
- online voting;
- more than 4,500 votes on YM principles

Mentoring sessions with stakeholders

- January 2015;
- mentoring sessions;
- 15 youth representatives

Participants in the Youth Manifesto mentoring sessions

Mentors

Caroline Millin - Facebook's Public Policy Programmes Associate responsible for covering Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Grace Kelly - Insafe Youth Ambassador and part of the Webwise Youth Panel of the PDST (Professional Development Service for Teachers) in Ireland.

James Dyson - Independent communications consultant and TV journalist for French, Spanish and UK news broadcasters.

Katrijn van den Abeele - Project Manager for eSafety at Child Focus, Centre for Missing and Sexually Exploited Children in Belgium.

Marco Pancini - Part of Google's policy team in Brussels responsible for open internet issues, freedom of expression, child safety, and intermediary liability.

Martin Schmalzried - Policy Officer at COFACE (Confederation of Family Organisations in the EU) and licensed sociology teacher.

Paul Cording - Part of Vodafone's Child Online Protection Team and responsible for overseeing internal policy, the development of parental tools and national educational initiatives.

Youth participants

Alexandra, age 16, from Germany
Amy, age 16, from Belgium
Andreea, age 26, from Romania
Costas, age 16, from Cyprus
Florian, age 19, from Austria
Ioanna, age 19, from Greece
João, age 17, from Portugal
Juta, age 16, from Estonia
Kathrin, age 18, from Germany
Katie, age 15, from England
Loris, age 16, from Luxembourg
Matthew, age 19, from Ireland
Olivia, age 15, from Denmark
Razvan, age 25, from Romania
Sofie, 16 years old, from Belgium

Youth Manifesto principles

1. Free, unrestricted access

We want free, unrestricted access to the internet so we can learn and share.

> *"The internet is the most important source of information for humanity, so it has to be free."*
>
> *Loris, age 14, Luxembourg.*

The principle through young people's reflection

As young people, we believe that the internet should be free or very cheap to use. Everyone, whether privileged or not and wherever they live, should have access to the opportunity of sharing thoughts and ideas and to the many educational resources that the internet offers. Only then can individuals, regardless of the country they live in, have an equal chance to develop, express themselves and contribute to our awareness of global issues.

What can be done?

There are many things that can be done to increase and improve access to the internet. For example, it may be a question of increasing mobile coverage, developing cheaper phones, offering more free Wi-Fi in public places or making the transmission of information easier in remote areas by finding better ways to compress data. Of course someone has to pay for it, but governments and companies should remember that improving access is not just a cost but also an investment. It

> *"Free access isn't just about the cost of the internet but also about the freedom for us to explore all that the internet has to offer without unnecessary boundaries."*
>
> *Katie, age 15, England*

creates better educated and more productive citizens as well as increasing demand and revenues for business. It can be done! In 2010, Finland became the first country in the world to make internet access a legal right.

> *"I think free access should be available because people who have never had the opportunity to share their ideas with the world, could use free access to do so."*
>
> *Alexandra, age 16, Germany*

Who should take action?

It is a huge task that can only be achieved if policy makers, experts, technology companies, non-government organisations (NGOs) and local communities all work together. We all hold a piece of the puzzle, but if we put each piece together we can make free, unrestricted access happen.

> *"The group decided that accessibility will only be achieved when there are strong global partnerships between technology leaders, nonprofits, local communities and experts to bring the internet to the two thirds of the world's population that doesn't have access."*
>
> *Session mentor, Caroline Millin, Facebook*

2. Education and support

The principle through young people's reflection

"Children and young people need to be empowered and educated to ask for help and develop the support needed to become resilient."

Olivia, age 15, Denmark

As young people, we feel that education about the internet should not just concentrate on how to use the technology but also how to use it responsibly. Programming and knowing how to navigate the Web are not enough. We also need support so we can find our own answers to the opportunities and risks presented by the internet and know when to ask for help.

What can be done?

While parents should ensure the protection of younger children, they need to recognise that a two-way conversation about how the use the internet responsibly is more appropriate for older children. To perform this task, parents and teachers themselves need to be educated about the internet. It is also important for young people to have the opportunity to discuss with their friends issues that come up so we learn to think for ourselves, reflect and find our own answers.

"Parental control is not great, so parents need to educate themselves so they can educate their children."

Kathrin, age 18, Germany

"Education is the cornerstone of any successful policy to maximise positive experiences for young people online. However, it's more than teaching how to use technology or the internet, it's about how to use it responsibly."

Session mentor, Martin Schmalzried, CO-FACE (Confederation of Family Organisations in the EU)

Who should take action?

Education about using the internet positively and appropriately is the responsibility of all. Parents and teachers need to make sure that they are sufficiently up-to-date with the latest technology so they can help and support children and young people. Schools and NGOs like the Safer Internet Centres need to keep developing programmes to ensure that parents and teachers have the knowledge and skills to provide that support and education. Technology companies should make sure that younger children have secure spaces where they can learn about things like social media and governments should develop the necessary policies, resources and appropriate oversight.

3. Privacy and data protection

We want to be able to protect our data and privacy online.

The principle through young people's reflection

Although we think we know how to maintain our privacy and control our data, we often do not. What is more, even if we know what is at stake, we often prefer to use sites where our data is being used rather than pay for ones that would not use our data. We need better education about how to protect our privacy and the consequences if we do not. Young people also need to be made aware that nothing is free on the internet.
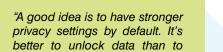
"Young people often don't know or even care about privacy. They don't think about the future when they are only 13 years old."

Olivia, age 15, Denmark

What can be done?

Apart from more education, privacy settings should be stronger by default because it is easier to open up access to your data than to find ways to close it down. To increase the choice about how much data we give up in exchange for free access, social network sites that are virtual monopolies could be broken up or at least forced to make it easier to transfer data from their site to another one. Since privacy means different things to different people, we need to able to make more informed choices. Companies should be more transparent about what data they collect and how they use it. New technology can also help; like apps that show you what data is being collected by a particular online service.

"A good idea is to have stronger privacy settings by default. It's better to unlock data than to have to lock it up."

Kathrin, age 18, Germany

Who should take action?

With the help of schools and NGOs, we must ourselves take responsibility for protecting our privacy and data. However, companies have most of the power in this area and to encourage them to act, governments should set firm minimum standards.

"Balancing privacy and data protection against the current online business models will be one of the biggest challenges of the future."

Session mentor, Martin Schmalzried, CO-FACE (Confederation of Family Organisations in the EU)

4. Respect online

We want an online world free from bullying, racism and intolerance.

The principle through young people's reflection

As young people, we want a safe online environment to express our ideas and thoughts, which means there should be no tolerance for bullying, racism or other discrimination. Online respect means respecting others for who they are as well as being respected for who we are. A balance needs to be found so that there is no interference with freedom of expression but intermediaries still need to act in cases of abuse. The respect relationship should not just be between people communicating but also between those people and the provider of the services they are using.

"Freedom of expression and respect online are linked in that speaking out loses value if nobody is listening."

Matthew, age 19, Ireland

What can be done?

We need to be made aware that online abuse has real offline consequences and think before we post. To ensure respect online, a trust bond also needs to be established between users, service providers and technology companies. That means that basic rules for everyone to follow should be prominently displayed. In cases of bullying, racism or other discrimination, service providers must have available easy-to-use methods of reporting the problem and ensure a rapid response. Major internet companies could also reinforce the message of online respect on their websites.

"We want an online environment where discrimination is seriously repressed, as far as bullying, racism, intolerance, homophobia and minorities are concerned."

João, age 17, Portugal

Who should take action?

Teachers, parents and NGOs can do much to encourage children and young people to respect others online as they would like to be respected themselves. As such, the growth in anti-cyberbulling campaigns is a welcome development. However, private internet companies and moderators of social networks also have an important role to play to ensure their services are not being used for bullying, racism or discrimination against minorities.

"Everyone should have the right to express themselves for who they truly are, and should not feel constricted by today's discriminative society."

Katie, age 15, England

"On the one hand, as intermediaries we should remain neutral vis à vis the debate online and leave the community to regulate itself. At the same time, we need to enforce some basic rules so we can ensure that we create an environment of respect online."

Session mentor, Marco Pancini, Google

5. Infrastructure and connectivity

We want more investments in ICT infrastructures to provide widescale high-quality, high-speed connectivity.

The principle through young people's reflection

Waiting for videos to load, being cut off during online conversations with our friends or not being able to take part in online games can be enormously frustrating. Having poor internet connectivity because of lack of adequate infrastructure can also affect our ability to do homework or participate in school projects. As Europe's future digital citizens, we desperately need the tools to prepare ourselves adequately. Although some of us do have access to good quality connections, others, particularly those in remote rural areas, do not. Furthermore, even where high-quality services are available, they are often too expensive for poorer families to afford.

"In smaller cities and the countryside the choice is really limited. Most of the time there is only one provider and the connectivity is not that great."

Razvan, age 25, Romania

What can be done?

It is clear that governments and industry need to invest more in the infrastructure to supply widescale high-quality, high-speed connectivity. They should particularly focus on smaller towns and the countryside, which often have the worst internet connections. In this respect, governments may have to take more of a lead because such services are often less profitable. Nevertheless, private competition and transparency about the service being offered should also be encouraged to improve choice and prevent monopolies from over charging.

"The prices that we have to pay are pretty high and some families can't afford the connection so some young people cannot do their homework or other school projects."

Costas, age 16, Cyprus

Who should take action?

Investment in infrastructure to ensure widescale high-quality, high-speed connectivity is the responsibility of governments and industry. Governments can also help by insisting on competition and transparency in the private sector.

"Some years ago, some mobile phone companies invested a lot of money in creating a good infrastructure in the mountain zone, so now connectivity is sometimes better there than at my home."

Andreea, age 26, Romania

6. Terms and conditions

We want terms and conditions that are simple to understand.

The principle through young people's reflection

The terms and conditions for signing up to social media sites, downloading apps or using other internet services are often so long and difficult to understand that many of us prefer to just click the 'agree' button without having read them at all. However, this can lead to problems later on because they are legal documents and we may have signed away our rights without knowing. The problem is that terms and conditions are often several pages long, written in long sentences and include highly technical and legal language. In fact, it can sometimes appear that companies make the terms and conditions deliberately difficult to understand.

"I read the terms and conditions for about three or four minutes then I just pressed 'skip'."

Razvan, age 25, Romania

What can be done?

As young people, we believe there are many things that could be done to improve the user-friendliness of terms and conditions. For example, they should be limited in length to a page or two or at least include the main points in numbered paragraphs at the beginning of the document. They should also use short sentences and simple language rather than arcane legal terminology and endless sub clauses.

Who should take action?

Most of us believe that governments should force internet companies to provide simplified terms and conditions. Other ideas include setting up an industry association or independent watchdog that could draw up guidelines and award some kind of rating to companies according to the user-friendliness of their terms and conditions.

"They should not write so much. Halve them; otherwise people will skip the terms and conditions, which is something we don't want."

Costas, age 16, Cyprus

"The terms should be written in short sentences so we can read them and understand them in a couple of minutes."

Andreea, age 26, Romania

7. Good quality and reliable content

We want access to good quality and reliable content online.

> "It's important that children have useful and reliable online information for their school work."
>
> *Amy, 16 years old, Belgium*

The principle through young people's reflection

The internet is perhaps the greatest source of knowledge and information available to people today. However, as young people, we often encounter enormous difficulties finding good quality content. This is particularly true for the youngest among us where there is an absence of appropriate videos, games, and educational materials. Those of us who are older also find it difficult to identify reliable sources of information for our homework, school projects and general knowledge. This can be particularly true if the difference between online advertising and independent content is not clearly marked.

What can be done?

A greater effort must be made to provide worthwhile and appropriate online content, particularly for the youngest among us. When it comes to issues of reliability, many of us would like to see clearer signposts to the source of information on the internet. Some also argue for the creation of some kind of verification label or logo that would provide a guarantee that the information on a particular website is trustworthy. Nevertheless, there is also recognition that it would be difficult to agree on criteria for the awarding of such a logo. Another option would be the creation of search engines specifically designed for children, which would quickly bring up suitable and good quality internet content.

> "Websites should have a label that would enable users to know that the information on it is reliable."
>
> *Jakub, 16 years old, Belgium (Comment from online crowdsourcing discussion)*

> "In the ideal world there should exist an automatic scan to know whether the online social media profiles are true. In this manner people could not lie about their age and identity which would make it a better online environment for everyone."
>
> *Session mentor, Katrijn van den Abeele, Child Focus*

Who should take action

To create better quality content, schools and companies should work together to provide educationally valid and technologically interesting online material; if necessary, with the support of government funding. Apart from efforts to ensure that the sources of online information are more clearly signposted, teachers can also do more to train us in how to verify the reliability of information ourselves. Finally, in extreme cases, like pro-ana websites promoting eating disorders, there may be a case for government regulation.

8. A hack-free online environment

We want our personal information kept safe from online hackers.

The principle through young people's reflection

As young people, we recognise that not all hackers have negative intentions, for example when they try to access websites involved in criminal activity, racism or discrimination. However, when it comes to illegally accessing personal information from email and social media accounts or gaming platforms, we see ourselves as particularly vulnerable. The possibility of becoming victims of fraud or identity theft undermines our confidence in the internet and limits our freedom.

"Youngsters are particularly exposed to hackers because they often put more of their private information on social media."

Sofie, 16 years old, Belgium

"Not all hackers are cybercriminals, sometimes they just know how to code. However, where Facebook profiles or email accounts are concerned, stopping hacking is essential."

Session mentor, Katrijn van den Abeele, Child Focus

What can be done?

We recognise that it is not possible to catch every hacker of personal information but in general we are in favour of stiffer penalties for those that are caught. Part of the solution is for us to receive more advice about how to safeguard our personal details online by changing our passwords more often or creating stronger ones. However, social media companies and other online service providers can also help by not asking us for so much personal data in the first place and developing better technical safeguards against hackers.

Who should take action?

Government and law enforcement agencies have an important role in tracking down hackers of personal information and ensuring that they are banned. Technology companies can develop more reliable security systems while schools and online safety NGOs can help teach us about ways to better protect our private data.

9. Freedom of Expression

We want to be able to express ourselves freely online.

The principle through young people's reflection

As young people, we want an internet that allows us to express and share our opinions freely. This includes the freedom to seek and receive information and ideas of all kinds wherever we live.

We recognise that, as in offline life, there are always going to be calls to limit free expression on the internet in cases of hate speech or incitement to violence. Nevertheless, these restrictions should be kept to an absolute minimum because, in general, the answer to such problems is more speech not less. It is important to realise that limiting someone's ability to express themselves can be more damaging to that person than to the person who claims to be offended by what is said. We believe the internet has great potential to break down cultural barriers but only if all people wherever they live have the right to speak freely.

> *"We want to hold our own opinions and be able to freely share them online."*
>
> *João, age 17, Portugal*

> *"I feel that people need the freedom to be able to share their knowledge and opinions without the fear of being harmed for doing so. Everyone should have the right to express themselves for who they truly are, and should not feel constricted by today's discriminative society."*
>
> *Katie, age 15, England*

What can be done?

Apart from ensuring that governments do not introduce restrictions on freedom of speech or censor information on the internet, more must be done to ensure that minorities are able to speak out. Online service providers should only agree in the most extreme cases to remove information or opinions on the internet. They should promote freedom of expression by using search bars and doodles to remind people of the enormous amount of positive material online. Last but not least, internet users themselves, including young people, should actively encourage others to express themselves by creating a safe and accepting environment for them to do so.

Who should take action?

Just as in offline life, protecting and fostering freedom of expression online is the responsibility of everyone; governments, companies and law courts but also parents, schools and indeed every internet user.

> *"I'm sure you have heard of the 'Free the Nipple' campaign. Which is a more damaging to young people – free, proud, liberating or body-shaming, censored and oppressed?"*
>
> *Session mentor, Grace Kelly, Insafe Youth Ambassador*

10. Democracy online

We want an open and democratic internet.

The principle through young people's reflection

For us as young people, the potential of the internet to spread knowledge, increase understanding and break down cultural barriers can only be fully realised to the extent that it operates openly and democratically. This means that everyone, including young people, should be able to participate in the internet and have an equal say in how it is shaped and what services it provides. However, we are also conscious that online and offline life is inextricably linked and, as such, many of us see the internet as simply an extension of the world we already live in rather than a special case.

"First of all, stop, stop, stop, restricting the internet! That's not how the internet has worked, is working or will work."

Florian, age 19, Austria

"We want our voice to be heard and to take part in important decisions that define our future."

João, age 17, Portugal

What can be done?

As in offline democracy, making sure that everyone can participate is essential and so more effort needs to be made to widen access to the internet. This is not just a question of lowering costs but also removing other non-economic barriers such as those that blind or deaf users might face or those that do not speak English. In this respect, technological innovation can help through better online translation and voice recognition services. When it comes to democratic control, many of us feel particularly strongly that governments should avoid excessive interference in the internet and should instead empower others, including young people, to have more say in how the internet develops. Furthermore, since influencing the internet requires technical knowledge and skills, training in such things as coding and app creation also have a role to play.

Who should take action?

By its very nature openness and democracy, whether online or offline, can only be achieved with the full involvement of all elements of society. Governments and companies should ensure adequate investment and avoid excessive control while civil society and individuals must remain vigilant, exercise their rights and encourage inclusiveness.

"I feel this Youth Manifesto is important, because not only does it show governments what youth want, but it also empowers youth to acknowledge that they can make a change."

Katie, age 15, England

Conclusion and looking forward

Such is the pace of change that it is sometimes difficult to believe that the internet is already more than a quarter of a century old. Today's generation of young people are not only society's most active users of digital technology but also the first to have lived their entire lives immersed in the new interconnected online and offline reality that it has created.

The Youth Manifesto clearly shows that Europe's young people want an internet that is faster, freer and more inclusive. The vision of youth is not just one of high-speed, high-quality connectivity but also of an internet in which everyone has free, unrestricted access to the enormous social, educational, cultural, political and economic resources that the online world can offer. The digital society that young people want is one that respects the democratic rights of all to share their ideas and opinions freely and openly.

At the same time, the Youth Manifesto makes clear that Europe's youngest digital citizens are well aware that opportunities rarely come without risks. As one young person has put it, "Speaking out loses value if nobody is listening". Bullying, racism and intolerance can be just as powerful a restraint on freedom of expression as more formal mechanisms of censorship. Equally, the confidence to act, share and create on the internet can easily be undermined by the hacking of our personal data and the invasion of our privacy. In this respect, young people recognise that education and support on how to use the new technology critically and responsibly are vital.

However, the Youth Manifesto is also clear that the tools to make informed choices are not just in the hands of youth, parents and educators. Industry, with government involvement, can do much to facilitate those informed choices through greater transparency. Young people demand terms and conditions that are clearer about what data is being collected and how it is being used. They also want enough competition among service providers to be able to act on those choices.

Over the next 25 years, the only certainty is that the online landscape will continue to evolve but what is unlikely to change is the protagonism of young people in that evolution. This European Youth Manifesto gives a voice to some of those protagonists. European policy makers now have a clearer idea of what their young citizens expect, but the issues are as global as the internet itself. The recommendations made in this publication stand valid and can serve as a starting point for future discussions on how to shape policy for the benefit of the young generation. Policy makers are expected to be aware of the impact of policy and regulation in every aspect linked to the internet, as expressed throughout the present publication.

As a tool for empowering youth to speak out about their ambitions for a better internet, the Youth Manifesto is perhaps also a model for how consultations can be carried out on a global level. It is hoped that the Youth Manifesto publication will be used by young people as a tool to advocate their views, needs and interests at national and European level, and encourage them to initiate debate at international level at high-level events to reach an even wider audience with their views.

Insafe

Co-funded by the EU, in the past under the Safer Internet programme and now under Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), the Insafe network of Safer Internet Centres (SICs) collaborates to create a safer and better internet, supporting and empowering children and young people (and their parents and carers) to use the internet and other online technologies positively, safely and effectively.

Through a network of SICs, typically comprising an awareness centre, helpline, hotline and youth panel, children and young people, and their parents, carers and teachers, can access information, advice, support and resources, or indeed report any illegal content they encounter online.

EUN

European Schoolnet (EUN) is the network of 31 European Ministries of Education. As a not-for-profit organisation, it aims to bring innovation in teaching and learning to its key stakeholders: Ministries of Education, schools, teachers, researchers, and industry partners. Since its foundation in 1997, EUN has used its links with education ministries to help schools make effective use of educational technologies, equipping both teachers and pupils with the skills to achieve in the knowledge society.

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