

Peer learning sessions of the 2021 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region

Presentation of policy practices as a basis for the peer learning discussion

Session 4.2. Digital Transformation for SDG implementation

Title of intervention, country and name of presenter	National Approach towards Child Online Protection in Albania Republic of Albania Dr. Vilma Tomco
Brief description	<p>Providing safer internet for children and youth in Albania is one of the strategic objectives of the “National Strategy for Cyber Security 2020-2025” in Albania.</p> <p>For a significant number of children, today, the internet, cell phones, and other information technologies have become part of daily life. Family (parents / mothers), peers and school are the three environments of children's socialization, while the digital environment has become the fourth. For them, the distinction between "online" and "offline" is becoming increasingly meaningless, and they move seamlessly between the two environments. Protecting children online requires specific and articulated actions in a simple and clear manner. At the same time, the protection of children should be proportionate to the risks faced by children, and should not impede the use of information technologies for the upbringing, education and development of children.</p>
Policy goal(s) or challenge(s) to be addressed	<p>Creating a safe and empowering cyberspace for children and the youth through capacity building, skills development and the adoption of a multi-stakeholder approach to address the new challenges related to the current global pandemic.</p>
Instruments and proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding the knowledge on child online protection for youth and children • Raising awareness on child online protection (COP) for parents and carers • Promotion of COPs as an efficient framework to support children and young people so that they can fully benefit from the opportunities that the digital environment offers

Constraints and difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessibility of personal computers and internet connection• Promotional tools for a wide-spread application of such training courses
Lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attracting diverse expertise and ensuring that provided training materials are applicable to different regions and backgrounds• Carrying out a full-fledged research and baseline analysis for the identification of concrete gaps and needs
Links to additional materials	