**Study on the solutions to promote digital education for young people and to ensure their protection from online threats**

**Contribution from the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth of Luxembourg**

1. **What are the main challenges that young people in your country face in accessing digital education? Please consider the specific situation of marginalized young people and those in vulnerable situations in your response.**

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1. **What steps is the Government taking to ensure that digital education is accessible and promoted among young people? Please provide examples of specific laws and regulations, measures, policies, and programs directed at ensuring young people’s universal access to digital education.**

Digital education is integrated in the national school program (“digital4education”). Additionally, primary and secondary schools can book cybersafety trainings for their school classes, which are offered by the governmental initiative BEE SECURE, which also offers publications, runs thematic campaigns and offers individual counselling (more info see below). Further trainings and parents information sessions are also an important part of the BEE SECURE training offer. Additionally, non-formal education offers for media literacy exist, such e.g. the Base1 makerspace provided by the National Youth Service. Also, educational events, such as the BEE SECURE DigiRallye and the BEE SECURE Movietalk regularly take place to reach children and young people.

1. **What steps is the Government taking to ensure that young people can realize their human rights online in a safe, empowering, and inclusive way?**
* Digital4education
* Governmental initiative BEE SECURE (see below)
* National action plan for digital inclusion
* The youth protection department of the Luxembourg police is also active in the domain of prevention (e.g. trainings at schools, other activities).
1. **What are the main gaps and challenges to young people’s protection from online threats in law, policy, and practice in your country and the impacts on young people’s human rights? Please consider the specific situation of marginalized young people and those in vulnerable situations in your response.**

The challenge for young people is to constantly learn how to use the Internet safely, to recognize the dangers and to know how to protect themselves and what to watch out for. Currently, the non-consensual sharing of intimate images (NCII,) sextortion, cyberbullying, e-crime such as scams (smishing, spoofing, phishing, ...), hacked social media accounts are important topics that also affect young people, as can be derived from the topics discussed in consultations via the BEE SECURE Helpline. Marginalized young people and people in vulnerable situations are particularly exposed to these dangers in addition to their primary existential concerns.

Technology, such as artificial intelligence or/and image editing capabilities, is evolving rapidly, increasing risk factors such as sextortion, scams, blackmail schemes. Consequently, there is a continuous need for education, prevention, and awareness among young people and their caregivers. Another challenge is individually supporting marginalized or vulnerable parents, children, and adolescents. Counseling centers, which are available for free, often have very long waiting times.

The BEE SECURE Radar 2024 report gives an overview on current trends in young people´s use of information and communication technologies, also in relation to online risks and experiences with online threats: <https://www.bee-secure.lu/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/162_bee-secure-radar-2024-en-ua.pdf>

1. **What steps is the Government taking to ensure that young people are protected from online threats? Please provide examples of specific laws and regulations, measures, policies, and programs.**
* Digital4education
* BEE SECURE
* National cybersecurity Strategy

Several laws protect children, young people and their parents as well as Luxembourg citizens in general on the Internet. For example: national data protection law, the protection of privacy, the right to one's own image, grooming (Art 385-2), blackmail (Art 470) e.g. in the case of sextortion, defamation/slander/libel (Art 448) e.g. in the case of cyberbullying or against child sexual abuse material (Art 383, 383bis, 383ter & 384 of the Criminal Code "Sexual Abuse and Exploitation").

The forthcoming Digital Service Act will increase protection for children and young people and citizens of the country.

**BEE SECURE**

BEE SECURE is a governmental initiative of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg involving the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth, the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Family, Integration and Greater Region. BEE SECURE is coordinated by the National Youth Service (SNJ). It is operated by SNJ in cooperation with the consulting service KJT, in partnership with Luxembourg House of Cybersecurity, the Luxembourg Police and the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

BEE SECURE is co-financed by the European Commission and operates the Luxembourg Safer Internet Center in the frame of the Digital Europe Program. BEE SECURE is part of the European networks Insafe (awareness-raising centers and helplines) and INHOPE (the International Association of Internet Hotlines). As Safer Internet Center, BEE SECURE contributes to the implementation of the European “BIK+ Strategy” in the frame of the Digital Europe program.

BEE SECURE aims to raise awareness for a safety-oriented and responsible use of digital technology to the general public, and to particularly empower children, young people and their entourage (parents, teachers, educators and others) through targeted offers/ through targeted information.

BEE SECURE acts in the following four areas:

**Awareness and information**: BEE SECURE disseminate information and advice through various offers and activities. The focus is on awareness trainings. Like the multi-facetted publication offer, trainings cover a broad range of topics. The initiative also regularly launches thematic campaigns and events.

**Orientation and advice**: The BEE SECURE Helpline is a counselling service. Anyone can consult the service for questions related to the internet and digital media safety. The counselling via phone is anonymous and confidential.

**Anonymous reporting platform**: The BEE SECURE Stopline is an online platform where three categories of illegal content can be reported anonymously: (1) Child sexual abuse material (CSAM), (2) discrimination, racism, revisionism or hate speech and (3) terrorism. Relevant content is forwarded to the national police or other competent authorities.

**Trend-Monitoring**: BEE SECURE stays abreast of the latest online trends and developments in order to orient its actions. Observations in relation to the use of digital technology of children and young people made by the initiative during its activities in Luxembourg are published annually in the “BEE SECURE Radar” report: <https://www.bee-secure.lu/de/publikation/bee-secure-radar/>

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More details on BEE SECURE actions: see [Annual Reports](https://www.bee-secure.lu/de/publikation/jahresbericht-2023/)