

PRESS RELEASE | Strengthening the protection of minors online: the President of the Republic brings together the main Tech actors at the Elysée Palace.

Paris, November 10, 2022 - At the initiative of the **President of the French Republic**, the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Secretary of State for Children has brought together the leading stakeholders in the digital sector to create a **Children Online Protection Lab**.

In this context, on Thursday, November 10, a **high-level roundtable on online child protection** led by President Emmanuel Macron took place between the government, members of the industry (including Google, Meta, Snapchat, Twitter, TikTok and Microsoft), and the NGOs **Point de Contact**, WeProtect Global Alliance, E-enfance and Save the Children.

Inspired by the Christchurch Call model of cooperation, this new Laboratory aims to involve civil **society, industry, and governments** on an international scale. Its objective will be evaluating evidence-based initiatives to improve the protection of children online.

In the spirit of collaboration and synergy, the members of the Lab are committed to **sharing** knowledge, identifying best practices and developing new projects to move towards more effective policies.

As an expert in the fight against illegal content online and in particular online child sexual exploitation, Point de Contact is willing to value this initiative by placing in midst of preoccupations the importance of the **fight against the dissemination of intimate content involving minors.**

The platform and its partners have noted a significant increase in reports of this type of content over the last two years. Special attention should be paid to the severe psychological consequences for the victims.

It is therefore necessary to require the improvement of the **assistance to the victims**, as well as the **implementation of technologies** to better identify this type of content in order to facilitate easy and **quick removal**.

Jean-Christophe Le Toquin, President of Point de Contact: "Sharing intimate content involving a minor is a serious violation. The phenomenon is still wrongly assessed even if any family may be impacted. But to act effectively, stakeholders must cooperate collectively. The Lab can really be the right initiative to address such violences."

The fight against this phenomenon requires **international and multisectoral cooperation**. Therefore, Point de Contact wishes to involve its partners (the hotlines of the INHOPE

network, including the KCSC, the eSafety Commission, NCMEC, and IWF) in the initiative of the Laboratory.

This high-level roundtable has been organized within the framework of the **5th edition of the Paris Peace Forum.**

About Point de Contact

Point de Contact is a French NGO and reporting platform with a 20-years experience in the fight against illegal content online. Supported by the European Commission and the Interministerial Committee for the Prevention of Crime and Radicalisation (CIPDR), Point de Contact is based on a private-public partnership model which brings together key tech companies, platforms and hosting providers, as well as law enforcement authorities. Point de Contact is a founding member of INHOPE, a global network of 50 member hotlines fighting against child sexual abuse material (CSAM). Finally, Point de Contact is committed to act for the recognition and protection of professionals exposed to violent and harmful content on a daily basis. Follow Point de Contact on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.

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