

# INVITATION



**Upholding the rights of the child  
in the digital environment:  
Opportunities and challenges for  
states**

**Side-event on the margins of the  
Third Committee on Social,  
Humanitarian & Cultural Issues  
of the United Nations**

**Organised by the Council of Europe within  
the framework of the Croatian Chairmanship  
of the Committee of Ministers**

**11 October 2018**

**Conference Room 8 / CR8**

**in the UN HQ, New York**

**13:15 - 14:45**

**Light lunch will be served  
from 12:45 in front of CR8**



**CHAIRMANSHIP OF CROATIA**  
Council of Europe  
May - November 2018

**PRÉSIDENTE DE LA CROATIE**  
Conseil de l'Europe  
Mai - Novembre 2018

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

# Upholding the rights of the child in the digital environment: Opportunities and challenges for states

States have the obligation to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of all children, everywhere, at all times. This includes taking all necessary measures to make sure that children enjoy their rights also in the digital environment, a complex world subject to rapid evolution, which is reshaping children's lives in many ways.

Striking the right balance between maximising the opportunities that ICTs offer to children and minimising and managing the risks that they may entail has become a challenge for all states. To guide them in their efforts to meet this challenge, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted in June 2018 a Recommendation on Guidelines to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child in the digital environment.

The Guidelines provide concrete solutions, stimulating cooperation at international and national level. Fundamental principles and rights are recalled in the Guidelines, illustrating their relevance in the digital environment and the importance of prevention strategies, due diligence, impact assessment and remedies. Due attention is paid to the complex and evolving nature of ICTs, identifying the key stakeholders that share responsibility for ensuring the rights of the child in the digital environment and confirming that policies in this area require a combination of public and private, legal and voluntary measures as well as the participation of children in their development, implementation and evaluation.

You are invited to join this side-event and participate in a dialogue on how states can address issues such as: protecting children from all forms of violence, including harassment and bullying; ensuring data protection, freedom of expression and assembly; promoting media education, positive parenting and participation; providing effective remedies and ensuring accountability and cooperation at global, regional, national and local levels.

## Panel discussants:

Introduction and moderation: Ms Elda Moreno, Head of the Children's Rights and Sports Values Department, Council of Europe

- **Ms Marija Pletikosa**, State Secretary, Ministry of Demography, the Family, Youth and Social Policy, Croatia
- **Ms Marta Santos Pais**, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children
- **Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children
- **Mr Martti Lahti**, Head of Department, National Audiovisual Institute, Department for Media Education and Audiovisual Media, Finland
- **Ms Jasmina Byrne**, Chief, Policy Lab Data, Research and Policy, UNICEF

**Date:** 11 October 2018

**Venue:** Conference Room 8 / CR8 in the UN HQ, New York

**Time:** 13:15 - 14:45

**Working language:** English

**Contacts:** The event will be webcast and recorded. For guests who are not part of an official UN delegation and do not hold a UN ground pass, please RSVP Mr Mladen Bručić-Matic, e-mail: [cromiss.un@mvep.hr](mailto:cromiss.un@mvep.hr)

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