

Child Focus and the fight against child abuse images on Internet

With the support of the European Commission (Safer Internet plus programme) Child Focus operates a civil hotline available **24/24** and **7/7** for people who have been confronted with child pornography and related images.

This civil hotline **stopchildporno.be** has a threefold task:

- to inform users, explain the issue and the criminal nature (and corresponding criminal sanctions) of viewing, loading, downloading, distributing, etc. child abuse images on Internet;
- to increase the sense of responsibility for Internet users and increase their awareness by dedicated campaigns;
- to enable everyone to react via this civil hotline which guides users in their action and informs them of the results of the police investigations concerning their reports.



Avenue Houba - de Strooper 292
B-1020 Brussels
Tel : +32/2/475 44 11
Fax : +32/2/475 44 03
childfocus.be

Emergency number: 110 (24 hours a day)

Emergency number from abroad:
+32/2/475 44 99 (24 hours a day)

To report cases of child pornography on Internet:
stopchildporno.be

Surf and chat in safety: **clicksafe.be**

What can you do for Child Focus?

Volunteers to distribute posters of missing children are always welcome. If you are interested in this, please call **0800 / 95 5 95**.

You can also help Child Focus by making a donation to account **310-1222999-12**, reference «support». Accumulated annual donations of €30 are tax deductible.

You can also make a contribution by means of a standing order or a provision in your will. Call **02 475 44 11** and ask for the head of fund collection.



This project is co-funded by the European Union, through the Safer Internet plus program. <http://ec.europa.eu/saferinternet>



Child pornography on Internet

Foundation for Missing and Sexually Exploited Children



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Child pornography is a serious form of child abuse and a crime

The framework decision of the Council of the European Union on combating the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography defines child pornography as follows:

«Child Pornography shall mean pornographic material that visually depicts or represents:

1. a real child involved or engaged in sexually explicit conduct, including lascivious exhibition of the genitals or the pubic area of a child; or
2. a real person appearing to be a child involved or engaged in the conduct mentioned in 1; or
3. realistic images of a non-existent child involved or engaged in the conduct mentioned in 1.»

In short, **child pornography** can also be described as images of sexually abused children.

Behind every production, exchange and dissemination of child-pornographic material lies the sexual abuse of a child.

The images trivialise sexual abuse and are used to persuade new victims to follow this example.

Moreover, by viewing and collecting images of sexual abuse of children potential offenders may be encouraged to act.

How to react if you discover images of sexually abused children on Internet?

Belgian Internet users have two ways of reporting images of abused children:

1. Via Child Focus.

You can report the presence of material of sexually abused children to Child Focus (which is not the same as filing a complaint or reporting to the police) in various ways:

- complete an on-line report via the civil hotline at stopchildporno.be. You can choose to report anonymously;
- calling the **free emergency number 110** in Belgium to give information (dial **+32 2 475 44 99** if calling from abroad);
- sending a letter with all the information to:

Child Focus
FAO: Stopchildporno
Houba - de Strooperlaan, 292
1020 Brussels – Belgium

2. Via the Federal Police.

You can also file your report with the Federal Police by:

- completing an on-line form via the contact point ecops.be
- filing a report at your local police station.

Users can report and request **anonymity**. The staff at Child Focus is bound by the duty of professional confidentiality.

Child Focus passes on the reports to the *Central Human Trafficking Unit* and *Federal Computer Crime Unit* of the Federal Police. The police unit analyses the content and notifies Child Focus of the action that will be taken on the matter.

Depending on the case, these units send a report to the competent public prosecutor's office in Belgium or to the Interpol office in the country where the website is hosted.

If the specific website constitutes an infringement of national laws, the competent public prosecutor's office will order the closure of the website in question.

The user who has left his or her personal details can check the outcome of his/her complaint on the feedback form on the website stopchildporno.be.

