



# Project Cybercrime@EAP III

Արևելյան Գործընկերության  
Східне партнерство Eastern  
Partnership აღმოსავლეთ  
პარტნიორობა Parteneriatul Estic  
Ֆորդ տնօրհանքի Partenariat  
Oriental Усходные Партнёрства

## **Combating Child Sexual Abuse Online** *Public-private cooperation* *Human Rights and Internet blocking*

**Cormac Callanan**  
**Council of Europe**

Partnership for Good Governance



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

[www.coe.int/cybercrime](http://www.coe.int/cybercrime)



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**HARMFUL**

**v's**

**ILLEGAL**



# **HARMFUL**

## **Awareness Raising, Parents, Teachers, Children**

**v's**

# **ILLEGAL**

## **(Law Enforcement - Hotlines)**



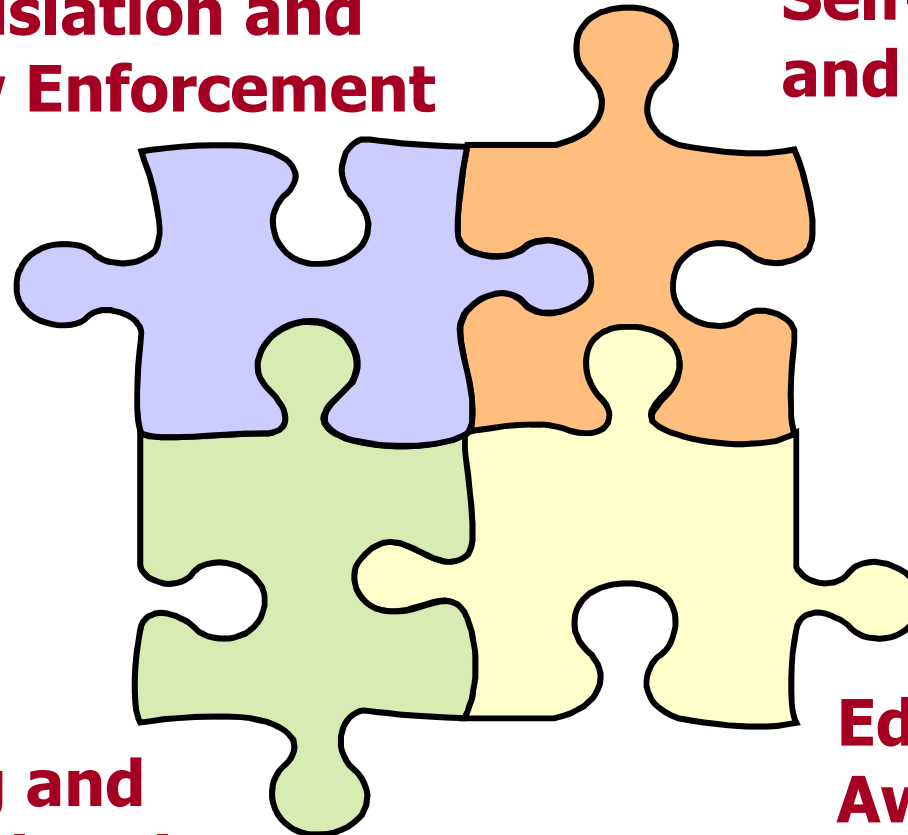
# An integrated Response

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**Legislation and  
Law Enforcement**

**Self-regulation  
and Hotlines**



**Filtering and  
technical tools**

**Education &  
Awareness**

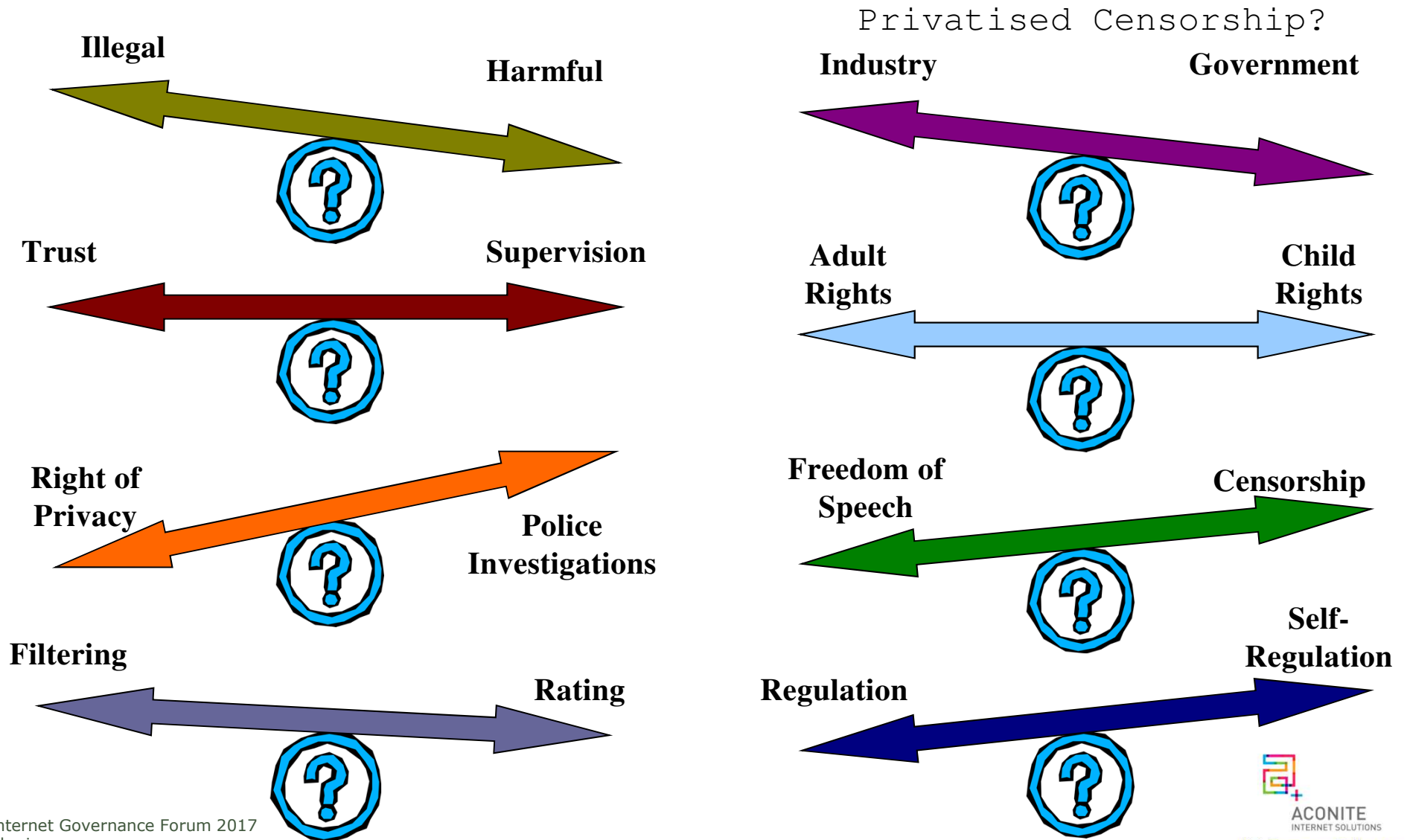


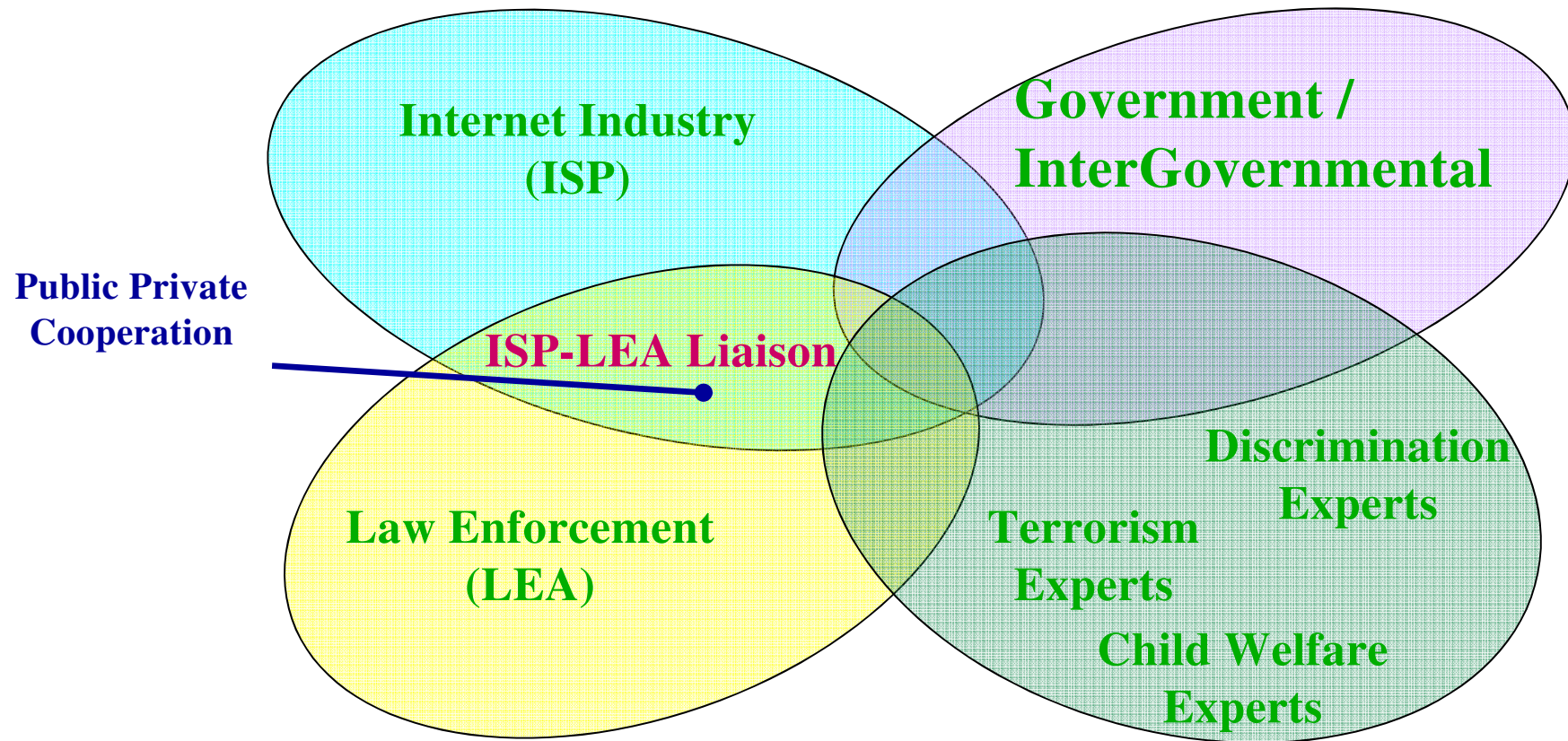


# Balance

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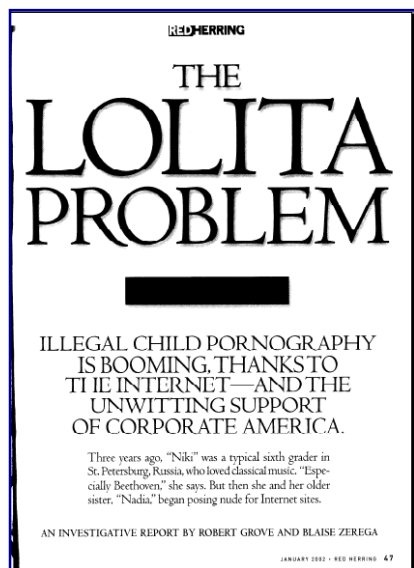
# ILLEGAL CONTENT ON THE INTERNET

# Illegal Internet Content

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- Child Pornography
  - Evidence of a crime
  - Image emphasis
  - Global Issue
  - Common Approach
  - Similar legislation
  - International instruments
    - Council of Europe Cybercrime Convention
  - Narrow focus
    - Age 18 (21) or younger involved in sexual activity
  - Easier to identify
- Hate Speech/Racism
  - Textual emphasis rather than image
  - Global agreement on problem but no global agreement on solution
  - Different approaches
  - Different legislation
  - Broad focus
    - Religious
    - Ethnic
    - Minority
    - etc
  - Dififcult to identify
  - Scarce expertise
  - Hidden language



Red Herring January 2002





# 8 steps to identifying victims of child sexual abuse



INTERPOL



# INTERPOL's International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) database Victim Identification

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- Abuser is most often a person known to the child
  - relative, neighbour or childcare professional.
- Child Abuse Images is evidence of a serious crime.
- Victim identification aims to alleviate the suffering of the child by identifying and locating him or her, and to bring that child's abuser to justice.



# International Child Sexual Exploitation image database

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- Launched in March 2009
- Uses sophisticated image and video comparison software to make connections between victims, abusers and places.
- Available through INTERPOL's secure global police communications system (known as I-247)
- Backed by the G8 and funded by the European Commission

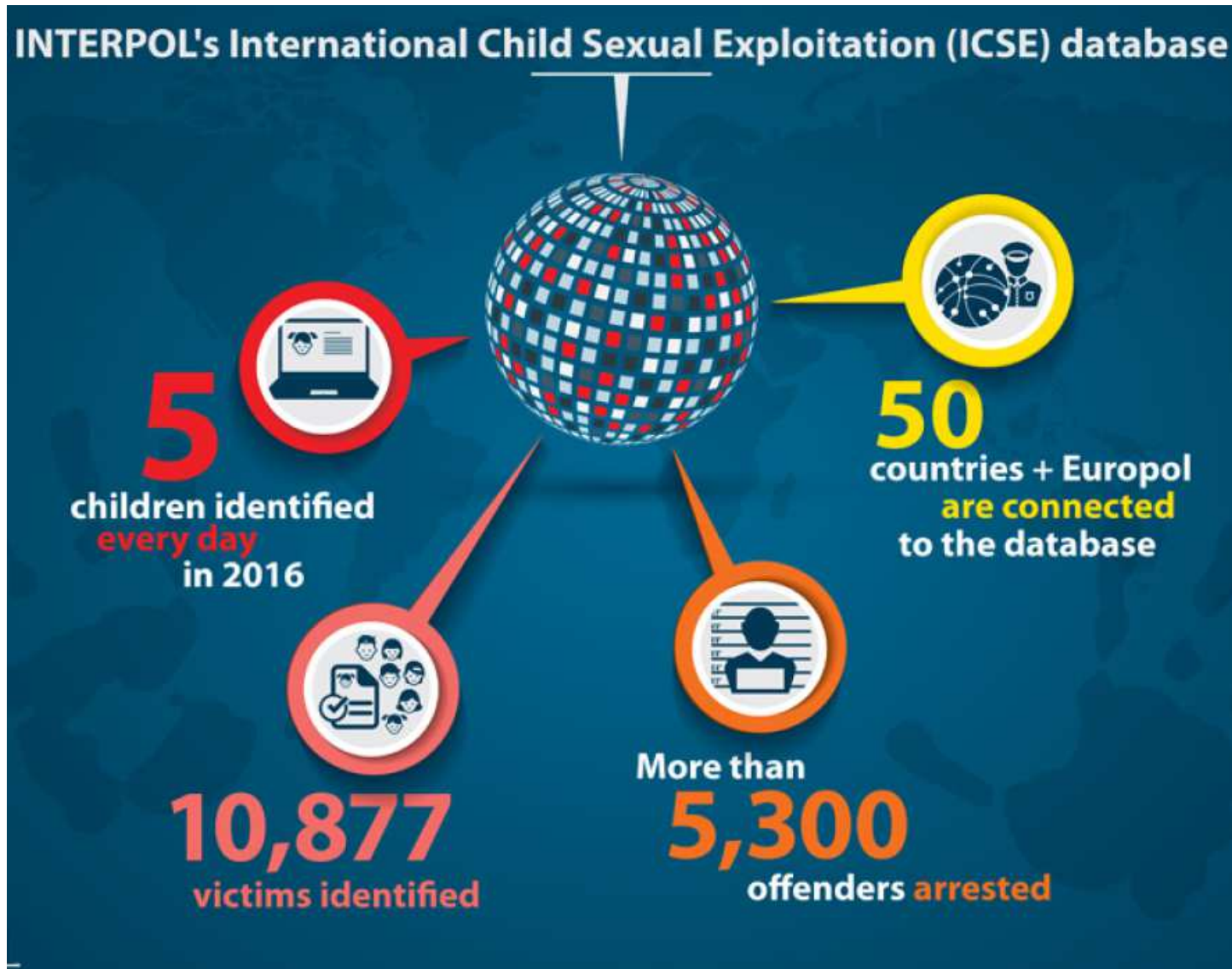


# INTERPOL's International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) database Victim Identification

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- Analysis of photographs and films depicting the sexual abuse of a child
- Objective of locating the child and/or abuser in the images
  - Image analysis is the examination of the digital, visual and audio content of those photographs and films for identification purposes.
- Clues can come from many places and in many forms
  - Role of victim identification specialist to retrieve relevant clues and piece them together using a range of specialized tools.
- Combination of image analysis and traditional investigative methods.

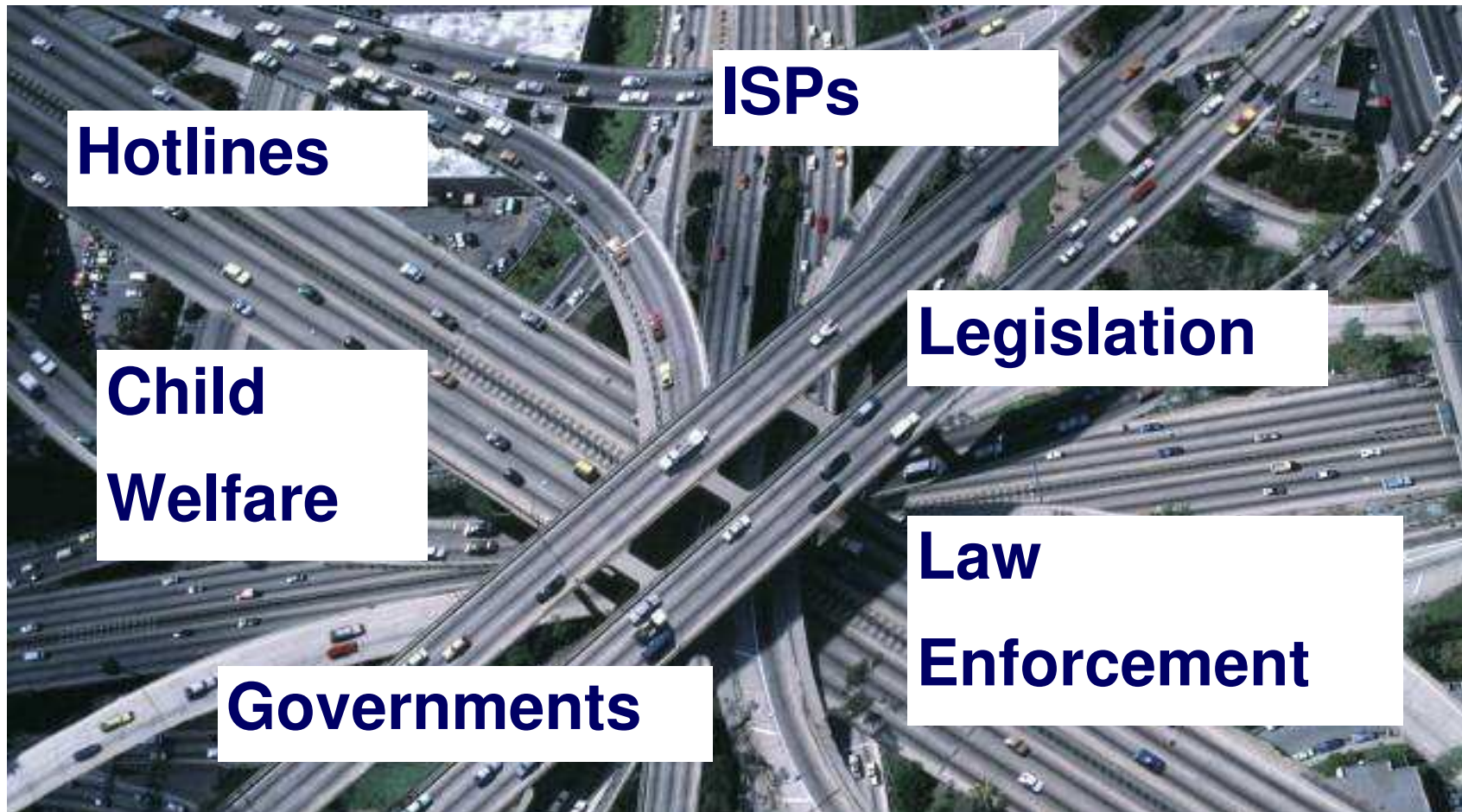




EU DG Connect Safer Internet

**INHOPE**

**INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF INTERNET HOTLINES**





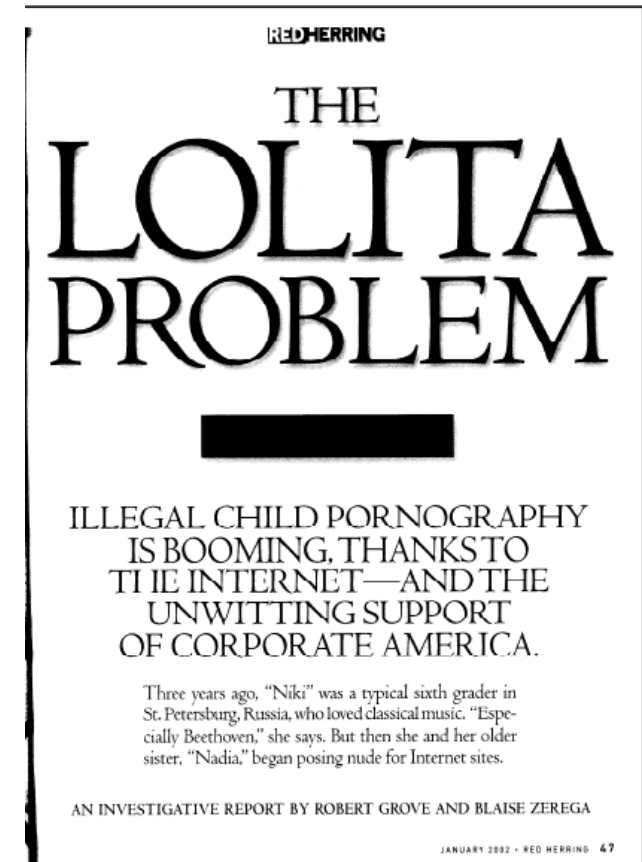
# Mission of Inhope



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Red Herring, January 2002

INHOPE is an active and collaborative global network of Hotlines, dealing with illegal content online and committed to stamping out child sexual abuse from the Internet.







# Overview



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- Formed in November 1999
- Comprises the INHOPE Association and INHOPE Foundation
  - (charity established in 2010 to help new hotlines with start-up activities in emerging markets).
- INHOPE unites national Internet hotlines engaged in combating online child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse material.
- The mission of INHOPE is to support and enhance the work of these hotlines to strengthen the International efforts to combat child sexual abuse using a multi stakeholder approach.





# Hotline Reports

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- Hotlines offer citizens a way to anonymously report Internet material including child sexual abuse material they suspect to be illegal.
- Hotline assesses content
- If found to be illegal
  - information will be passed to the relevant Law Enforcement Agency
  - and
  - in many cases the Internet Service Provider hosting the content



# Cybertip.ca Nov 2008 Fast Flux Case Study

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- Cybertip.ca tracked the IP addresses of one randomly selected commercial child pornography website fast flux domain hosting child abuse imagery.
- Over a 48-hour period, Cybertip.ca observed one website cycle through 212 unique
- IP addresses, located in 16 different countries. Appeared 10 at a time and change approx every three minutes.



# UK Operation Ore

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- Operation Ore was a British police operation
- commenced in **1999** following information received from US law enforcement
- intended to prosecute thousands of users of a website reportedly featuring child pornography.
  - 7,250 suspects identified
  - 4,283 homes searched
  - 3,744 arrests
  - 1,848 charged
  - 1,451 convictions
  - 493 cautioned
  - 140 children removed from suspected dangerous situations





# INTERNET BLOCKING



# Restricting Internet Access

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- Encryption
- Blocking Access to the Internet
- Blocking Access to selected content
- Why would you wish to restrict access to the Internet?
  - Punishment
  - Rehabilitation
  - Prevent reoffending
  - Public safety



# Key Issues

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Transparency  
Accountability  
Oversight

**How  
is blocking  
achieved?**

**Who  
selects?**

**Internet  
Blocking  
Initiatives**

**What  
content is  
identified?**

**Legal  
frameworks**





# What is Internet Blocking?

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In a technically perfect world  
content is prevented  
from reaching a personal computer  
or computer screen  
by a software or hardware product  
which reviews all Internet communications  
and decides whether  
to prevent the receipt and/or display of  
specifically targeted content





# Real World Borders - US - Mexico Wall

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# Filtering needs to be focussed and effective

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# Content targeted

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- Erotic and pornographic
- Extreme Adult Content
- Child Pornography
- Controversial political topics / hate speech /
- Illegal
- Libel and publication of false information
- Content published by terrorist
- Copyright violations
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Gambling Websites



# How is Internet Blocking done?

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- The term “Internet Blocking” covers a broad range of
  - Policies
  - Hardware
  - Software
  - Services
- Role of Industry
  - Planning Issues
    - List generation
    - Technology Infrastructure
    - Staff Police Clearance?
    - Liability Protection Regime



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- Mistake to think that all strategies of Internet blocking
  - are the same
  - equally effective
  - legally equivalent
  - that one system can easily be used in relation to more than one type of content



# Specifying content

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- IP addresses
- Domain names and DNS
- URLs
- File content and Filename
- Keywords
- Content Signatures (hash values)



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- Who generates and manages list?





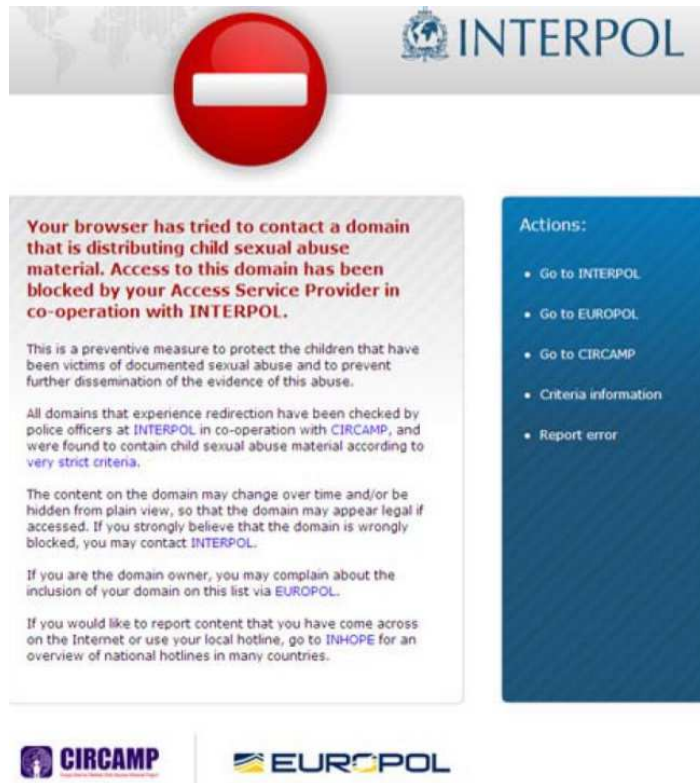
# Interpol “Worst-Of” list

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- 2009 INTERPOL General Assembly adopt Resolution (AG-2009-RES-05) to limit online distribution of child sexual abuse images.
- Member countries promote the use of all the technical tools available, including access blocking of websites containing child sexual abuse images.
- INTERPOL provides a list of domains containing the websites that disseminate the most severe child abuse material worldwide.
- Many different protocols used to distribute child sexual abuse material
- While the Web is not the most important one in terms of numbers of files, it is the most accessible and visible.

# Stop Pages



The screenshot shows a web page with a prominent red prohibition sign (a red circle with a white horizontal bar) at the top left. To its right is the INTERPOL logo. Below the sign, there is a text box with the following content:

**Your browser has tried to contact a domain that is distributing child sexual abuse material. Access to this domain has been blocked by your Access Service Provider in co-operation with INTERPOL.**

This is a preventive measure to protect the children that have been victims of documented sexual abuse and to prevent further dissemination of the evidence of this abuse.

All domains that experience redirection have been checked by police officers at INTERPOL in co-operation with CIRCAMP, and were found to contain child sexual abuse material according to very strict criteria.

The content on the domain may change over time and/or be hidden from plain view, so that the domain may appear legal if accessed. If you strongly believe that the domain is wrongly blocked, you may contact INTERPOL.

If you are the domain owner, you may complain about the inclusion of your domain on this list via EUROPOL.

If you would like to report content that you have come across on the Internet or use your local hotline, go to INHOPE for an overview of national hotlines in many countries.

At the bottom of the page, there are logos for CIRCAMP and EUROPOL. To the right of the main text box, there is a blue sidebar with the heading "Actions:" and a list of links:

- Go to INTERPOL
- Go to EUROPOL
- Go to CIRCAMP
- Criteria information
- Report error

- Police provide Internet Access Providers (IAPs) with a list of domains or URLs (Internet addresses)
- Traffic from Internet users to the domains on the list are redirected to a “stop page”
- “stop page” contains information about reasons for the redirection, links to legislation, where to complain, etc
- INTERPOL recommends that IAP use the INTERPOL “stop page” or an information page to increase transparency.

# Blocking Child Pornography Notice page - Norway

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**KRIPOS**  
Den nasjonale enhet for bekjempelse av  
organisert og annen alvorlig kriminalitet



## Stopp!

Nettleseren din har nå forsøkt å kontakte et nettsted som benyttes i forbindelse med distribusjon av overgrepbilder av barn - noe som er straffbart etter norsk straffelovs §204a (tidl. kalt barnepornografi).

Dersom du har innvendinger mot at sidene er sperret, eller mener en slik sperring ikke er korrekt, kan du ta kontakt med Kripos på tlf. 23 20 80 00 eller ved å [sende oss en epost](#).

Det logges ikke noe informasjon om din IP-adresse eller annet som kan identifisere deg når du får opp denne siden. Denne sperringen er utelukkende ment for å forebygge straffbar distribusjon av dokumenterte seksuelle overgrep, og hindre at barn som allerede er avbildet blir ytterligere utnyttet.

Hvis du ønsker mer informasjon, eller ønsker å tipse Kripos, gå til [Kripos tipsmottak](#) eller ring oss på 09989.

*Kripos og internettleverandørenes samarbeidsprosjekt mot seksuell utnyttning av barn på Internett*

*The Child Sexual Abuse Anti-Distribution Filter (CSAADF) is part of the COSPOL Internet Related Child Abusive Material Project (CIRCAMP). The project is initiated by the European Chief of Police Task Force - aimed at combating organized criminal groups behind commercial sexual exploitation of children.*

### KRIPOS TIPSMOTTAK

[www.tips.kripos.no](http://www.tips.kripos.no)





# Access blocking as a preventive tool

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- Blocking access to a domain containing child sexual abuse material is a preventive measure.
- No criminal cases are generated as a result of anyone being redirected away from a domain containing child sexual abuse material
  - The police will not have access to the necessary identifiable information, such as timestamps and IP (Internet Protocol) addresses.
- Accessing a domain with child sexual abuse material once or a few times does not necessarily prove criminal intent.



# Internet Blocking and the law

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- Charter of the United Nations
- UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)
- UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- UN Convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination
- Council of Europe European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)
- Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime



# Internet as a Human Right

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## Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- Article 19:

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes the freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers.

## European Convention on Human Rights

- Article 10(1):

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression. This right shall include the freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers...



# Fundamental freedoms that might be in opposition with blocking

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- Can interfere with **the right to private life**
  - permitting or requiring the retention of Internet data that is protected by confidentiality, or preventing individuals from availing of some Internet potential
- Internet blocking attempts can interfere with **the freedom of expression**
  - by preventing people access to online information or to make available such information.
- Internet blocking interferes with the specific rights awarded to some categories of persons, such as **the right for disabled persons**
- Internet blocking may be seen as a substitute for respecting the obligations in the Child Rights Convention
  - which requires states to take all appropriate international steps to prevent the exploitation of children for pornographic purposes.



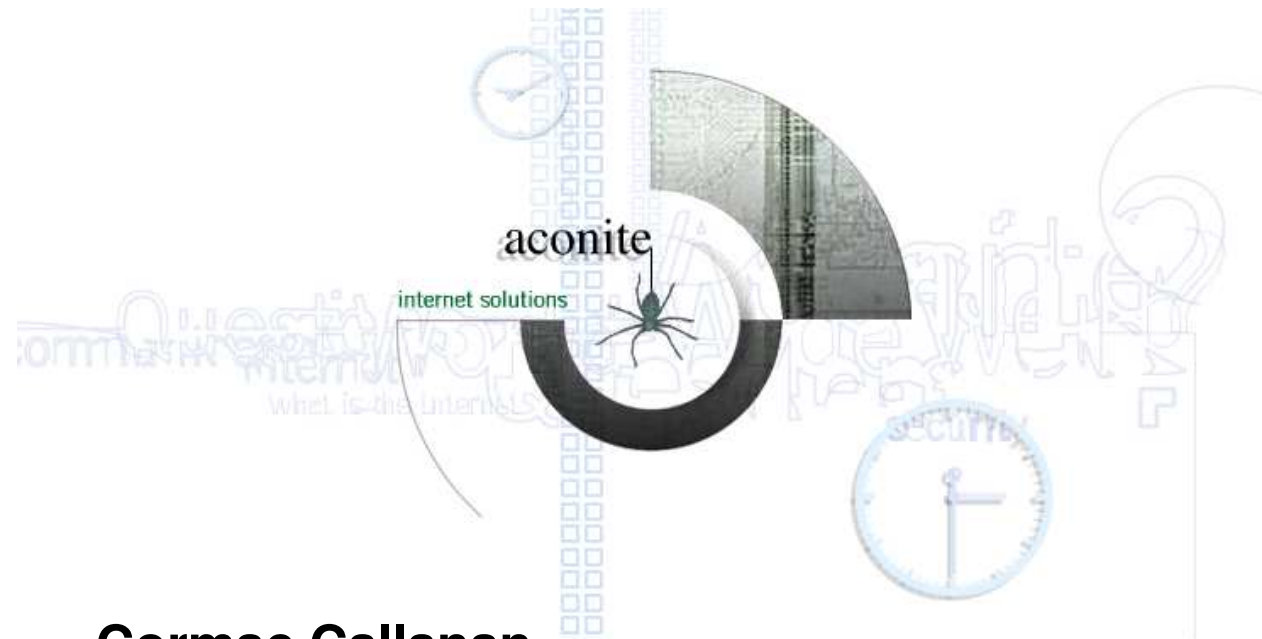
# Conditions under which Internet blocking could be legally acceptable

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- Step 1 Internet blocking would need to be implemented in a way that other rights and freedoms are not violated.
- Step 2 Determining rights and freedoms that will be limited
- Step 3 Determining the extent of the limitation
- Step 4 Determining precisely the pursued aim(s)
- Step 5 Establishing if blocking aim corresponds to a reality
- Step 6 Determining if blocking in the determined aim answers a pressing social need
- Step 7 Analysing the proportionality of the interference to the pursued aim
- Step 8 Consider *the principles that must govern blocking in light of the European Court's criteria (necessity in a democratic society, a pressing social need)*
- Step 9 *Establish if a law is needed to prevent the use of certain functionalities of the blocking mechanism*
- Step 10 *Providing for blocking within law*





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