Internet, but safe – recommendations for teenagers, parents and teaching staff

The new information platform www.make-it-safe.net is now online in seven different languages

Brussels, June 17th 2015 – children and teenagers are becoming more and more "digital natives" by browsing through the web as if it were the most natural thing in the worldand are therefore often one step ahead of their parents and teachers. How can a safe contact with the internet be ensured at home as well as at school and what should be done when it comes to grooming, mobbing or sexual violence in online situations? The website **www.make-it-safe.net** provides answers for adolescents, parents and teachers. After being updated the website is now available in seven languages; German, English, French, Dutch, Turkish, Arabic and Serbo-Croatian.

The info platform is also available for tablets and smartphones and includes the experiences from youngsters from five different countries. They actively contributed to the two-year "make-IT-safe peer expert training project" as peer-experts by raising awareness of the dangers in online situations amongst their peers. The project which was financed by the European Union was realised by the five ECPAT Groups of Germany, Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands and the UK. Altogether 90 peer-experts and 45 child-right experts worked together in order to vitalize teenagers', their parents' and teachers' knowledge on how to have safe and responsible contact with new medias.

"Our aim is to spread the acquired knowledge and materials and reach as many young people from Europe as possible. When kids exchange hints amongst each other, against inappropriate come-ons in online situation it has a completely different effect than adults giving them advice on the topic. As a consequence, the peer-to-peer approach does not only provide the youngsters with knowledge but encourages them to take over responsibility for each other", states Daria Zamarlik, trainer of the make-IT-safe-project.

For further information and queries please contact

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