Child Protection Policy in Cyberspace

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1. Introduction

The increased usage of the internet and technology by children in Albania has highlighted the need to address the risks arising from cyberspace. Children are often exposed to various online threats, which can negatively impact their emotional, mental and social development.

The Policy for the Protection of Children in Cyberspace aims to create a safer digital environment for children, by taking structured measures to protect, educate and raise awareness about the safe use of the internet and digital technologies.

2. Mission and Purpose

The mission of this policy is to create a safe, secure and child-appropriate cyberspace in the Republic of Albania.

The aim of the policy is to educate, inform and protect children from the risks associated with the use of the internet, promoting a safe, responsible and beneficial use of technology. To achieve this purpose, the policy foresess taking concrete measures, including the development of online educational platforms, the implementation of cybersecurity programs in schools and the strengthening of cooperation with the technological community and civil society organizations.

3. Fundamental Principles

The policy is based on the principle of respecting children's rights, involving stakeholders, promoting safe and responsible use of technology by children, as well as continuously improving institutional capacities and cooperation with the private sector, the technological community and civil society. It is also based on the principles of transparency, accountability, sustainability and legal compliance, ensuring a safer digital environment for children in Albania.

4. Steps for Policy Implementation

Concrete Tools and Measures

- Creating an online informational and educational platform for children, parents and teachers, providing information on the dangers in cyberspace and safe ways to use the internet;

- Promoting and integrating school programs that include education on cybersecurity and safe use of the internet at all levels of education;

- Using appropriate technologies and tools to monitor and prevent potential online risks, in accordance with applicable data protection and privacy legislation;

- Collaborating with technology communities, civil society organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to support policy implementation and train educational personnel on cybersecurity issues.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

Policy implementation is monitored through:

- The establishment of a panel of experts to follow policy implementation, identify challenges, and formulate recommendations for improvement;
- Periodic reporting and continuous assessment of the impact of the measures undertaken on children's safety in cyberspace, in order to ensure policy effectiveness and adapt it as necessary.

Financing:

The implementation of this policy relies on the allocation of funds from the state budget. In addition, additional funding is provided through donations and other financial sources from international organizations and the private sector, in order to guarantee sustainable support for the envisaged initiatives.

Implementation Calendar:

Within six months of the policy's approval, it is anticipated that information campaigns and training for parents and educators will be launched, with the aim of preparing them to address cybersecurity challenges.

Within one year of the approval of the policy, the online informational platform will be developed and made operational, providing educational resources and support for the safe use of the internet by children.

5. References

This policy is based on national cybersecurity legislation, the National Cybersecurity Strategy, and internationally recognized practices and standards in the field of child protection in cyberspace.

6. Review Frequency

This document shall be reviewed at least once a year or whenever significant changes occur in the institution's information security management system.