



IWF Newsletter

Issue 3 2009

Welcome to the third IWF e-newsletter of the 2009 series...

We are delighted to announce the appointment of a new independent Chair of our Board. Eve Salomon brings vast experience to the role including national and European level expertise in regulatory structures, law, media, and communications and is a committed and eminent advocate of the UK's better regulation agenda. Eve took up her role on 1st April 2009. For more information see IWF News below.

IWF works to share experience, expertise and good practice within the UK and internationally, and, as part of this commitment, we hosted a visit from the National Police Agency of Japan in March, who were keen to learn about the UK self-regulatory approach to tackling child sexual abuse images online. We also hosted a visit from the Swedish Police who were keen to learn about the industry-led voluntary initiative of blocking child sexual abuse images.

IWF spoke at an Office of Fair Trading conference on the subject of self-regulation and presented at the launch of the European Financial Coalition. For more information about this see below.

Our Annual Report will be published in April 2009 and will provide further details of our operations and activities during the year as well as trends data regarding the scale and nature of child sexual abuse content on the internet. If you are interested to receive a copy, please email media@iwf.org.uk with your address.

Features this month include **IWF News, European Financial Coalition, EU Kids Online, Parliamentary Questions and Debates, EU News** and **IWF Literature**.

We welcome your comments on the newsletter, what you like about it, what you hope to see included and what you feel can be improved. Please email newsletter@iwf.org.uk with your thoughts and ideas.

IWF News

[IWF Announces New Independent Chair](#)

The Internet Watch Foundation is delighted to announce the appointment of a new independent Chair of its Board. Eve Salomon brings vast experience to the role including national and European level expertise in regulatory structures, law, media, and communications and is a committed and eminent advocate of the UK's better regulation agenda.

[E2BN Joins Internet Watch Foundation](#)

To improve their e-safety services, E2BN has become a member of the Internet Watch Foundation.

European Financial Coalition

The European Financial Coalition dedicated to tracking and disrupting the commercial element behind child sex abuse images was launched in March. This Coalition brings together financial, internet and technology organisations, international policing agencies, the European Commission and specialist child protection NGOs to track and disrupt child sex offenders through their financial gain.

The Coalition is funded by the European Commission and led by the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre. The purpose of the Coalition is to bring together all stakeholder groups engaged in the fight against the commercial distribution of child sexual abuse images in order to facilitate and support pan-European police operations, with cross sector solutions targeting in particular the electronic payment systems that are used to purchase child exploitation and abuse images on the internet.

This will help to:

- Identify, locate and safeguard victims.
- Identify, locate and arrest perpetrators.
- Identify, trace and seize the assets of offenders.
- Educate, inform and empower key stakeholders to prevent the spread and ultimately disrupt and dismantle this crime.

The Home Secretary, Rt Hon Jacqui Smith MP, welcomed the Coalition: “The government is determined to tackle child sex abuse in all its forms and cracking down on those that make financial gain from the distribution of these sickening images is a priority. The UK is a world leader in protecting children offline and online with our internet service providers blocking access to child sex abuse images on 95 percent of all consumer broadband lines.”

For more information about the European Financial Coalition click [here](#).

EU Kids Online



The EU Kids Online project, designed to examine research across the European Union (EU) into how children and young people use digital media, has recently published a new report:

Cross-Cultural Contexts of Research: Factors Influencing the Study of Children and the Internet in Europe

This report looks at the national contextual factors that determine what research on children and the internet takes place as well as reasons behind different aspects of children’s online activities researched in different parts of Europe. Based on an assessment of research availability and contexts of research in 21 European countries, this report identifies the specific contextual processes influencing the research agenda. For more information visit:

www.eukidsonline.net

Parliamentary Questions and Debates

On 11 March 2009 Judy Mallaber MP tabled a Westminster debate on 'Abusive Images on the Internet'. The debate focussed on three areas: images of child sexual abuse on the internet; inappropriate videos on social networking sites and safety advice for young people. Vernon Coaker MP, Minister of State responsible for policing, crime and security participated in the debate. To read the debate click [here](#).

On 19 March 2009 Margaret Moran MP asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 3 February 2009 on 'Offences Against Children: Internet', when her Department commenced its review of ways in which the final five percent of internet service providers could be covered by blocking; what timetable has been set to achieve 100 percent blocking coverage; and what steps she plans to take to achieve that objective. Click [here](#) to read the answer.

On 24 March 2009 James Brokenshire MP had a number of questions relating to child protection on the internet answered by Rt Hon Beverley Hughes MP, Minister of State for Children, Young People and Families and Rt Hon Jim Knight MP, Minister of State for Schools and Learners. Click [here](#) to read the questions and answers.

EU News

EU Commission adopts new proposal to combat child sexual abuse

During March, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a new Council Framework Decision on combating sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children as well as child sexual abuse images, aimed at stepping up prosecution of criminal, protection of child victims and prevention of offences. For more information click [here](#).

Council of Europe launches second phase of its Cybercrime Project

During its fourth annual conference on cybercrime, the Council of Europe launched the second phase (March 2009-June 2011) of its Global Project on Cybercrime, intended to help countries worldwide to implement its Convention and to adopt stricter standards on the protection of children and personal data.

Phase two of the project will follow up and build on the issues identified during phase one. These issues include:

- The need for public-private cooperation, in particular the cooperation between law enforcement and internet service providers.
- The need to protect personal data and privacy while enhancing the security of cyberspace.
- The need for a further strengthening of measures to protect children from exploitation and abuse on the internet.

For more information about phase two of the project click [here](#).

IWF Literature

The IWF has a wide range of free promotional material for the public, IT professionals and the police. Click [here](#) for more information.

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