CYBER SAFE

Stop online violence against women and girls

What is CYBERSAFE?

CYBERSAFE is a 30-month project (2019–2021) funded by the European Union. Nine project partners from various European countries have developed and promote an innovative experiential educational prevention programme – the CYBERSAFE Toolkit – that includes playful online tools, to address the issue of **online violence against women and girls** among young people (13–16 years old), in a classroom setting.

CYBERSAFE promotes **healthy relationships and gender equality online**. The CYBERSAFE Toolkit provides information and tools to prepare and facilitate four workshops on the issues of gender-based online violence, in order to raise awareness and to encourage and support young people in safe and responsible online behaviour.

Why focus on online violence against women & girls?

Across Europe, digital technology plays a central role in the social lives of young people. It enables them to connect to their peers, to learn, to explore and to express themselves. A big part of their social life takes place online. This provides many positive opportunities but can also cause harm. 'Missteps' can be recorded instantly, spread rapidly and viewed by a wide audience. Content can circulate online indefinitely.

Since the creation of social media platforms, violence against women and girls has escalated in the digital sphere. Research shows that women and girls are specifically targeted by online violence. The EU estimates that **1 in 10 women** have already experienced a form of online violence from the age of 15 onwards[1].

Online violence against women and girls can take on various shapes such as[2]

- **Non-consensual sharing of sexual images** – for example 'revenge porn'
- **Coercion and threats –** for example 'sextortion', 'grooming'
- **Sexualised bullying**
- **Unwanted sexualization and exploitation**

Both girls and boys can be a victim of these types of online violence, but girls are more likely to be targeted and incidents often result in more negative consequences for girls (e.g. girls are often judged and blamed more harshly than boys for becoming a victim).

These types of online violence against women and girls often overlap with offline forms of violence and should be viewed as a **continuum**, and as an **expression of the same phenomenon,** often starting offline and reverberating online or vice versa, pushing back women from public spaces to the private sphere.
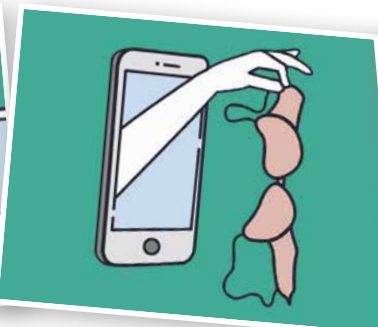
1 EIGE 2017, Cyber violence against Women and Girls: https://eige.europa.eu/publications/cyber-violence-against-women-and-girls?lang=lt

2 Project deSHAME 2017, Young people's experiences of online sexual harassment: https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Project_deSHAME_Dec_2017_Report.pdf

Stop online violence against women and girls

**Find out more:
www.stoponlineviolence.eu**

The CYBERSAFE Toolkit

The CYBERSAFE Toolkit is intended for **teachers or other professionals working with young people**, who want to address online violence against women and girls, including online sexual harassment and online safety, in the classroom or in another setting.

The toolkit provides all necessary materials to facilitate **four workshops** on the topics of non-consensual sharing of sexual images, exploitation, coercion and threats, sexualised bullying, and unwanted sexualisation, including an **online tool** that encourages discussion and role play and a **guide** with practical information for facilitators.

Languages

The CYBERSAFE Toolkit is available in **English, Estonian, Dutch, German, Greek, Italian, Slovenian,** and **Danish.**

CYBER SAFE
Changing Attitudes among teenagers on Cyber Violence against Women and Girls
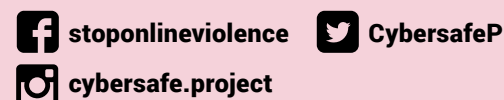
SPEAK UP

After participating in the workshops, young people

- can **recognise** (signs of) online violence against girls.

- understand the **emotional impact** and **other possible consequences** of online violence against girls for anyone involved.

- know how to **prevent** online violence against girls.

- know how to **act in an adequate, supportive and positive way** if they themselves or someone else experiences online violence.

Find out more

If you are interested in following the project, please like and follow our social media pages:

f **stoponlineviolence**   **t** **CybersafeP**

Instagram **cybersafe.project**

Our hashtags are:
#endCyberVAWG, #CYBERSAFE

Check out our website, where you can also find the online tool: **www.stoponlineviolence.eu**

Team

9 partners who are experts in their field have come together from 8 countries to make this project a success:

Azienda Speciale Retesalute (Italy), International Child Development Initiatives (Netherlands), Northern Ireland Rape Crisis Association (United Kingdom), Serious Games Interactive APS (Denmark), Union of Women Associations of Heraklion Prefecture (Greece), University of Tartu (Estonia), University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Women Against Violence Europe (Austria), Women's Support and Information Centre (Estonia)

AZIENDA SPECIALE **RETESALUTE**   **International Child Development Initiatives**   **Nexus** NI rape & sexual abuse support   **SERIOUS GAMES INTERACTIVE**

UNIVERSITY OF **TARTU** Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies   University of Ljubljana Faculty of Social Sciences   **WAVE**

Women's Support and Information Center
There is a way out of violence!