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# DISSS IS OUR CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

SEPTEMBER 2024

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## COLOFON

Version 1 - 27 June 2023

The Dutch Institute for Safe and Secure Spaces (DISSS) was founded on 22 April 2022 by Anna van der Stok, Peter van de Crommert and Vivian Gravenberch. The Institute's visiting address is as following:

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# DISSS IS US



## **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

This Child Protection Policy is designed to comply with Dutch and EU law to ensure the safety and well-being of children involved in DISSS project activities.

## **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This policy applies to all staff working for DISSS, aiming to protect children from harm and promote their welfare in accordance with Dutch and EU law, including in online environments.

## **LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

Our policy adheres to:

- The Dutch Youth Act (Jeugdwet) and the Dutch Civil Code (Burgerlijk Wetboek)
- Article 3(3) of the Treaty on European Union, which establishes the objective for the EU to promote protection of the rights of the child
- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, specifically Article 24 on the rights of the child and Article 32 on the prohibition of child labour
- The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), ratified by all EU countries
- The 2022 Council of the European Union conclusions on the rights of the child

## ***DEFINITIONS***

As defined by the UNCRC and in line with Dutch law, a child is any person under the age of 18. For the OPRA project, child abuse includes physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect, with a specific focus on online forms of abuse and harassment.

## ***RISK ASSESSMENTS***

DISSS will conduct risk assessments to identify potential risks to children in our project activities, if applicable, with additional attention to online environments.

## ***CODE OF CONDUCT***

All DISSS staff and volunteers must adhere to a strict code of conduct, which will be produced at the start of the project, that outlines appropriate behaviour when interacting with children.

## ***CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION***

All child-related information within DISSS projects will be handled confidentially and in compliance with the Dutch GDPR implementation (Uitvoeringswet AVG) and EU data protection regulations.

## ***ONLINE SAFETY***

DISSS will implement specific measures to ensure children's safety in digital environments within their projects, including guidelines for online interactions and content moderation, in line with EU recommendations for children to be responsible and resilient members of the digital society.

## ***PARTNERSHIPS***

All partner organisations collaborating with DISSS must adhere to this policy and demonstrate their commitment to child protection in accordance with Dutch and EU law.

## ***POLICY REVIEW***

By implementing this Child Protection Policy, DISSS aims to create a safe environment for all children involved in its project activities, if applicable, in full compliance with Dutch and EU law and regulations. This policy underscores our commitment to fostering digital citizenship and online safety for children across all aspects of DISSS projects, aligning with the EU's objective to promote and protect the rights of the child.







# THANK YOU

We look forward to working together  
with you in the coming years.

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