

Список використаних джерел

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CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

Children are some of the most vulnerable members of our society and can be victims of various forms of violence.

Images of child sexual abuse found on the web are not virtual; they are a crime involving real children and real suffering. Most people don't realize that when we talk about child sexual abuse, this includes the abuse of very young children, and even babies. Following the examination of random selection of videos and images in the ICSE database, INTERPOL and ECPAT International published a joint report in February 2018 entitled Towards a Global Indicator on Unidentified Victims in Child Sexual Exploitation Material. The study identified a number of alarming trends:

- the younger the victim, the more severe the abuse.
- 84% of images contained explicit sexual activity.
- more than 60% of unidentified victims were prepubescent, including infants and toddlers.
- 65% of unidentified victims were girls.
- severe abuse images were likely to feature boys.
- 92% of visible offenders were male.

Sexual abuse and exploitation, trafficking, forced labour and abduction: these are just some of the dangers faced by children around the world today. INTERPOL works to address those crimes that have an international dimension. To help trace missing children, it issues Yellow Notices, while their human trafficking experts work alongside member countries to rescue child victims of trafficking and forced labour.

The global reach and anonymity of the Internet have greatly facilitated the distribution of child sexual abuse material, and access to it. Offenders can now produce, exchange and even direct live video of children – even babies – being abused. They can also come into direct contact with children via social networks and chat functions in games or apps. The priority of the Interpol's Crimes against Children unit is to identify and rescue young victims of sexual abuse; block access to child

sexual abuse material and prevent sex offenders from travelling abroad to abuse children or escape justice [1].

The Crimes against Children unit helps specialized units work across borders and sectors to ensure criminals don't exploit children. Its main activity is to help police to identify victims of child sexual exploitation, by analysing photos and videos found on the Internet or on seized devices. Its database of images is available to specialized experts, and supports traditional police investigations. Its staff also provides opportunities for experts to their skills and networks, leading to more effective investigations.

The identification of young victims portrayed in sexual abuse material is a top priority for law enforcement, as it can also help locate the perpetrators. Crucial to the work is the International Child Sexual Exploitation image database, which uses sophisticated image comparison software to make connections between victims and places. Prevention of access to child material online is complementary to investigative work, and stops re-victimization of the children abused. Interpol works closely with Internet service providers to block access to child abuse material online. Victim identification involves the detailed analysis of images and videos to locate and rescue child sexual abuse victims. Online child sexual abuse is one of the rare crime areas where police officers start with the evidence and work their way back to the crime scene. The images can either be discovered through child exploitation investigations, proactive monitoring of online platforms, forensic analysis of seized mobiles, laptops, digital storage units, etc. Once images are found, victim identification specialists take over. They go through the images with a fine-toothed comb with the objective of removing the child from harm and arresting the abuser [3].

Some sex offenders cross borders to abuse children, allowing them to stay out of sight of their home authorities and gain unsupervised access to children.

INTERPOL can issue a Green Notice to warn about a person's criminal activities, where the person is considered a threat to children, or a Blue Notice to collect information on a person's identity, location or activities in relation to a crime. At the request of any member country, they can issue a Yellow Notice to help locate missing persons, especially minors. These notices are circulated on an international basis and recorded in its database of missing and abducted children. They also work closely with partners to protect minors from being trafficked and exploited for labour [2].

Contrary to common beliefs about sexual abuse, the abuser is most often a person known to the child, such as a family member, neighbour or childcare professional. The vast majority of child sexual abuse cases are not documented, mostly taking place behind closed doors in private settings. When the abuse is recorded or photographed, however, what is really being documented is evidence of a serious crime. Abusers often use the images for future sexual gratification, or to be traded and shared with other abusers.

A core function of the specialized experts in the area of training is to help police in EU member countries to build their capacity to investigate child sexual exploitation. The staff organizes training courses in all regions

of the world that cover the entire scope of child sexual abuse investigations: conducting investigations in the online environment; the use of INTERPOL's International Child Sexual Exploitation database; victim identification methods; victim and offender interview techniques; categorization of child sexual abuse material.

While many countries have child protection and special victims units, few have specialized staff able to investigate online child sexual abuse cases or perform victim identification. Specialized officers can advise countries on how to set up victim identification units and can provide tailored support to national authorities.

The INTERPOL Specialists Group on Crimes Against Children meets annually to facilitate and enhance the investigation of sexual crimes against children. Gathering law enforcement, regional and international organizations, NGOs, the private sector and academia, the group identifies new trends and techniques and develops best practice. Private sector partners such as financial institutions, internet service providers and software developers also play a crucial role in tracking child sexual abuse material and shutting down illegal distribution channels. Their input is highly valued and a key part of our coordinated approach.

Список використаних джерел

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COVID-19 A BIOLOGICAL WEAPON?

As the economic and health risks of the COVID-19 pandemic are predicted to persist into next year, there are growing reservations about society returning to normal. The impacts of COVID-19, like the 2008 financial crisis and the 2001 September 11th attacks before, are changing global consciousness and reopening uncertainties about security, privacy and public health. Unfortunately, the current COVID-19 pandemic reveals systemic infrastructural and security deficiencies that rendered countries [3]. This could have been avoided with better preparedness. However, preparedness requires maximum co-operation and transparency between government, researchers and industry. As countries experience the ongoing economic and public health shocks caused by COVID-19, rogue actors seeking to take advantage of the pandemic may use bioweapons to similar effect.