The Clean IT Project
Fighting the illegal use of internet

What to do about illegal activities on the internet? The Clean IT Project initiates a public-private partnership where a non-legislative framework will be developed to counter illegal use of internet. This will be done from a counter-terrorism perspective.

During the past decade of huge global growth of the internet, more and more illegal content appeared online. Existing websites have been misused for, for example, terrorist purposes. The internet and its fast and anonymous means can contribute to individual radicalization processes. This project will cover all forms of terrorism on the internet, but the project will take into account that the main risk at the moment comes from Al Qaida inspired extremists. Results of this project can possibly be translated to other types of illegal use of the internet as well.

Public-private partnerships

Public-private partnerships can cause a breakthrough in deadlocked talks between government and industry on this topic. The internet is in most countries predominantly privately owned, and the internet knowledge is 100% privately owned. Therefore, the solutions to these problems can be found in direct cooperation between member-states and the Internet business. Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and EUROPOL all believe in the importance of coordination on this subject and are partners in the Clean IT project. This project is being executed with the financial support of the Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme from the European Union.

Non-legislative approach

The main objective of this project is to develop a non-legislative ´framework´ that consists of general principles and best practices. During this project, the private sector will be in the lead. In a series of workshops and conferences, the private and public sector will define their problems and try to draw up some general principles about countering the illegal use of Internet. These principles can be used as a guideline or gentlemen's agreement and will hopefully be adopted by many different parties. They will describe responsibilities and concrete steps public and private partners can take to counter the illegal use of Internet. We hope that these principles can fill the gap between Member States (national) regulation and private initiatives/best practices. Best practices in the public and private sector will be identified and combined in an implementation guideline which can be attached to the general principles.

Participating

There are many different ways in which you can participate in this project. We are looking for people that want to participate and can give input on different aspects of the project. If you have any ideas or opinions about the form and content of general principles, or if you know any best practices on countering illegal use of Internet, please let us know. We can keep you updated on the progress of the project. It is also possible to publicly endorse this project and become an associated partner. If you are interested in participating, please contact us at *info@cleanitproject.eu*

Project partners

- Germany (Bundesministerium des Innern);
- United Kingdom (Home Office);
- Belgium (Coordination Unit for Threat Assessment);
- Spain (Centro Nacional de Coordinación Antiterrorista);
- Netherlands (National Coordinator for Counterterrorism and Security);
- EUROPOL.

Contact information

For more information about the project please take a look at www.cleanitproject.eu or e-mail us at *info@cleanitproject.eu*

National Coordinator for
Counterterrorism and Security
Ministry of Security and Justice