



# Global cooperation in the fight against online child sexual abuse



**Our IWF Reporting portal in Ukraine is a superb example of global cooperation and partnership.**

The [Ukraine Reporting Portal](#), launched on 11 February 2020 and developed in collaboration with #stop\_sexting educational project and the Children's Rescue, an NGO based in Ukraine, and supported by the Ombudsman for Children with the President of Ukraine Office and the Ministry of Digital Transformation and telecom operator Kyivstar, is one of our most active portals. This is in part due to our partner's great efforts towards a national understanding of the issue, and the launch of their educational project [#stop\\_sexting](#), a successful campaign to raise awareness on child sexual abuse and child safety online. Recently, the project [received the "Peace" nomination](#) in the [Partnership For Sustainability Award](#) (GC Network Ukraine).

The #stop\_sexting project, launched in November 2018, united young people, teachers, parents and volunteers in Ukraine and is supported by national businesses, government, international experts and organisations. It provides awareness-raising resources on sexting, online grooming and sextortion. These resources consist of games and other interactive tools to help parents and carers build trust-based communication around digital safety with their child. 342,000 children have checked the lesson plan in 2021, as the founder of the project explained (resources to download in English [here](#).)

The Ukrainian portal also shows the importance of

international cooperation with our law enforcement colleagues. Ukraine is the [10th highest country](#) for hosting online child sexual abuse imagery, up from 11th position in 2019.

Our partners thus introduced us to the Cyber Police in Ukraine to have a direct link between the IWF and our law enforcement counterparts in the country. Moreover,

***The Internet Watch Foundation's evaluation of the material allows our team to contact hosting services to delete this material as soon as possible. Moreover, in some cases, it helps us with investigations and child rescue as well.***

Anastasiya Dyakova  
#stop\_sexting Educational Project Founder

the Ukrainian NGO Children's Rescue, with support of doTERRA Healing Hands Initiative, created a small cyber team in March 2020 to search for inappropriate content proactively and ensure providers delete links and materials received from the IWF.

**Anastasiya Dyakova, founder of #stop\_sexting Educational Project and adviser on online safety in the Ukrainian Government**, explained that the portal helps to "raise awareness about the necessity of reporting such material [images and videos of child

sexual abuse], why it is important and how to do it.” She adds that “the Internet Watch Foundation’s evaluation of the material allows our team to contact hosting services to delete this material as soon as possible. Moreover, in some cases, it helps us with investigations and child rescue as well.”

***This demonstrates that CSAM is a global problem, and that in working internationally and collaboratively, we can work to eradicate this hideous crime and protect children.***

Lucy, IWF analyst

As a result of these two projects, as well as the launch of an awareness-raising campaign about the Portal that encourages people to report such content, since April 2020, we noticed a real change: reports containing Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) and hosted in Ukraine were taken down much quicker. Indeed, in August 2020, 82.6% of content was removed between 0-9 days compared with just 22.4% in August 2019. While 3.4% of content was removed in less than 4 days in August 2019, as much as 79.5% was removed as quickly in the same month in 2020.

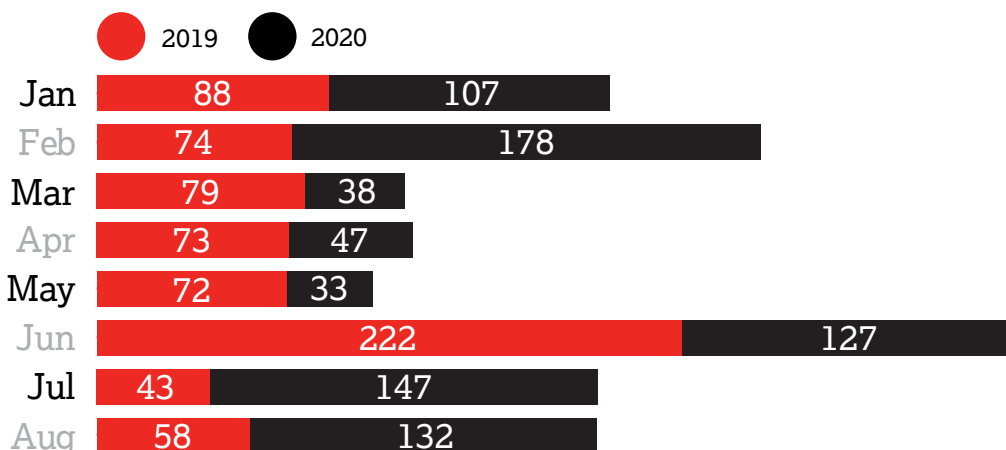
Lucy\*, Internet Content Analyst at the Internet Watch

**Foundation**, explains how this cooperation enabled better results in removing CSAM. “Since May, we began notifying Ukraine’s cyber police each time we traced child sexual abuse content hosted in Ukraine. This has resulted in the content being removed much more swiftly. This demonstrates that CSAM is a global problem, and that in working internationally and collaboratively, we can work to eradicate this hideous crime and protect children. IWF would support more campaigns in Ukraine and in other portal countries to raise awareness on our vital work, and to show how a joined-up approach achieves results.”

*\*Lucy is not the real name of the analyst.*

## Ukraine Portal content removal stats

Total number of reports submitted per month



Content removal comparisson (0-4 days)

