

## THE BESMARTONLINE! PROJECT

*“The BeSmartOnline! project concerns the efforts of national stakeholders working towards the safer use of the internet by children and youths. The initiative aims at raising awareness and educating minors, carers and educators on the safe use of the internet; establishing, operating and promoting reporting facilities for internet abuse; and supporting respective victims.”*

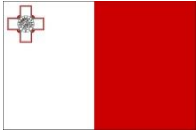
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The BeSmartOnline! project shall lead to the creation of a Maltese Safer Internet Centre. The project is co-funded by the European Commission’s Safer Internet Programme, Integrated Network.

Some project details;

- The overall objective of the *BeSmartOnline!* Project is to act as a Safer Internet Centre in Malta. The project is implemented via a partnership which is coordinated by the MCA and includes FSWS Aгенzija Appogg, the Directorate for Educational Services, and the Commissioner for Children. With special collaboration from the Cyber Crime Unit and the Secretariat for Catholic Education as partners.
- A Steering Committee has been elected among all the project partners to act as the top-tier decision making body.
- The partnership will also participate in the Insafe European Safer Internet Network.
- **Awareness raising actions** will comprise of creative campaigns targeting children, youths, parents, educators and the general public with the aim of informing these of the dangers of illegal and harmful content on the internet. In addition a train the trainer campaign will be held in order to disseminate the message to children in educational institutions. The national partnership will include an Advisory Board and a Youth Panel.
- The Project will operate a **hotline** to take reports from internet users on illegal content and also contribute to the European URL database of sites generating illegal activity. The hotline will form part of Inhope – the international association of internet hotlines. A **helpline** will also be set up to answer online questions and telephone calls from children and parents related to problems encountered during their use of online technologies. These will be operated through 179.
- An Advisory Board, which brings together a number of local stakeholders, one of which has already been held on the 18<sup>th</sup> January – this was very successful with a number of very valid observations made in relations to the scope of the project.
- A Youth Panel will be set up so as to empower children and young people to voice their opinions as well as to share their ideas on how to create awareness about internet safety, especially since they are the group that this project is targeting. |



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*Safer Internet Programme*  
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