

ONLINE SAFETY INDUSTRY UPDATE

For people who care about online safety from people who care about online safety

The Online Safety Exchange is pleased to bring you the final update for 2022 including news, views, research, resources and expert opinion related to the online safety industry.

In this edition:

- The OSX makes predictions about the year ahead
- Examples of leveraging the festive season to provide timely advice
- StopNCII expands, and the Twitter Trust & Safety Council is disbanded
- Save the date for Safer Internet Day
- Regulatory and industry updates including podcasts and expert commentary pieces



Predictions for 2023

As 2022 comes to a close, it is time to take stock of where online safety is at

currently and to predict what the next year will bring. These predictions will be triumphantly referenced if they are correct - or conveniently forgotten should they prove to be false.

Here are four predictions for 2023:

1. Scam losses will become so large that they can no longer be ignored by developed economies - leading to significant Government investment in anti-scam operations.
2. The splinternet will increasingly transform online safety into a compliance activity - to the detriment of safety outcomes.
3. The business metaverse will reach early adopter stage, and optimism will push aside safety concerns.
4. Twitter will transform into something more closely resembling a media platform where every user feeds their content into, and consumes their content through news channels. The most popular news channels will serve adult content.

The explanation and logic behind these predictions is available [on our website](#).

[Read more](#)

Research Updates

New global research.



University of East London

[Human and Technical Drivers of Cybercrime](#)

research finds more than two thirds of young people (16-19years) in Europe are engaged in some form of online risk taking or cybercrime - in the first major survey of its kind.



UC Santa Barbara

The Journal of Communication examined [the effect of social approval on people's belief in fake news stories](#). It finds social approval effect only happened when it was bad news that targeted the other political party.



Cyberbully Research Centre

[Cyberbullying Among Asian American Youth before and during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#)

finds an increased prevalence of cyberbullying - and especially for Asian American youth.

SAVE THE DATE

7 Feb 2023 - Safer Internet Day



Safer Internet Day (SID) is celebrated around the world in February every year. Visit the Safer Internet Day website to [find the host organisation for your country](#) and to see how you can get involved.

Regulation Roundup

Updates from around the world.



Europe

Creating safer digital spaces and establishing a level playing field for businesses are the objectives of the [Digital Services Act](#) and [Digital Markets Act](#) that both came into effect in November.



California

Tech industry group [NetChoice has sued California](#) over the [Age-Appropriate Design Code Act](#) arguing it violates First Amendment free speech rights.



UK

The Government has removed provisions for harmful but legal content and sent some of the [Draft Online Safety Bill](#) back to a [Public Bill Committee](#).



Australia

The Australian eSafety Commissioner [released the first](#) Basic Online Safety Expectations (BOSE) transparency report.

Feature: Christmas Gifts

Here are a few examples of organisations leveraging the Christmas gift buying season to promote better online safety and security practices.

eSafety Australia

The Australian eSafety

FOSI

The [holiday technology](#).



Commissioner has an extensive [gift guide](#) including an age guide, explanations on potential risks and safety tips for everything from drones to wireless headsets.



[series](#) includes items to help engage family members in online safety including agreements, flash cards, checklists, and a coupon booklet from kids to their families.



Internet Matters

[Online safety Unwrapped](#) based on the 12 days of Christmas includes online safety "gifts" featuring games to play, guides to see and practical things to do.



ZD Net

For something a bit different, ZD Net put together this [Odd and interesting gift ideas for the hobbyist hacker \(ie: budding cyber security enthusiast\) in your life](#)

Industry Safety Resources

Updated and/or new consumer focused safety resources



Meta

[Stricter privacy controls are now the default](#) Facebook setting for users under the age of 16 that sign up for an account - matching the changes made on Instagram in July.



Epic Games

["Cabined Accounts"](#) protect kids under 13 by blocking certain in-game features including chatting with other players or buying items with real money.



Twitch

New and improved safety tools are combined under the new [Shield Mode](#). This also enables multiple pre-set safety settings to be quickly enacted.



Trust & Safety Council Disbanded

Twitter emailed [council members](#) to inform them the company no longer believes [the Council](#) represents the best structure to bring external insights into product and policy development work. Members were informed by email on December 12. No

information on a replacement or alternative approach has been provided as yet.

StopNCII.org Expansion

TikTok and Bumble Inc. have joined Meta as Industry Partners for [StopNCII.org](https://stopncii.org).

StopNCII.org is a free tool designed to support victims of Non-Consensual Intimate Image (NCII) abuse. It works by generating a hash of intimate image(s)/video(s) which allows for rapid detection and blocking [on partner sites](#).

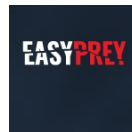
Watch and listen

Podcasts, vodcasts and videos on online safety related topics



Tech Against Terrorism

A look behind the scenes into the work of the [Tech Against Terrorism open source intelligence \(OSINT\) team](#).



Easy Prey

[Chris Parker discusses](#) efforts to combat scams with the Global Anti-Scam Alliance Managing Director and ScamAdvisor.com GM Jorij Abraham.



Interface

Anti-bullying campaigner and deputy CEO of the Diana Award organisation, [Alex Holmes discusses ways to tackle bullying](#) with the Interface (UK) team.

Expert commentary

[Australian eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant says echo chambers of extreme content are a growing concern for governments and regulators around the world.](#)

[Danah Boyd of Microsoft Research, Georgetown and the Founder of Data &](#)

[Society looks at how social media fails, and what that means in the Twitter context.](#)

[Bertie Vidgen from the Centre of Emerging Technology and Security at the Alan Turing Institute looks at the use of AI in The Future of Online Safety: A data-centric approach.](#)

Contribute

The [Online Safety Exchange](#) works to keep the online safety community informed. If you have any contributions that you'd like shared in this industry update, please email martin@onlinesafetyexchange.org.

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