

# Better Internet for Kids (BIK) Policy Monitor Country Profile 2024: LUXEMBOURG

The Better Internet for Kids (BIK) Policy Monitor is a tool used to compare and exchange knowledge on policy making and implementation in EU Member States, Iceland and Norway on the pillars and recommendations of the [European Strategy for a Better Internet for Children \(BIK+ strategy\)](#). The 2024 edition of the BIK Policy Monitor report examines the implementation of the BIK+ strategy in 29 European countries, including all EU Member States, Iceland, and Norway.

The country profile outlines findings about the implementation of the BIK+ strategy based on BIK policies and BIK+ actions across the strategy's three pillars as surveyed in the BIK Policy Monitor (as per February 2024). Download the full [BIK Policy Monitor report 2024](#) from the Better Internet for Kids website.

## BIK policies

### Policy frameworks

Policy frameworks describe the overarching approach for a better internet, and establish the underlying goals, principles and guidelines that shape individual policies within this area.

- This topic is **an important and emerging policy priority**, with children's online protection, digital empowerment, and digital participation partially covered in national/regional laws, regulations and policies.
- There are **separate, dedicated policies that address children and the digital environment** (protection, empowerment, and participation).
- The BIK/BIK+ strategy is **not explicitly referred to in national policies** but has informed policy development on children and the digital environment.
- **National/regional policies and policy documents explicitly recognise children's rights in the digital environment.**

	High	Medium	Low	Other
Coverage of BIK+ issues in national policies		X		
Integration of policy provision		X		
Influence of the BIK+ strategy		X		
Recognition of children's rights	X			

*Table 1: Topic summary - policy frameworks*

### **Key national policy frameworks are:**

- Law of 27 August 2013 on the Establishment of the Public Institution “Luxembourg Independent Media Authority” (ALIA). ALIA is responsible for monitoring the application of regulatory requirements related to audiovisual services and media. Its supervisory activities cover traditional television, on-demand services (VOD) and national, regional and local radio stations. One of its missions is to encourage providers of audiovisual media services to develop ethical codes on inappropriate commercial audiovisual communications that are broadcast to accompany children’s programmes.
- The initiative "*einfach digital – Zukunftskompetenze fir staark Kanner*" (Engl.: simply digital – future skills for strong children), launched in February 2020, to strengthen 21<sup>st</sup>-century skills in schools and education and care facilities through a series of measures. The five skills areas (5Cs) are critical thinking (kritescht Denken), creativity (Kréativitéit), communication (Kommunikatioun), collaboration (Kooperation), and coding (*Coder*).
- **Medienkompass** is the general framework for media education and education through and about media.
- **National CyberSecurity Strategy IV** for the period up to 2025 sets out the guidelines underlying the projects that the Government intends to implement to secure cyberspace at all levels. It goes hand-in-hand with the digital transformation characterising our economy and society.

- The [National Action Plan for Digital Inclusion](#) aims at facilitating the emergence of an inclusive digital society. It lays solid foundations for sustainable action in the field of digital inclusion and acts as a facilitator to make digital technology an economic and social lever for all those who choose to go digital.
- The [National Action Plan on the Rights of the Child 2022-2026](#) responds to the recommendation of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. Its 64 actions, divided into eight areas, were selected according to the priorities the Committee on the Rights of the Child for Luxembourg identified and communicated in the Concluding Observations. The plan represents a strong commitment by the government to children, and the strategy will enable a coherent and transparent implementation of the children's rights policy at the national level and help to anchor children's rights in a sustainable way in the different areas of a child's life. The protection of children against all risks of abuse and exploitation linked to digital communication is explicitly mentioned. The plan is available in a [child-friendly version](#).

### Policy design

Policy design asks if evidence and research are used to support BIK-related policies, and if there are systems in place for monitoring and evaluating those policies.

- **There is a regular (e.g., annual or bi-annual) nationally representative survey** specifically focused on children's digital activity which informs national policies on this topic.
- **There is no system in place at the government level** to gather information on children and the digital environment.
- **Existing national research funding is available for research** on children and the digital environment, but this is not explicitly specified.
- **Policies undergo systematic and regular monitoring and evaluation** to assess the effectiveness of actions in different contexts and to take account of new technologies or emergent risks.

	High	Medium	Low	Other
Regular data collection	X			
Other information supports			X	
National research fund		X		
Monitoring and evaluation	X			

Table 2: Topic summary - policy design

**Recent national research studies include:**

- BEE SECURE, the Luxembourgish Safer Internet Centre (SIC), published its first report, the BEE SECURE RADAR, on using information and communication technology (ICT) by children and young people in Luxembourg in 2022. This report, which is published annually, aims to inform all players who join forces to ensure safer Internet use for children and young people and to help them guide their actions. Since the 2023 edition, the reports are also available in English
- The Ministry of Education funds the "National report on the situation of youth in Luxembourg", which is published every five years. The next edition, published in 2025, will address digitalisation and youth.
- Responsible bodies regularly evaluate policies such as "einfach digital" and its specific underlying actions, the national cybersecurity strategy, etc.

**Policy governance**

Policy governance examines how policies are coordinated at the governmental level, whether other implementation bodies are involved in their delivery, and whether structured mechanisms are available to guide their implementation.

- **Policy development sits across a range of ministries, and no lead is specifically assigned responsibility** for developing government policies, guidelines and programmes relating to children and the digital environment.

- **Coordination happens more informally across the different departments** and entities that contribute to government policies, guidelines, and programmes regarding children and the digital environment.

	High	Medium	Low	Other
Lead ministry for policy development			X	
National coordination body		X		
National action plan or strategy				X

Table 3: Topic summary - policy governance

In Luxembourg, more than one ministry, agency or body is responsible for coordinating policies addressing the BIK+ strategy with four to six ministries involved in the process:

- The **Ministry of National Education, Children and Youth** is responsible for the “einfach digital” initiative, which also involves BEE SECURE (based on a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)).
- The **Ministry of Economy** is responsible for the National Cybersecurity Strategy IV, which also involves BEE SECURE (MoU).
- The **Ministry of Family and Integration** has an area of responsibility within the initiative BEE SECURE (MoU).
- The **Ministry of Justice** is in charge of the fight against child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and child protection online in collaboration with BEE SECURE’s hotline service to report illegal content online.

In Luxembourg, the various responsible ministries and stakeholders collaborate regularly to contribute to government policies, guidelines and programmes relating to children and the digital environment. The **Luxembourg Independent Media Authority (ALIA)**, for example, is the national media regulatory authority and has reporting obligations to the European Commission on media literacy. As part of this, ALIA is encouraging enhanced coordination in the sector.

BEE SECURE has a national advisory board that, on a bi-annual basis, informs relevant actors on recent and planned activities, identifies current trends, and stimulates exchange and collaboration among the Advisory Board members.

### Stakeholder involvement

Stakeholder involvement enquires how different stakeholders can participate in policy development. Children’s involvement in policymaking is one such key issue. Additionally, international knowledge exchange about children's digital participation is also relevant to this topic.

- **Members of the public are consulted on occasion** in the course of the development of new policies. However, this is not always the case.
- **Children are listened to directly in the policy development process** (e.g., through hearings, consultations, specific surveys) but are not formally involved in decision-making.
- **There are occasional opportunities for policymakers to participate** in international knowledge exchange on digital policies for children.

	High	Medium	Low	Other
Stakeholder forum				X
Public consultation		X		
Involvement of young people		X		
International knowledge exchange		X		

Table 4: Topic summary - Stakeholder involvement

The Ministry of Education regularly invites members of the public to participate in various consultation events. A body called Observatoire National de la qualité scolaire was created, amongst other things. Its mission is to develop the format of "Bildungsdösch." A format that exists in Luxembourg also for other topics such as climate change is "Klimabierger-Rot."

Young people's interests are systematically, directly consulted, and informed (for example, through analysis of existing surveys or data collections). Relevant organisations involved in supporting youth participation in policymaking include: Representatives of different bodies (ministries, other actors from the public sector) regularly participate in international exchange platforms (on EU or global scale) to discuss and exchange on children's digital environment. For example, BEE SECURE has regularly participated in [Insafe](#) meetings and conferences. Moreover, representatives from the Ministry of State (SMC) and the Ministry of Education (SNJ) are members of the expert group on a Safer Internet for Children managed by the European Commission.

## BIK+ actions

### Pillar 1 – safe digital experiences

Safe digital experiences refers to actions taken to protect children from harmful and illegal online content, conduct, contact, and risks as young consumers and to improve their well-being online through a safe, age-appropriate digital environment created in a way that respects children's best interests.

#### **Responses to EU laws:**

- The Luxembourgish government agreed on a [law for the implementation of the EU Digital Service Act \(DSA\)](#) on 8 September 2023. The provisions of the DSA came into force in February 2024 for all digital platforms. The [Autorité de la concurrence](#) (Ministry of Economy) is designated as the national Digital Services Coordinator.

#### **Addressing harmful online content:**

- [ALIA](#) ensures that service providers comply with legal and regulatory provisions concerning the content, presentation, duration and insertion of commercial communications to preserve program integrity.
- As trusted Flagger, the operators of the BEE SECURE Helpline, the NGO [KJT](#) has the power to request the removal or disabling of access to potentially

harmful content for children. In addition to this, Police Luxembourg also has the competency to ask Internet Service Providers for the removal of content on the Internet.

- At the BEE SECURE Stopline, illegal online content can be reported anonymously and confidentially. Content in the following three categories can be reported: child sexual abuse material (CSAM), discrimination, racism or revisionism, and terrorism. The reported content is analysed and, if evaluated as illegal, submitted to the competent authorities. Operators of the BEE SECURE Stopline can also ask social media platform operators to remove content as trusted flaggers.

### ***Addressing harmful online conduct:***

- There is no specific law on the protection of children online, but the protection of children is covered within a range of general laws and regulations as follows:
- Regarding cyberbullying, certain laws in Luxemburg can allow the prosecution of a bully. For example, Harassment (Article 442-2 Criminal Code; [Article 6 of the Law on Privacy from 11 August 1982](#)); 1982.
- Libel, Defamation and Insult (Article 443 and following, Criminal Code). An offence is considered an injurious expression with ill intentions towards a person, whether through an act, a statement (verbal or written), a pictorial representation or emblem.
- Violation of Privacy. ([Law of 11 August 1982](#) on the protection of privacy). Anyone who publishes photos of a person without their consent (online) can be prosecuted for violation of privacy (right to one's own image).
- Incitement of Hatred (Article 457-1 Criminal Code); 1997. Incitement of hatred and violence against a person, organisation, group or community based on their origin, skin colour, sexual orientation and other criteria is prohibited, including on the internet.
- Violation of Morality ([Article 385-1 Criminal Code](#); Law of 6 July 2011 on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse). Anyone who



distributes images or other representations that violate the conceptions of public decency can be punished. If someone gives you, as a minor, violent or pornographic content or tries to get you to perform sexual acts, it is also in violation of the Law.

- Copyright ([Law of 18 April 2001](#)); based on copyright protection laws, it is punishable by law if a statement /picture contains a reproduction of a protected work. Protection of persons with regard to the handling of personal data ([Law of 1 August 2018](#)).
- Economic Crime and Computer Fraud ([Law of 15 July 1993](#)).

**Age verification and digital identity systems:**

- While there are no explicitly defined national/regional laws, technical standards or policies regarding age verification mechanisms to restrict minors from accessing adult online content services, the ALIA’s role is to ensure that minors cannot access inappropriate content.
- There are no digital identity systems available for minors.

	In place	In development	Not in place	Other
DSA legislation enacted		X		
Codes of practice of digital services			X	
Consumer code of practice				X
Definition of harmful content				X
Children's complaints mechanism				X
Bodies can order content removal		X		
Intimate image abuse laws				X
Cyberbullying laws				X
Age verification for adult content				X
Digital identity systems			X	

Table 5: Topic summary - pillar 1: safe digital experiences

## Pillar 2 – digital empowerment

Digital empowerment incorporates actions so that all children, including those in vulnerable situations, acquire the necessary skills and competences to make sound choices and express themselves in the online environment safely and responsibly.

### *Supports in formal education:*

- The new 'Digital Sciences' course was introduced at the start of the 2020-2021 school year in seventh-grade classes at 18 volunteer pilot high schools and then generalised to seventh-grade classes in the 2021-2022 school year. In the 2022-2023 school year, the course continued its pilot phase in sixth-grade classes in volunteer high schools and will be tested in fifth-grade classes in 2023-2024. The 'Digital Sciences' course focuses on six main themes, covering both the technical and human dimensions of digitalisation. Both the final product (productions) and the learning process are evaluated using a system of badges (edupass badges) to attest to the innovative acquisition of skills. A [BEE SECURE training](#), which addresses basic cybersecurity and cybersafety issues, is integral to the course.
- BEE SECURE further organises [training for teachers](#) in collaboration with the [Institut de formation de l'éducation nationale](#) (IFEN) and further training for educators in collaboration with Inter-Actions a.s.b.l.. The topics covered include the use of the internet by children and young people, dealing with new technologies, social networks, cyberbullying, cybersecurity and online safety.
- The [Centre psycho-social et d'accompagnement scolaires \(CePAS\)](#) elaborates on a concept for schools regarding "well-being" in general.

### *Informal education:*

- BEE SECURE offers non-formal education activities, such as activities for [out-of-school groups](#) of children and young people. It also offers [publications](#), such as guides, thematic contributions and pedagogical material as well as [online tools](#) are available. Further details are provided in the latest BEE SECURE [annual report](#).

- KJT (“Kanner-Jugendtelefon”) is the [national child helpline](#), reachable at 116 111, and also offers a peer-to-peer chat consultation.

	In place	In development	Not in place	Other
Teaching online safety	X			
Online safety policies in schools				X
Adequate teacher training				X
Informal education about online safety	X			
Peer-to-peer training in online safety				X
Support for digital literacy skills				X
Children’s media literacy	X			
Challenge hate speech/digital civil courage	X			

Table 6: Topic summary - pillar 2: digital empowerment

### Pillar 3 – active participation, respecting children’s rights

Active participation, respecting children’s rights, refers to actions which give children and young people a say in the digital environment, with more child-led activities to foster innovative and creative safe digital experiences.

#### Active participation:

- BEE SECURE Kids (eight to 12 years old) and Youth Panel (13 to 18 years old) share their opinions on current issues (trends, policies) to BEE SECURE. BEE SECURE, as the Safer Internet Centre, may bring views to the attention of policymakers if requested.
- [The Jugend Parlament](#) (Youth Parliament) is a platform for young people aged 14 to 24 living in Luxembourg to discuss and debate certain subjects in regular hearings with other young people. The government asks the platform for advice on youth-related topics.

- CGJL (Le Conseil National de la Jeunesse du Luxembourg/de Jugendrot)/National Youth Council of Luxembourg) represents and raises awareness for all youth organisations in Luxembourg, specifically by defending the interests of young people within all the bodies set up by the political powers.
- At the school level, the tools for promoting youth participation include student committees and the [Conférence nationale Conférence nationale des élèves au Luxembourg](#) (CNEL). The CNEL is the platform for national student representation; it submits opinions and proposals to the Minister of National of National Education on all matters concerning students' lives and work in secondary education. However, it has no corollary in basic education.
- Regular consultations are also carried out within the "[Structured Dialogue](#)" process. The Structured Dialogue is an instrument for involving young people in European and Luxembourg politics. Set up in Luxembourg in 2013, its aim is to enable young people to have their say on the political decisions that concern them, and to enable Luxembourg's political players to hear them.

### **Digital creativity:**

- The National Youth Service's (SNJ) "[Makerspace Base1](#)" fosters digital skills (non-formal education) with a makerspace and respective activities open to young people aged between eight and 30. By empowering children and young people to be not only consumers but also creators of the digital environment in the frame of the Makerspace Base1 offer, they learn from the point of view of designers and creators about protection and safety in the digital environment as they are inherently confronted to related questions in their respective projects.

	In place	In development	Not in place	Other
Activities to promote active participation				X
Laws that mandate youth participation	X			
Awareness raising on children's rights	X			
Inclusiveness regarding active participation				X
Child-friendly versions of policy documents				X
Positive digital content				X
Activities encouraging digital creativity	X			

Table 7: Topic summary - pillar 3: active participation, respecting children's rights

## Best practices

### Example 1

#### **BEE SECURE**

BEE SECURE is a governmental initiative of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg involving the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth, the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Family, Integration and Greater Region, and is coordinated by the National Youth Service (SNJ). It is operated by SNJ in cooperation with the consultation service KJT, in partnership with the Luxembourg House of Cybersecurity, the Luxembourg Police and the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. BEE SECURE is co-financed by the European Commission and operates the Luxembourg Safer Internet Centre under the Digital Europe Programme. It is part of the [European networks Insafe \(awareness-raising centres and helplines\)](#) and [INHOPE \(the International Association of Internet Hotlines\)](#). BEE SECURE aims to raise awareness for a safety-oriented and responsible use of digital technology to the general public and to particularly empower children, young people and their entourage (parents, teachers, educators and others) through targeted offers/targeted information.

## BIK+ index 2024: Luxembourg

The BIK+ index has been developed to provide an aggregated at-a-glance overview of the levels of implementation across the two dimensions, BIK policies and BIK+ actions, in Luxembourg compared to the EU27+2 average. Values are shown in per cent.

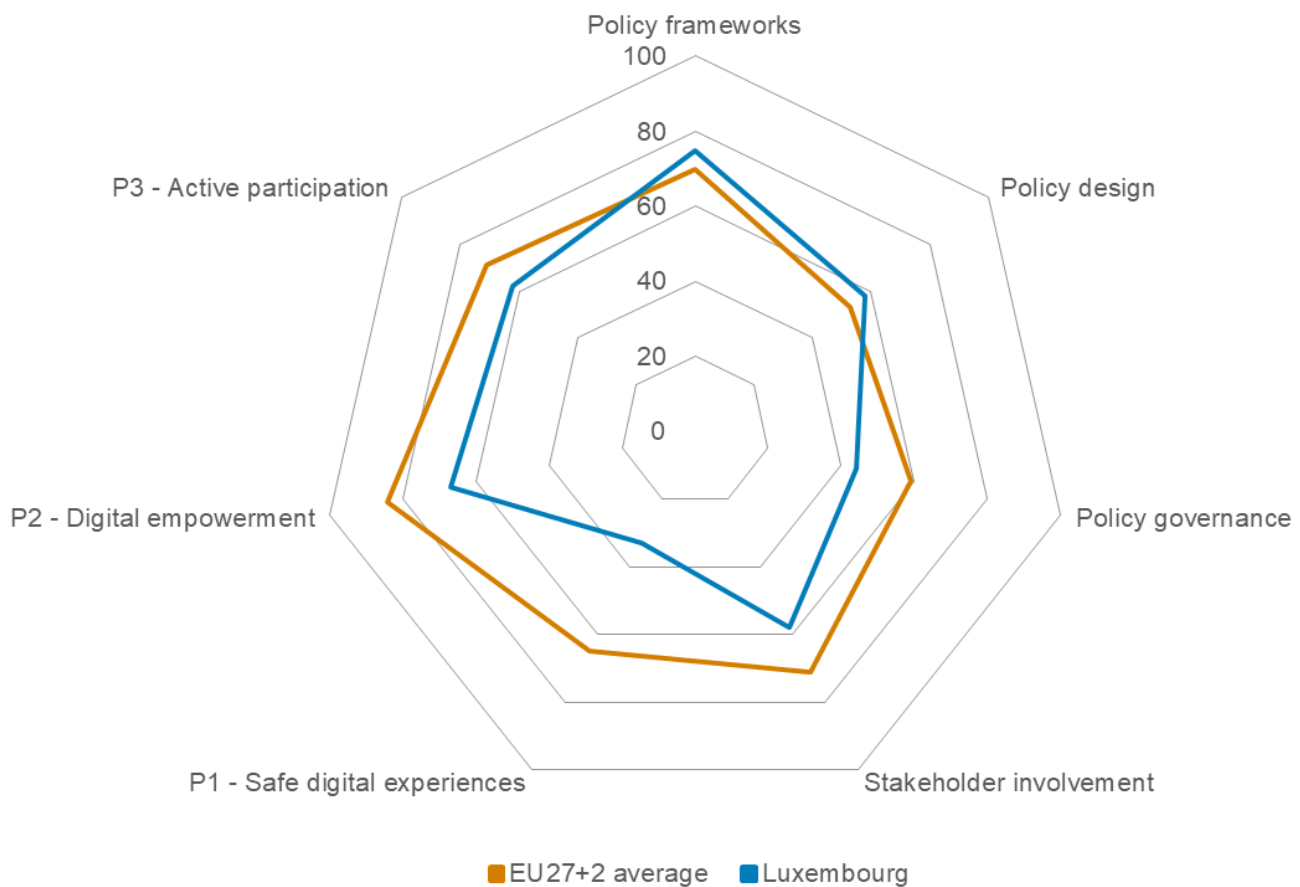


Figure 1: BIK+ index 2024: Luxembourg - EU27+2 average comparison

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