

Country profile 2026: Greece

Introduction

According to the [Digital Decade 2025: Country reports](#), Greece's digital landscape in 2025 is characterised by a significant contrast between its rapid mobile infrastructure expansion and persistent gaps in business innovation and fixed connectivity. Greece has achieved exceptionally high 5G coverage, nearing its 2030 targets, yet it struggles with low fixed broadband penetration, with Very High-Capacity Network (VHCN) and Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) rollout reaching only 46%. In the digital economy, while the ICT sector accounts for a modest 3% of the economy, it remains a critical driver of innovation, accounting for over 25% of business R&D spending. Digital skills remain a challenge, as only 52.5% of the population possesses basic digital skills, and the share of ICT specialists (2.4%) is the lowest in the EU. According to the [State of the Digital Decade Eurobarometer 2025](#), public sentiment shows a strong demand for security, with 91% of citizens prioritising secure digital infrastructure and 94% calling for urgent action on children's online safety. Recent policy milestones include the establishment of the National Cybersecurity Authority and the launch of the Gov.gr and Kids Wallet, aimed at modernising public services and ensuring secure digital identities for all ages.

BIK policies

Policy frameworks

Policy frameworks describe the overarching goals that shape policies for a better internet for kids.

| | High | Medium | Low | Not present |
|-------------------|------|--------|-----|-------------|
| Policy priority | | X | | |
| Integrated policy | | X | | |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Influence of the BIK+ strategy | X |
| Recognition of children's rights | X |

Table 1: Policy frameworks - Greece

- ***This topic is an important and emerging policy priority*** partially covered in national/regional laws, regulations and policies.
- ***There are separate, dedicated policies which address the topic of children and the digital environment (protection, empowerment, and participation).***
- ***The BIK+ strategy is an important influence on policy development*** on children and the digital environment.
- ***Children's rights in relation to the digital environment*** are an important and emerging policy priority, with specific policies in development on this topic.

Key developments and national policy frameworks

- A working meeting was convened by the [Hellenic Telecommunications and Post Commission](#)—acting as Greece’s Digital Services Coordinator, the [Hellenic Data Protection Authority](#), the [National Council for Radio and Television](#), and the [Greek Safer Internet Centre](#) of the Foundation for Research and Technology (which operates SafeLine.gr, a designated trusted flagger). The meeting followed the publication of the EU Guidelines on the protection of minors and recent research by the Greek Safer Internet Centre. Its aim was to enhance dialogue on the online protection of minors, with particular emphasis on clarifying and mapping the responsibilities of the stakeholders involved. Participating organisations included the Cyber Crime Unit of the Hellenic Police, the Ministry of Digital Governance, the Institute of Child Health (Ministry of Health), and the Greek School Network.
- The BIK+ strategy has been incorporated into the design of the reporting page for the Greek SIC's hotline (SafeLine.gr). The page has been developed in a [child-friendly version](#) and functions as a safe, accessible

tool that enables children to report illegal content or activities that concern or discomfort them.

- Greece has been testing the European Commission’s [blueprint for an age verification solution](#), in view of publishing a customised national age verification app.

Policy design

Policy design asks whether evidence and research support BIK-related policies and whether systems are in place for monitoring and evaluating those policies.

| | High | Medium | Low | Not present |
|----------------------------------|------|--------|-----|-------------|
| Regular data collection | | X | | |
| Data on risks, harms, well-being | | | X | |
| Information systems | | X | | |
| National research fund | | | X | |
| Monitoring and evaluation | | X | | |

Table 2: Policy design - Greece

- **Quantitative data on some aspects of children’s digital activity** is collected regularly as part of broader surveys.
- **Surveys of children’s experiences of risks, harms and digital well-being** are undertaken on an ad-hoc and irregular basis.
- **Information is regularly gathered** to inform policies on children and the digital environment. However, this relies primarily on third-party sources, and there are limited opportunities to commission new data on children’s digital activity.
- **There are occasional special initiatives** to gather evidence about children and the digital environment.
- **Policies are regularly monitored and evaluated**, but not always systematically.

Key national research studies

- The **Greek SIC** continues to conduct surveys on children's digital activities. Its latest **nationwide survey** aimed at investigating the children and adolescents' online habits, in relation to the DSA provisions. The survey was carried out in February 2025, with a sample of 2.500 students aged 10 to 18 from the cities of Athens, Thessaloniki, Patras, Heraklion and Larissa. The focus of the survey was on minors' access to VLOPs, such as TikTok, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook, and on practices such as bypassing of age limits, excessive screen time, exposure to inappropriate content, and use of parental control tools.

Policy governance

Policy governance examines how policies are coordinated at the governmental level, whether other implementation bodies are involved in their delivery and coordination.

| | High | Medium | Low | Not present |
|--------------------------------------|------|--------|-----|-------------|
| Lead ministry for policy development | | X | | |
| National coordination body | | X | | |
| National action plan or strategy | | X | | |

Table 3: Policy governance - Greece

- **Policy development sits across different ministries** with leadership officially distributed according to the area of specialisation.
- **Coordination occurs across relevant departments** and stakeholders through more informal arrangements.
- **One or more programmes of action are underway** supporting children's online safety and participation in the digital environment. However, these lack accountabilities, such as defined timelines, assigned responsibilities or key performance indicators (KPIs).

Stakeholder involvement

Stakeholder involvement enquires how different stakeholders can participate in policy development.

| | High | Medium | Low | Not present |
|-----------------------------------|------|--------|-----|-------------|
| Stakeholder forum | | | X | |
| Public consultation on BIK topics | | | X | |
| Youth involvement in policy | | X | | |

Table 4: Stakeholder involvement - Greece

- **Stakeholder participation in policy discussion** and development is infrequent or informal. Opportunities to contribute exist occasionally but lack regularity, transparency, or meaningful impact on decision-making.
- **Public consultation occurs**, but it is irregular, infrequent, or limited in scope.
- **Children are listened to directly in the policy development** process but are not formally involved in decision-making.

Stakeholder mechanisms

- A key input in the evaluation of policies related to children and the digital environment comes from the **Youth Panel of the Greek SIC**. At the Safer Internet Forum (SIF) 2025, held on 4 December 2025 in a hybrid format, the Greek SIC was represented by two youth members, Filippos and Vangelis. Filippos participated in the Youth Advisory Group 2025, contributing to the design and coordination of the Forum and engaging in high-level discussions with European decision-makers. Vangelis participated in the BIK+ Youth Panel 2025, collaborating with peers from across Europe on key issues such as age-appropriate digital experiences, social media age limits, and responsible gaming.

The **Ombudsman for Children** in Greece also hosts a **group**, with which it consults and co-develops recommendations for the State on various issues.

BIK+ actions

Pillar 1 – Safe digital experiences

Actions to promote a safe, age-appropriate digital environment that respects children’s best interests.

| | In place | In development | Other activity | Not present |
|---|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Content rating systems for online/video games | | | X | |
| DSC measures protection of minors | X | | | |
| DSC-SIC working relationship | X | | | |
| Definition of harmful online content | X | | | |
| Complaints handling mechanism | X | | | |
| Intimate image abuse laws | X | | | |
| Cyberbullying laws | X | | | |
| Age verification requirements | X | | | |
| Digital wallet for minors | X | | | |
| EU harmonised age verification | | X | | |
| Laws on online marketing | | | X | |
| Protecting mental health and wellbeing | X | | | |

Table 5: Safe digital experiences - Greece

Implementing EU laws

- The Hellenic Telecommunications and Post Commission, Greece’s Digital Services Coordinator, meets regularly with representatives from SafeLine (officially recognised as a trusted flagger in Greece), and also

organises meetings with various stakeholders to map their responsibilities in protecting minors online.

- There is a continuous working relationship between the national DSC and the Greek SIC. Specifically, the Greek SIC, under which [SafeLine](#) operates (a trusted flagger under the DSA), forwards national DSC reports that explain the procedures followed by the hotline. The national DSC is also in close cooperation with the [Greek Data Protection Authority](#) and the [National Council for Radio and Television](#), both of which are responsible for implementing certain articles of the DSA related to the protection of children.

Addressing online harms

- The Greek Penal Code does not explicitly criminalise bullying or cyberbullying. In the physical world, it is frequently manifested through violations of personal data, combined with the publication of mocking or defamatory comments—acts that are independently classified as offences under the Greek Penal Code. It should be noted, however, that Article 312 of the Greek Penal Code establishes the offence of inflicting bodily harm or damage to health in the physical world against minors or individuals unable to defend themselves.
- The absence of an explicit definition of bullying in the Greek Penal Code is addressed by the pioneering law on the prevention of school bullying, in particular, Law 5029/2023, titled "[Living Together in Harmony - Breaking the Silence](#)". This law provides a legal definition of school bullying and introduces measures at both the central and regional levels to prevent, identify, and address school violence and bullying, fostering trust within the educational community. The initiative includes, among others, teacher and parent training, and the development of educational materials and guidelines for schools to handle discrimination and bullying, particularly targeting students from vulnerable groups.

Age assurance

- Greece was previously testing the European Commission's blueprint for an age verification solution and has now launched its own customised implementation: the [Kids Wallet](#).

- The [Kids Wallet](#) is a specialised application for children and teenagers that serves as both a digital identity tool and an age verification mechanism. It also provides parents with control features, allowing them to set limits on the apps and websites their child can access, monitor and manage screen time, and control access to online content and services.

Supporting digital wellbeing

- [Law No. 2251/1994](#) defines advertising. In particular, Article 9(6)(k) stipulates that it constitutes an “in all cases prohibited commercial practice” where text is used in the media for the promotion of a product, paid for by the supplier, without this being clearly disclosed through its content or through images or sounds that are readily recognizable by the consumer as such (covert advertising), subject to the provisions of [Law No. 4779/2021](#), which transposes the EU Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) into Greek law.
- It follows from the above that advertising through influencers is not, per se, prohibited. Nevertheless, it is subject to specific conditions, namely that the content and any accompanying image or sound must be clearly recognisable by the consumer as constituting an advertising message. Regarding unfair practices targeting children, the applicable legislation is [Law No. 4779/2021](#), which transposed the European Directive (EU) 2010/13 into national law. Article 9 of [Law No. 4779/2021](#) sets out the relevant rules on the protection of minors.

Pillar 2 – Digital empowerment

| | In place | In development | Other activity | Not present |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Teaching online safety | X | | | |
| Digital skills training | | X | | |
| Policies on digital use in schools | X | | | |
| Adequate teacher training | X | | | |
| Non-formal online safety education | X | | | |
| Critical media literacy | X | | | |
| Creative digital skills | X | | | |
| Supports for parents | X | | | |

Table 6: Digital empowerment - Greece

Digital empowerment in formal education

- Although online safety is not officially part of the Greek school curriculum, it is important to note that educational material under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports is continuously developed by the Greek SIC.
- The Greek SIC's educational material can also be found on the platform [Dexiotites 21+](#) (Skills 21+), where the Ministry offers a pool of resources to all educators in the country. Teachers usually use this material to teach in the classroom.
- A [circular](#) addressed to all involved parties (Regional Education Directorates, school advisors, schools, etc.) by the Ministry of Education prohibits the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices by children in both primary and secondary education.
- The Greek SIC has created and published new digital material for each educational level, which can be used as a "tool" both in the classroom and at home. The "[Back to School Package 2023-2024](#)" focuses on

digital citizenship, the rights and responsibilities of children online, and the changes the Digital Services Act (DSA) aims to promote.

Digital empowerment and lifelong learning

- The Google programme “Be Internet Awesome” for internet safety, focusing on elementary and high school students, is implemented by the Institute of Computer Science of FORTH in Greece and is provided under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports. The [same program](#) also offers courses for educators of Kindergarten, Primary, and Secondary schools (of all specialities) to enrich their knowledge and skills on critical topics related to safe online navigation for children. The seminars are also open to educators from other levels, as well as parents and guardians.

Pillar 3 – Active participation, respecting children’s rights

| | In place | In development | Other activity | Not present |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Promoting civic engagement | | | | X |
| Promoting children’s rights | | | | X |
| Child-friendly policy documents | | | | X |
| Addressing digital inequalities | | | | X |
| Positive digital content | X | | | |

Table 7: Active participation, respecting rights - Greece

Active participation

- Activities under this heading are primarily focused on the Greek SIC, SafeLine.GR. For instance, on the celebration of Safer Internet Day 2024, the Greek SIC announced a nationwide student competition with the theme “Capture the Flag” - Cybersecurity Competition”. The competition is supported by the National Cybersecurity Authority of the Ministry of Digital Governance as an initiative that will contribute to efforts to attract young people to the field of Cybersecurity and is under

the auspices of the Ministry of Digital Governance. The competition is also under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports.

- The Youth Panel of the SIC has also been involved in pan-European events, such as [Training Meetings of the INSAFE](#) organisation and in online events for the celebration of the [Safer Internet Forum 2025](#).

Addressing digital inequalities

- The Greek SIC joined forces with [UNICEF Hellas](#), with the support of the Ministry of Education's Autonomous Department for Coordination and Monitoring of Refugee Education, to implement an action plan to promote online safety and digital citizenship education for migrant and refugee children living in Greece and their families.
- As part of the "[Back to School 2023](#)" campaign, the Greek SIC, in collaboration with UNICEF, translated part of its informational and educational material into the most widely spoken languages among migrant and refugee children in Greece: Persian, Arabic, French, and English. The material includes informational leaflets on almost all topics related to safe internet use, such as cyberbullying, online grooming and exploitation, fake news, safety on social networks, excessive internet use, etc. It also includes stories for young children with messages about safe internet use, along with a manual for safe online navigation.

Best practices

Example 1

National DSC and SIC coordination

A good practice is the establishment of working meetings and regular communication among the National Digital Services Coordinator (DSC), other authorities responsible for implementing the DSA in Greece, and SafeLine, the Greek SIC, which has been awarded trusted flagger status. Such interactions facilitate the exchange of best practices and expertise, support the mapping of stakeholders' responsibilities, and help identify channels of cooperation on issues critical to the protection of children online.

Example 2

The Greek SIC's [collaboration with the National Cybersecurity Authority](#) of the Ministry of Digital Governance to organise National Student Cybersecurity Competitions: an initiative that contributes to efforts to attract young people to the field of Cybersecurity.

BIK+ index 2026: Greece

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 Greece compared to the EU27+2 average. Values are shown in per cent.

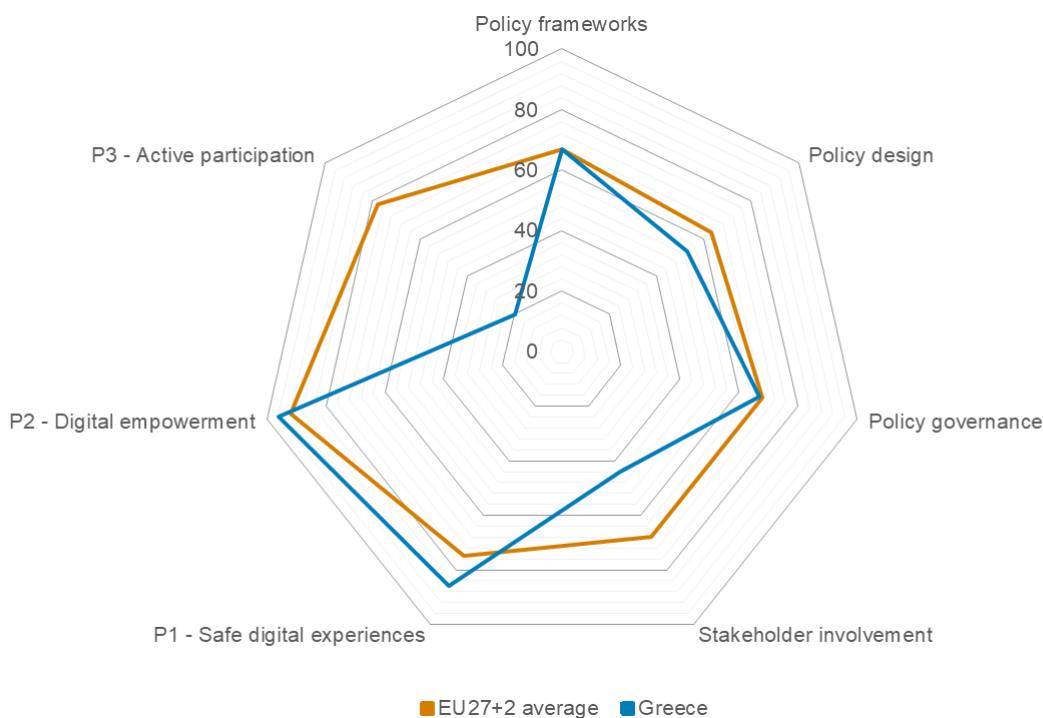


Figure 1: BIK+ index 2026: Greece - EU27+2 average comparison