

Additional quotes

Global Threat Assessment 2025

Please send media enquiries or interview requests to media@weprotectga.org

Iain Drennan, Executive Director at WeProtect Global Alliance:

“We now know and have enough clear evidence of what works to prevent online child sexual exploitation and abuse. The Global Threat Assessment 2025 provides many case studies and examples of phenomenal work and interventions from our members all over the world that have been successful in protecting children and young people from this heinous form of abuse. Many of these are already centred around prevention.

“The real challenge now is ensuring that every relevant actor around the world takes responsibility and accountability for implementing these solutions. Our new Prevention Framework provides a very accessible and practical tool to enable all of the relevant stakeholders to do that. We will only be successful in protecting children in the digital world if every sector commits to these preventative approaches”.

Iain Drennan Bio:

Iain has been the Executive Director of WeProtect Global Alliance since its launch as an independent international institution in April 2020. Previously, he led the UK Home Office’s international response to child sexual abuse. Under Iain’s leadership, the UK was assessed top out of 60 countries in the Economist Intelligence Unit’s Out of the Shadows Index on response to child sexual abuse and ratified the Council of Europe’s Lanzarote Convention against child sexual abuse. Prior to this, Iain worked in national security, foreign policy and counter terrorism roles in the UK civil service and diplomatic service.

Cassie Landers, EdD, MPH Assistant Professor and Director of the CPC Learning Network, Columbia University:

“The 2025 Global Threat Assessment provides a powerful action-oriented framework for tackling the complex global threat of technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and abuse. Fast-emerging technology-driven exposures threaten and thwart children’s growth development across all domains. These threats appear faster than our capacity to shape, define and implement safeguards. But as noted in the report, there is an emerging global movement. Children’s voices are no longer silent. Rather, they have been uplifted to a vital role helping us to better understand risk factors, comprehend behavioral and physical impact, and identify realistic sustainable solutions. There is no time to wait. Public Health epidemiologists and social scientists have a critical role in filling existing data gaps and analyzing what works and why.”

Supporting quotes

Aengus Ó Dochartaigh, MOORE, Preventing Child Sexual Abuse, Johns Hopkins University

“The Global Threat Assessment is more than WeProtect’s flagship publication, it is a guiding hand for the whole sector, worldwide. It is inspiring and momentous to see ‘prevention’ placed right at its heart. We have been honoured to contribute to the GTA 2025. Our collective aim must be to stop children from suffering harm in the first place, and that’s why prevention is so critical.”

Afrooz Kavani Johnson, UNICEF

“Every child harmed through digital technologies is one too many. The 2025 Global Threat Assessment confirms what we are witnessing worldwide: Emerging technologies, including generative AI, are amplifying risks and adding to an already complex child protection landscape. But, momentum for change is growing. Children and young people, parents, communities, and governments are taking action. This is our moment to shift from reactive measures to proactive prevention - embedding child rights and safety-by-design into technology, and addressing the drivers of sexual abuse and exploitation including harmful norms that silence children and enable perpetrators.”

Anil Raghuvanshi, ChildSafeNet

“On behalf of ChildSafeNet, I am honoured to contribute as a member of the GTA 2025 Steering Committee. I hope the GTA 2025 report will provide a clearer understanding of policy progress, response mechanisms and the gaps that still place children at risk. It can also serve as an important tool for global advocacy, urging governments and the tech industry to strengthen action and increase investment to protect children online, especially amid emerging threats such as the harmful use of AI.”

Beth Hepworth, Client Director at Protection Group International

“The Global Threat Assessment highlights that tackling the complex and rapidly evolving risks to children online requires a united, multi-stakeholder approach. Coordinated collaboration between governments, industry, civil society and law enforcement is essential. PGI is proud to have contributed to this important initiative as part of the WeProtect Global Alliance, helping to drive tangible actions and protect children from online abuse.”

Carolina Piñeros, RedPapaz

“Red PaPaz is proud to have contributed to the Global Threat Assessment 2025 as part of the Steering Committee. The report shows that child protection online cannot rely on families alone; it requires state leadership, clear obligations for platforms, and sustained international cooperation. For Latin America, this is an urgent call to strengthen reporting systems, timely responses and regulatory frameworks that put children first.”

Dan Sexton, Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)

“The WeProtect annual Global Threat Assessment is an important resource for Governments, industry, and civil society groups for understanding and tackling child sexual abuse online. The IWF are proud to have been able to contribute to this year's report, we are supportive of the public health approach and hope to see the framework and recommendations adopted across sectors.”

Debra Clelland, DeafKidz International

“When a child scores zero on basic online safety – that’s not just a statistic, that’s a child in immediate danger being left exposed online. Every day we delay taking action, more vulnerable children are at risk.”

Elena Martellozzo, Childlight, Global Child Safety Institute, University of Edinburgh

“Childlight is proud to contribute to the Global Threat Assessment 2025. Offering a critical eye to the data and methodologies ensures that the findings are robust, transparent, and actionable. This work is essential to strengthening child protection worldwide, and I am glad to represent Childlight in advancing this mission.”

Sean Litton, President & CEO, Tech Coalition

“WeProtect’s latest Global Threat Assessment does a great job of highlighting the key issues relating to online child sexual exploitation and abuse. As the threat evolves, these insights help industry focus innovation, expertise, and resources where they can have the greatest impact. We welcome the report’s new prevention framework—getting upstream is key to stopping abuse before it happens. It’s also encouraging to see innovative cross-industry solutions highlighted, including our Lantern program, showing what is possible when companies work together to build a safer digital world for children.”

Nina Vaaranen-Valkonen, Executive Director, Senior Specialist, Psychotherapist at Protect Children; Victim Services and Offender Management Sub-Group Chair, Interpol SGCAC

“Protect Children works with research-based holistic methods addressing child sexual violence before it occurs. We listen to the voices and wisdom of survivors, support their parents and caregivers, produce up-to-date educational materials, conduct robust advocacy work, research offenders, and develop perpetration prevention programs. It is a great honor

to share the results of our work in the Global Threat Assessment Report 2025. Our groundbreaking ReDirection Self-Help Program effectively reduces and ends urges to use child sexual abuse material by offering a low-threshold, anonymous, and CBT-based online resource that guides offenders towards behavioral change."

Ricardo de Lins e Horta, Brazil Government

"Countries in the Global South have long been fighting to eliminate double standards in online child protection. The victimization of children in digital environments is a challenge that transcends borders and demands coordinated responses involving governments, industry, and civil society. This report calls on all of us to exercise this shared responsibility."

Sambath Sokunthea, Cambodian Government

"The internet has no borders; a crime committed in one country can harm a child in another in seconds. This is why we must act together, across nations."

Soyoung Park, South Korean Regulator, KCSC

Quote available on request

Wirawan Boom Mosby, The HUG Project Thailand

"Technology is evolving faster than ever, and no single institution, sector, or country can confront technology-facilitated child exploitation alone. Protecting children in this digital age is our shared responsibility—and our collective duty."