



TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT FOR TECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS

Last Updated: March 2023

By consenting to have their tools included in the catalogue of the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB, the technology providers are deemed to have acknowledged and accepted the terms of engagement of the *AI for Safer Children* initiative.

These terms of engagement intend to clarify to the technology providers of the *AI for Safer Children* initiative what can be expected of the initiative, its coordinators and the technology providers themselves, and, thereby, strengthen their cooperation in fighting child sexual exploitation and abuse online through the power of artificial intelligence (AI).

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions apply:

- **Coordinators:** the Ministry of Interior of the United Arab Emirates and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), as represented by its Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics.
- **Law enforcement users:** individuals working for law enforcement (civilian or otherwise) or for governmental bodies engaged in criminal investigations and/or criminal prosecutions, interested in learning about or already using AI and other emerging technology to combat child sexual exploitation and abuse online that engage with the *AI for Safer Children* initiative by joining the *AI for Safer Children* initiative by joining the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB.
- **Technology providers:** the private companies, academic institutions, non-profit organizations and any other entities developing tools to combat child sexual exploitation and abuse online that engage with the *AI for Safer Children* initiative by providing information about their tools to be displayed on the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB.
- **Tools:** any software tools using AI and other new and emerging technologies that can be deployed to combat child sexual exploitation and abuse online.

1) AN INFORMATION-BASED INITIATIVE

The *AI for Safer Children* initiative aims to empower law enforcement agencies globally to leverage AI and other new and emerging technologies to combat online sexual exploitation and abuse of children. It does so by building their knowledge and understanding of these topics and providing them with opportunities to connect and share their experiences. The initiative and the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB are therefore above all information-sharing and community-building platforms. This means that:

- > **The *AI for Safer Children* initiative does not coordinate, supervise or in any way partake in the procurement and implementation of tools by the law enforcement users.** The decision to employ such tools is a matter to be determined exclusively by individual law enforcement agencies themselves.
- > **The initiative and the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB are not assessment platforms.** The initiative is neither involved in evaluating or certifying the tools displayed on the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB, nor testing whether the technology providers have upheld applicable ethical and legal principles throughout the development cycle of the

CLICK HERE TO
LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE
GLOBAL HUB



tools. In other words, the inclusion of any tool on the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB does not indicate endorsement by the initiative or any of its coordinators. As a result, technology providers may not indicate that their tools are supported or verified by the *AI for Safer Children* initiative or any of its coordinators, nor are they allowed to use the *AI for Safer Children* name and emblem without informing the coordinators of the initiative in advance.

- > **The initiative and the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB are not publicity platforms.** The AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB is exclusively accessible by law enforcement users and intends to support and ensure that they can identify the tool that best suits their needs according to the criteria they input. It is not intended to serve as a platform for technology providers to promote their tools.

2) AN IMPARTIAL, INDEPENDENT, TRANSPARENT AND FAIR RELATIONSHIP

The objectives of the *AI for Safer Children* initiative require that an impartial, independent and transparent relationship is maintained with all the technology providers, ensuring that the interactions between the initiative, its coordinators and the technology providers are guided by integrity and fairness throughout the initiative's implementation and that no technology providers are favoured over the others with respect of having their tools on the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB.

In particular, **the initiative strives to sustain a balanced representation of all tools and technology providers**, both on the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB and beyond, including as speakers or participants at events and activities related to the initiative. Particularly regarding the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB, no space for advertisement or any business advantage shall be allocated to any one technology provider over another and every tool will have equal visibility in the AI Tools Catalogue.

3) RESPONSIBLE TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE AI TOOLS CATALOGUE

The integrity of the AI Tools Catalogue of the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB is upheld throughout the implementation of the *AI for Safer Children* initiative, in accordance with its core principles. Specifically:

- > **The initiative emphasizes the importance of technology providers fully complying with the law, human rights and broadly accepted ethical principles when developing AI and related technologies.** Therefore, technology providers:
 1. Should pay special regard for children's rights as covered in the **Convention on the Rights of the Child**, ensuring that their personal data is handled with care and any potential harmful effects to either child victims or other children incidentally involved are considered and addressed. They are encouraged to refer to the **UNICEF's Policy guidance on AI for children** for further recommendations in this regard.
 2. Should further respect all internationally recognized human rights, aligning their activity with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.
 3. Should comply with all applicable national or regional laws, including requirements and standards for personal data protection.
 4. Should maintain the highest consideration for broadly accepted ethical principles as essential to mitigate the risks that implementing their tools may pose to individuals and communities.
 5. Are encouraged to submit their tools to independent third-party assessments on elements such as the tools' accuracy and their human rights, privacy and ethical impacts. Where no appropriate assessment exists, they should consider alternative in-house approaches to verify their assessment to the best of their abilities.

CLICK HERE TO
READ THE CORE
PRINCIPLES OF
THE INITIATIVE



- > **Tools will not be featured on the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB where there are substantial grounds for believing that serious human rights violations occurred during its development or will likely result from its use.** The technology providers should be aware that their tools may be suspended or removed from the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB where it comes to the attention of the *AI for Safer Children* initiative or any of its coordinators through reliable sources that there are substantial grounds for believing that:
1. Serious violations of international human rights law have taken place during the development of the tools by the technology provider or affiliated entities, *or*
 2. There is a real risk of the users committing grave violations of international human rights law and the relevant technology providers fail to take the appropriate corrective or mitigating measures.

Should either of the above transpire, notice will be transparently communicated to both the technology providers and law enforcement users of the removal of the tool in question. Where feasible, guidance and support will be given to law enforcement users of the tool about how to address possible concerns, as well as to technology providers about specific measures that can be taken in the development process to mitigate similar concerns.

4) COOPERATING WITH THE INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF THE TOOLS

While the law enforcement users will not automatically have access to the tools featured on the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB, the goal of the initiative is to facilitate the implementation of these tools by building knowledge and promoting information-sharing. Considering the risk of adverse consequences for individuals and communities that may result from the incorrect use of tools, and the fact that it is beyond the scope of the *AI for Safer Children* initiative to be involved in a country's implementation of the tools, **the initiative is committed to promoting the responsible use of the tools, in a manner that is fully compliant with human rights and the rule of law principles.** Technology providers are urged to cooperate with the initiative in this endeavour in any way available to them.

In particular, technology providers should give accurate and up-to-date information about their tools and the technical, ethical and legal aspects of their development. Although replying to the entire questions in the **Global Hub Tools Form** and the Responsible AI Questionnaire¹ is not a precondition to having their tools on the AI FOR SAFER CHILDREN GLOBAL HUB, technology providers should note that the absence of a reply to a particular question will be visible to law enforcement users in the AI Tools Catalogue.

Technology providers seeking to update the information included in the AI Tools Catalogue should contact the coordinators by sending an email to unicri.aiforsafersaferchildren@un.org.

5) CHANGES TO THESE TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT

The *AI for Safer Children* initiative reserves the right to modify these Terms of Engagement at any time. If the Terms of Engagement are changed, a notice will be sent to the technology providers via email with the updated terms. Technology providers that disagree with the changes may request to withdraw their tools from the AI Tools Catalogue.

¹ The *Responsible AI Questionnaire* is currently under development.