

The International Legal Framework for Protecting Children from Cybercrimes: Cyberbullying as a Case Study

Fatma Zohra Guermouche*

*Lecture professor, Algiers(3)University,(ALGERIA)

*Faculty of Information and Communication Sciences, Department of Communication Sciences,
Algiers (3)University, Algeria

Correspondence Email: guermouche.fatma@univ-alger3.dz

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Abstract:

Cyberbullying is a concerning phenomenon that threatens children in the digital age, as the use of the internet and social media contributes to the spread of this type of psychological and social harm. The international legal framework aims to protect children from these cybercrimes through a set of agreements and treaties established to safeguard children's rights online.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is one of the key legal instruments that guarantees children's rights to protection from all forms of exploitation and abuse, including cybercrimes such as bullying. The Convention defines children's right to receive protection from all forms of abuse, and cyberbullying is recognized as a form that requires special legal protection. In addition, there are various international and regional protocols that support efforts to combat cybercrimes, such as the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, which helps coordinate international efforts to tackle crimes that threaten children online.

Countries continue to develop national legislation to combat cyberbullying, including child protection laws in the United States and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the European Union, which strengthen children's rights online and protect their personal data. Despite these efforts, the effective implementation of the international legal framework faces significant challenges, such as discrepancies in national laws and the difficulty of keeping up with rapid technological developments. Recommendations call for strengthening international cooperation and developing unified legislation, as well as increasing public awareness about the risks of cyberbullying. It is also essential to provide innovative tools and technologies to monitor and prevent bullying, alongside training professionals in child protection online to ensure a safe environment for children in the digital space.

Keywords: Child Protection- Cybercrimes- Cyberbullying.

Introduction:

In the face of rapid digital transformations, the digital world has become an essential part of children's daily lives, with increasing use of social media, online gaming platforms, and smart devices. Alongside these developments, numerous challenges have emerged that threaten their safety and well-being, with cyberbullying being one of the most significant threats. Cyberbullying is defined as the use of digital tools, such as mobile phones and the internet, to intentionally and repeatedly harm or threaten others. Forms of cyberbullying include abusive messages, defamation, and extortion, all of which have serious psychological and social effects on children (Hinduja & Patchin, 2014, p. 35).

Statistics show that a large proportion of children have experienced some form of cyberbullying, leading to psychological issues such as anxiety and depression, and even suicidal thoughts. These practices also affect children's social relationships and contribute to poor academic performance (Livingstone & Smith, 2014, p. 640). Hence, the importance of legal intervention to address this growing phenomenon is crucial, as its impact on children's well-being, both psychologically and physically, cannot be ignored.

International agreements form a crucial legal foundation for protecting children from cybercrimes. The **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**, adopted in 1989, plays a pivotal role in affirming children's right to protection from all forms of abuse and exploitation, including cybercrimes (United Nations, 1989, p. 8). However, implementing these agreements faces significant challenges, such as discrepancies in national laws and their incompatibility with international frameworks.

Furthermore, the **Budapest Convention on Cybercrime** (2001) emphasizes the importance of international cooperation in combating digital crimes. This convention aims to enhance legal and technical efforts to tackle cybercrimes, with a special focus on protecting vulnerable groups, such as children, from digital violations (Council of Europe, 2001, p. 12). Despite this, a substantial gap remains between the legal provisions and their actual implementation across national and regional contexts.

In practice, many countries have developed local legislation to protect children from cyberbullying, such as **data protection laws in the European Union (GDPR)**, which provide specific protection for children's digital data, as well as national policies in the United States and Canada that aim to combat this type of crime (European Union, 2016, p. 45). Nevertheless, international cooperation and coordination between countries remain crucial for ensuring the effective implementation of these laws. In addition to legal efforts, international organizations such as **UNICEF** play a vital role in raising awareness about the dangers of cyberbullying and implementing educational programs targeted at children and their families to promote digital safety. These organizations also advocate for the provision of advanced technological resources to proactively monitor and address cybercrimes (UNICEF, 2017, p. 25).

Despite these efforts, the question remains whether the international legal framework is sufficient to protect children from cyberbullying, and how this framework can be developed to keep pace with emerging challenges. This research aims to analyze these aspects by reviewing key international agreements, studying their national implementation, and focusing on identifying the strengths and weaknesses of current legal efforts.

Research Methodology:

This study adopts a descriptive-analytical methodology, which is one of the fundamental research methods in social and legal sciences. This approach is defined as a method that aims to describe phenomena or problems as they exist in reality, analyze their various dimensions, and interpret the factors influencing them. This methodology is used to understand phenomena comprehensively through the study of legal texts, scientific literature, and statistics related to cyberbullying and child protection (Abd al-Rahman, 2021, p. 105).

1. **Describing the Phenomenon/Cyberbullying as a Contemporary Crime:** Within the framework of the descriptive method, the focus is on collecting information and data related to cyberbullying, such as its forms, psychological and social effects, and the contributing factors to its spread. This includes studying how cyberbullying has evolved due to the increasing reliance on modern technology and children's entry into the digital space (Al-Sharif, 2020, p. 35).
2. **Analyzing the International Legal Framework:**
 - The analytical method focuses on studying legal texts and international agreements, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Budapest Convention, to assess their comprehensiveness and effectiveness in addressing the phenomenon of cyberbullying.
 - The relevant legal provisions, such as Article 19 of the CRC, which obliges states to protect children from all forms of violence, including cybercrimes, are analyzed (United Nations, 1989, p. 15).
 - Regional agreements, such as the "Arab Convention on Combating Cybercrime," are also analyzed to determine their integration with international efforts (Abd al-Rahman, 2021, p. 115).
3. **Linking Description and Analysis:**
 - The study combines description and analysis by comparing the data derived from the phenomenon of cyberbullying with legal texts. The goal is to evaluate the effectiveness of the international legal framework in reducing the phenomenon and identifying its strengths and weaknesses (Al-Dabasi, 2019, p. 95).

First: Theoretical Framework of the Concept of Cyberbullying:

1. **Definition of Cyberbullying:** Cyberbullying is a form of digital violence that is carried out through technological means, including the internet, social media, text messages, and online gaming platforms. It involves using technology to intentionally and repeatedly harm others.

Cyberbullying encompasses various patterns, such as direct insults, defamation, spreading misleading information, and impersonation with the aim of causing harm (Al-Dabasi, 2019, p. 45).

Cyberbullying is considered more dangerous than traditional bullying due to its easy spread, the victim's frequent inability to escape it, and its impact extending into the victim's social and psychological life (Al-Jubouri, 2021, p. 72).

2. **Difference Between Traditional Bullying and Cyberbullying:**

- **Means Used:** Traditional bullying occurs face-to-face in places such as schools or neighborhoods, while cyberbullying takes place via digital means (Al-Sharif, 2020, p. 55).
- **Spread:** Cyberbullying is characterized by its rapid spread and accessibility to the public online, which increases its negative effects compared to traditional bullying, which is confined to a limited circle (Abd al-Rahman, 2022, p. 88).
- **Anonymity:** Cyberbullying allows the perpetrator to hide their identity, making it difficult to track down the offender or hold them accountable (Al-Dabasi, 2019, p. 47).

3. **Forms of Cyberbullying:**

- **Insults and Threats:** The use of text messages or social media posts to insult the victim or threaten them with physical or psychological harm.
- **Defamation and Spreading False Information:** Spreading rumors or false information aimed at damaging the victim's reputation or causing psychological and social harm (Al-Jubouri, 2021, p. 75).
- **Extortion:** Threatening the victim with the release of private information or photos unless certain demands are met (Al-Sharif, 2020, p. 58).
- **Impersonation:** Creating fake accounts or hacking into the victim's accounts to damage their reputation or social relationships (Abd al-Rahman, 2022, p. 91).

4. **Psychological and Social Effects of Cyberbullying on Children:**

4.1 **Psychological Effects:**

- **Depression and Anxiety:** Children who experience cyberbullying suffer from feelings of frustration and hopelessness, leading to depression and constant anxiety. Studies show that prolonged exposure to cyberbullying increases the likelihood of long-term psychological disorders (Al-Dabasi, 2019, p. 50).
- **Decreased Self-Esteem:** Repeated insults and defamation undermine the child's self-confidence, impacting their ability to interact with society in a confident and effective manner (Al-Sharif, 2020, p. 62).
- **Suicidal Thoughts:** In severe cases, cyberbullying may lead the victim to contemplate suicide as a means of escaping emotional pain (Al-Jubouri, 2021, p. 80).

4.2 **Social Effects:**

- **Social Isolation:** Children who are bullied online tend to isolate themselves from their peers to avoid further humiliation, leading to social isolation that exacerbates their psychological issues (Abd al-Rahman, 2022, p. 94).
- **Weak Academic Performance:** Children who are victims of cyberbullying struggle to focus on their studies due to constant anxiety, which negatively impacts their academic performance (Al-Dabasi, 2019, p. 53).
- **Disruptions in Family Relationships:** The child may hesitate to discuss the problem with their family, leading to weakened trust between them and their family, increasing their feelings of isolation (Al-Sharif, 2020, p. 65).

Second: International Legal Framework for Protecting Children from Cybercrimes:

1. **The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC):**

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1989, is one of the most important legal documents aimed at ensuring the rights of children worldwide. This convention seeks to protect children from all forms of exploitation and abuse, including harm resulting from cybercrimes. It forms the main

international legal framework through which children's rights, including the right to be protected from harm in the digital space, are safeguarded (United Nations, 1989, p. 12).

1.1 Relevant Articles on Protecting Children from Abuse and Exploitation:

- **Article 19:** States that countries must take appropriate measures to protect children from all forms of violence and abuse, whether in family environments, institutions, or other contexts where children might be at risk. This includes protecting children from cyberbullying or any other type of online psychological abuse (United Nations, 1989, p. 21).
- **Article 34:** Focuses on protecting children from sexual exploitation and abuse, which is crucial in the context of online crimes involving child sexual exploitation, such as online grooming and sexual harassment through digital networks (United Nations, 1989, p. 30).
- **Article 36:** Requires states to protect children from all forms of exploitation, including online exploitation, ensuring that all harmful practices occurring in the digital space fall under the scope of child protection from exploitation (United Nations, 1989, p. 32).

2. Additional Protocols and International Agreements:

2.1 The Budapest Convention on Cybercrime:

The Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, adopted by the Council of Europe in 2001, is the first international treaty to address crimes related to the internet and computer networks. This convention is considered a cornerstone in the fight against cybercrime at the international level, including provisions aimed at protecting children from online sexual exploitation.

- **Article 9 of the convention** specifically criminalizes crimes related to the sexual exploitation of children online, such as the distribution of child pornography, and requires member states to criminalize such activities in their national laws (Council of Europe, 2001, p. 20).
- The convention also promotes cooperation among member states in investigations and the exchange of information, which is crucial in addressing cross-border crimes (Council of Europe, 2001, p. 15).

2.2 Regional Agreements:

- **European Union (GDPR):** The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), adopted in 2016, prioritizes the protection of children's personal data. It mandates that companies obtain parental consent to collect personal data from children under the age of 16. This regulation aims to protect children from digital risks, such as violations of their privacy online or the exploitation of their personal data (European Parliament, 2016, p. 25).
- **Arab League:** The Arab League's Convention on Combating Cybercrime, issued in 2010, is a regional agreement aimed at combating cybercrimes in the Arab world. Despite this initiative, the actual implementation of the convention faces significant challenges due to the varying legislation among member states (Arab League, 2010, p. 15).

3. Role of International Organizations in Protecting Children:

3.1 Role of the United Nations:

The United Nations places significant importance on protecting children, especially in light of the challenges posed by the digital age. Through various programs and initiatives, the UN seeks to enhance the protection of children from risks they may encounter in the digital space.

- **The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children:** This initiative is one of the UN's key projects focusing on protecting children from all forms of violence, including online violence. A wide range of countries, NGOs, and the private sector participate in this initiative to reduce online violence (UNICEF, 2019, p. 17).
- The **UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** also provides technical support to countries in developing laws and policies that contribute to protecting children from cybercrimes, particularly online child sexual exploitation (United Nations, 2021, p. 19).

3.2 Role of UNICEF:

UNICEF is one of the leading international organizations working to promote children's rights, including their protection in the digital space.

- Through initiatives like "**Protecting Children Online**," UNICEF educates children and adolescents on how to engage safely with technology and informs them of the potential risks they may face online, such as cyberbullying and online sexual exploitation (UNICEF, 2018, p. 28).
- Additionally, UNICEF is part of global efforts to develop public policies aimed at enhancing legal protection for children in the digital environment, providing legal and technical tools to support countries in protecting children from cybercrimes (UNICEF, 2019, p. 30).

4. Challenges Facing the International Legal Framework:

Despite the existence of a strong international legal framework, the protection of children from cybercrimes still faces many challenges.

- **Legislative Gaps:** Although many countries have ratified the CRC, the implementation of laws on the ground faces significant challenges, especially in developing countries or regions lacking clear legislation to combat cybercrimes (Kilkili, 2020, p. 45).
- **Challenges in International Cooperation:** While agreements like the Budapest Convention encourage cooperation among countries, challenges remain in coordinating different legal systems, particularly in cases involving cross-border crimes (Levy, 2017, p. 37).
- **Rapid Technological Development:** Legislators face difficulties in keeping up with the fast-paced developments in technology, which results in a lack of effectiveness in addressing emerging cybercrimes, such as cyberbullying and digital extortion (Council of Europe, 2019, p. 23).

Third: Analysis of International Experiences in Combating Cyberbullying:

1. Leading National Legislation:

1.1 United States: Cybercrime Laws and Child Protection:

The United States is one of the leading countries in combatting cybercrimes, including cyberbullying and child protection. Federal laws in this context include the **Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)**, enacted in 1998. This law aims to protect children under the age of 13 from the collection of personal data by websites and applications. It mandates that parental consent be obtained before collecting any personal information from children, marking an important step toward protecting children in the digital space (Federal Trade Commission, 2020, p. 11).

Additionally, the **Child Online Protection Act** was enacted to criminalize the dissemination of harmful content to children online, including cyberbullying and online sexual exploitation. This law provides legal tools for U.S. authorities to track cyberbullies targeting children and impacting their mental and social well-being (Department of Justice, 2021, p. 24).

1.2 European Union: General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and its Role in Child Protection:

The **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** is one of the most impactful laws within the European Union for protecting children from cybercrimes. Adopted in 2016 and enforced in May 2018, one of its key provisions is the protection of children's personal data. **Article 8 of the GDPR** requires that children under 16 years of age obtain parental consent before submitting any personal data online. This provides an additional layer of protection for children in the digital world (European Commission, 2018, p. 36). Furthermore, the regulation governs data collection practices to ensure children's privacy and protect them from digital exploitation, including exposure to cyberbullying or online sexual exploitation. It also imposes significant fines on companies that fail to comply with these standards, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of child protection laws online (European Commission, 2018, p. 39).

1.3 Canada and Australia: E-Governance Policies Concerning Children:

In **Canada**, laws focus on protecting children in the digital space through the **Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)**, which strengthens protections against unlawful collection of children's personal data. This law mandates that companies obtain parental consent before collecting personal data from children, providing enhanced protection against violations, such as those arising from cyberbullying (Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, 2020, p. 45). In **Australia**, the government has passed the **Child Protection (Cybercrime) Act**, which criminalizes activities involving cyberbullying and online sexual exploitation of children. Additionally, Australia implements a **Digital Safety Strategy for Children**, aimed at increasing awareness about online risks and providing tools for protecting children (Australian Government, 2019, p. 12).

2. Lessons Learned from These Experiences:

2.1 Strengths and Weaknesses:

The legal experiences in the aforementioned countries serve as effective models for combating cyberbullying and protecting children from cybercrimes, though there are some areas that need addressing:

○ Strengths:

- **Implementation of Strict Laws:** Laws such as COPPA and GDPR provide effective mechanisms for protecting children's personal data.
- **International Cooperation:** Multilateral agreements, such as the **Budapest Convention**, foster cooperation among countries to combat cross-border cybercrimes.
- **Public Awareness:** Programs such as **Digital Safety for Children** in Canada and Australia help raise awareness among children and parents about the risks of the internet.

○ Weaknesses:

- **Challenges in Enforcement:** Despite strict legislation, many countries face difficulties in effectively enforcing these laws, particularly those lacking appropriate legal and technical infrastructure.
- **Limited Monitoring:** Sometimes, governments are unable to track all online activities targeting children, which may allow instances of cyberbullying to go unnoticed.

2.2 Feasibility of Applying These Experiences in Other Contexts:

While these legislations have been successfully implemented in some countries, challenges exist in applying them to others with different legal and cultural contexts:

- **Cultural and Legal Privacy Issues:** Applying these laws in non-Western countries may face challenges due to cultural differences, as approaches to dealing with cybercrimes against children can vary based on prevailing customs and traditions.
- **Technological Infrastructure:** Some developing countries lack the necessary technological infrastructure to effectively monitor the internet, requiring significant investments in education and technology to develop legal systems and protect them from cybercrimes.
- **International Cooperation:** In many cases, enhancing international cooperation among countries in investigations related to cross-border crimes is necessary. This requires broader implementation of international agreements and their enforcement (Levi, 2017, p. 38).

Fourth: Challenges Facing the International Legal Framework:

1. Enforcement Difficulties:

1.1 Disparities in National Legislation:

One of the greatest challenges facing the international legal framework for protecting children from cybercrimes is the disparity in national legislation. There are no unified laws that all countries adhere to, resulting in significant gaps in the application of global standards. For example, some laws differ in determining the age at which a child is considered to be at risk in the digital space, and legal systems vary across countries on how to address issues related to cyberbullying, both in terms of judicial procedures and

imposed penalties. In some countries, legislation is incomplete or lacks the necessary tools to identify online perpetrators or prosecute cross-border crimes (Mendel, 2020, p. 45).

These gaps in legislation add to the difficulty of making global efforts to combat cyberbullying effective, as digital cross-border movement may require legal coordination between countries with different legal systems, limiting the potential for effective cooperation in international judicial investigations (Zeng, 2019, p. 73).

1.2 Weak International Cooperation:

International cooperation in combating cybercrimes, especially those targeting children, also faces significant challenges. Despite the existence of international agreements such as the **Budapest Convention on Cybercrime**, there are difficulties in applying these agreements between countries due to political and legal differences. Some countries do not provide full cooperation in cross-border investigations due to legal barriers or a lack of trust between judicial systems, which results in delayed investigations or even the inability to enforce certain rulings in some cases (Kulesza, 2019, p. 91). Additionally, the international system struggles to deal with cybercrimes on global platforms, such as social media, where these companies may not comply with local laws, complicating governments' ability to pursue child-related online issues (Smith, 2021, p. 109).

2. Rapid Technological Development:

2.1 Difficulty in Keeping Legislation Updated with Technological Advancements:

Another challenge facing the international legal framework is the rapid pace of technological development. In the age of the internet and smart devices, tools and methods of cyberbullying are constantly changing, making it difficult for legislation to keep up with these changes quickly. New technologies such as artificial intelligence, encrypted applications, and dark web networks enable criminals to engage in more advanced and concealed criminal activities targeting children. This makes it difficult for legal systems to identify perpetrators, especially in online crimes that use complex methods and technologies. This requires continuous legal amendments to ensure effective child protection (Bradshaw, 2020, p. 121). Many laws developed to keep up with technological changes can become outdated quickly, exposing children to increasing online risks. There is also a lack of coordination between government agencies and private sector organizations to develop technologies and methods that align with new laws (Rodríguez, 2018, p. 56).

3. Weak Public Awareness:

3.1 Lack of Safe Technology Use Culture among Children and Parents:

One of the biggest challenges facing the international legal framework in combating cyberbullying is weak public awareness. Many children and parents lack adequate awareness about digital risks and how to protect themselves from cyberbullying. In many countries, schools or local communities do not offer sufficient programs to educate children and families about the dangers of the internet and how to deal with those risks. As a result, many children remain vulnerable to online threats due to a lack of knowledge on how to respond to cyberbullying or protect their personal data (Fitzgerald, 2020, p. 66).

Even in countries that do offer awareness programs, these programs may not be sufficient or universally available. This results in children's and parents' inability to take effective preventive measures, which increases the risks of cyberbullying and makes it difficult to identify and address crimes early on.

3.2 Importance of Digital Awareness and Education:

In this context, digital awareness is a key tool in combating cyberbullying. Promoting safe technology use programs through schools and community organizations is an important solution to address this issue. Including topics such as "digital safety" in school curricula can help children recognize digital risks and protect their privacy online (Jones, 2019, p. 138).

Conclusion

Cyberbullying is one of the most dangerous phenomena threatening children in the digital age, as it is considered a form of cybercrime that exploits modern technologies to harm children psychologically and socially. While this phenomenon is not new, the widespread use of the internet and social media has made it take more advanced and complex forms, necessitating the continuous development of the international legal framework to address these challenges.

This study explored the international legal framework aimed at protecting children from cybercrimes, focusing on cyberbullying as a representative example of such crimes. The study reviewed the **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**, which serves as the primary legal reference in protecting children's rights, including the right to protection from abuse and exploitation, including cybercrimes. It also highlighted international and regional agreements aimed at combating cybercrimes, such as the **Budapest Convention on Cybercrime** and the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** in the European Union. Additionally, the study touched upon the vital role played by international organizations, such as the United Nations and UNICEF, in supporting international efforts to protect children online.

However, the study identified several challenges facing the international legal framework in this area, most notably the disparities in national legislation between countries, which hinder effective coordination among governments in addressing cross-border crimes. Furthermore, the study revealed that the rapid technological development makes it difficult for laws to keep pace with these changes, exposing children to greater risks. The lack of public awareness regarding online risks and children's use of the internet further exacerbates the spread of this phenomenon and makes it more difficult to address effectively.

The study also showed an urgent need to enhance international cooperation among countries to develop unified legislation to combat cyberbullying, which would improve the ability to monitor and prevent such crimes. These legislations should include standardized criteria and effective legal procedures to address cybercrime in all its forms, while also being flexible and continuously updated to keep up with the fast pace of information technology development.

Public awareness and education on the importance of safe technology use are key factors in combating cyberbullying. There should be widespread awareness campaigns in schools and local communities to educate children and parents on how to protect themselves in the digital space. Additionally, training programs for digital protection specialists and cyber police should be enhanced to improve their ability to handle these issues, along with the provision of innovative technological tools capable of detecting and preventing cyberbullying more quickly and accurately.

Moreover, effective international litigation mechanisms should be established for cyberbullying cases, including the development of international cyber courts or specialized committees to investigate cybercrimes targeting children. This requires efforts from international organizations to ensure coordination between countries and relevant courts, in order to enhance the effectiveness of international cooperation in this field. Furthermore, mechanisms for tracking online cybercrimes using artificial intelligence and modern technological tools should be developed to detect harmful content and take legal actions promptly.

In conclusion, protecting children from cyberbullying requires a coordinated global effort, embodied in the development of a comprehensive legal framework that strengthens legislation, promotes international cooperation, raises public awareness, and utilizes modern technologies to detect and prevent these crimes early. Through the collective effort of these initiatives, a safer digital environment for children can be ensured, providing effective protection against cybercrimes that threaten their right to a dignified life and healthy development in the age of the internet.

Recommendations:

The increasing and continuously evolving phenomenon of cyberbullying targeting children worldwide calls for urgent and effective measures to strengthen the international legal framework for their protection. While many agreements and legislations have been prepared to combat cybercrimes and protect children's rights, these efforts face numerous challenges that require the development and updating of the international legal framework to keep pace with ongoing technological changes. In this context, we present a set of recommendations aimed at improving the protection of children from cyberbullying and enhancing the effectiveness of international legal systems in addressing this phenomenon:

1. Enhance International Cooperation to Develop Unified Legislation

One of the main challenges facing the international legal framework for protecting children from cyberbullying is the disparity in legislation between countries. The existence of unified legislation at the international level is critical for effectively combating cross-border cybercrimes. Therefore, UN member states and regional organizations such as the European Union and the Arab League should work to develop international standards for combating cyberbullying and protecting children online. These legislation should include:

- A clear definition of cyberbullying and the establishment of legal mechanisms to address it.
- Development of binding international agreements that allow for coordination between countries to prosecute perpetrators across borders.
- Legal mechanisms that facilitate information exchange between countries about cybercriminals and ensure their extradition. For example, binding agreements could include severe penalties for cybercrimes targeting children, specifying the legal responsibilities of each country based on its national laws and international obligations.

2. Increase Public Awareness and Community Education on Cyberbullying Risks

Education and community awareness are essential in combating cyberbullying and protecting children. The lack of sufficient awareness among children and their families about the risks of the internet can lead to exposure to cyberbullying in ways they do not recognize. Therefore, governments and international organizations should take the following actions:

- Integrate awareness programs into school curricula to educate children about the risks of cyberbullying and how to avoid it.
- Organize community awareness campaigns in the media and on social media to promote safe internet usage.
- Train parents on how to monitor their children's technology usage and how to protect them from cyberbullying. Organizations such as UNICEF and relevant UN bodies can play a key role in coordinating such awareness campaigns globally.

3. Provide Advanced Tools and Technologies for Monitoring and Preventing Cyberbullying

With the rapid expansion of digital technology, it is crucial to provide innovative tools for monitoring cyberbullying and reducing its spread. These tools may include:

- Development of online content monitoring programs using artificial intelligence to analyze texts and images on social media platforms and detect cyberbullying cases early.
- Online identity tracking technologies to ensure the identification of bullies and their legal prosecution.
- Creation of secure platforms for reporting cyberbullying, which children and parents can easily use to report incidents quickly and effectively.
- Encryption and data protection programs that ensure children's personal data is not used in cyberbullying or exploitation. Enhancing collaboration between major tech companies and government organizations to develop these tools would significantly contribute to reducing cyberbullying.

4. Train Specialists in Child Protection Online

It is essential to provide specialized training courses for professionals involved in child protection online, such as teachers, psychologists, and cyberpolice officers. This training should include:

- How to recognize signs of cyberbullying in children.
- Providing psychological support mechanisms for children affected by cyberbullying.
- Investigating cybercrimes, including the use of modern technologies to identify perpetrators and handle legal issues related to cyberbullying. Training professionals in this field will enhance the ability to intervene quickly and effectively, reducing the impact of cyberbullying on victims.

5. Develop International Legal Mechanisms to Combat Cyberbullying

Cybercrimes require the development of international legal mechanisms to deal with cross-border cases. It can become difficult to address cyberbullying cases when they occur on complex international platforms. In this context, several steps can be taken:

- Establish international cyber courts or specialized committees to handle cyberbullying cases.
- Develop mechanisms for exchanging evidence between countries to facilitate the tracking of cybercrimes across borders.
- Coordinate national courts with international judicial bodies to ensure the enforcement of cyberbullying judgments, especially when the crime is committed on global platforms. Digital litigation mechanisms can also be used to allow legal complaints to be filed quickly online through electronic platforms, facilitating access to justice for child victims worldwide.

6. Strengthen Public-Private Partnerships

Countries must collaborate with tech companies and digital platforms to develop child protection policies against cyberbullying. Social media companies must work with governments to implement rules and practices that prohibit cyberbullying on their platforms. This cooperation requires:

- Developing effective monitoring technologies to reduce online bullying.
- Encouraging companies to implement safe internet usage policies for children.
- Improving immediate response protocols in the case of cyberbullying reports on online platforms.

In conclusion, addressing cyberbullying requires a global solution involving international cooperation, community awareness, and modern technologies to provide effective protection for children in the digital age. By developing legislation and unifying efforts between countries, a safer digital environment for children can be created, gradually and effectively reducing the risks of cyberbullying.

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