

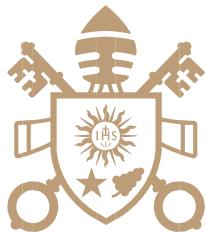


THE PONTIFICAL  
ACADEMY  
OF SCIENCES

# Risks and Opportunities of AI for Children: A Common Commitment for Safeguarding Children



20-22 March 2025  
Casina Pio IV, Vatican City



*"I think particularly of the challenges posed by the progress made in Artificial Intelligence. Such development can prove beneficial to humanity, ... yet, as we realize, it can also have serious negative implications for the general population, especially children and more vulnerable adults..."*

*"These challenges remind us of the invariably human and ethical dimensions of all scientific and technological progress. I would express once more, therefore, the Church's concern that "the inherent dignity of each human being and the fraternity that binds us together as members of the one human family must undergird the development of new technologies... Technological developments that do not lead to an improvement in the quality of life of all humanity, but on the contrary aggravate inequalities and conflicts, can never count as true progress" (Message for the 2024 World Day of Peace, 2). In this sense, the impact of forms of Artificial Intelligence on individual peoples and the international community calls for greater attention and study. I am pleased to know that the Pontifical Academy of Sciences is working, for its part, to propose appropriate regulations for the sake of preventing risks and encouraging benefits in this complex field."*

ADDRESS OF POPE FRANCIS  
TO THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY OF THE PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
23 September 2024

# Concept Note

## THE IMPACT OF AI ON THE SAFETY AND DIGNITY OF CHILDREN

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is profoundly transforming the digital experiences of children, presenting both opportunities and risks. The surge in AI innovation brings hope for solving complex problems, enhancing children's digital safety and dignity. However, the rapid development of AI, exacerbated by the pandemic-induced surge in digital usage, has also exposed children to increased online risks such as deep fakes, cyberbullying and sexual exploitation. While AI tools for analysis and management of text, images and big data can improve online safety, they raise concerns about misuse, privacy and algorithmic biases. Ensuring intentional and ethical AI deployment is crucial to safeguarding children's well-being in this evolving digital landscape, including social media. AI is actually inseparable from digital systems, and the functioning of social media.

AI can be misused to sexually abuse and exploit children by generating and distributing child sexual abuse material, grooming children online, and ease the facilitation of human trafficking. The deployment of AI in surveillance and monitoring can have unintended consequences. While intended to enhance safety, excessive monitoring can infringe on children's right to privacy, leading to a culture of surveillance that undermines their sense of autonomy and dignity. Additionally, biased AI algorithms can perpetuate and even exacerbate existing inequalities.

Despite this, AI has the potential to significantly enhance the opportunities and safety of children in the digital world. One of the opportunities lies in AI's ability to detect and prevent online threats in real-time. Advanced AI algorithms can monitor digital environments for patterns of behaviour, identifying potentially harmful interactions, and remove inappropriate or illegal material.

In the Global South, where resources for traditional education and child protection services may be limited, AI offers the potential for innovative solutions to increase the reach and quality of services, and education.

The development and use of AI in the digital world hold considerable promise for enhancing the safety and dignity of children. However, it is imperative to address the associated risks through robust regulatory frameworks, ethical AI development practices, and ongoing dialogue among stakeholders. Ensuring that AI technologies are designed and implemented with children's best interests in mind is crucial to harnessing their benefits while mitigating potential harms. As AI continues to evolve, a balanced approach that prioritizes both safety and dignity will be essential in safeguarding the well-being of children in the digital age.

### RATIONALE AND PURPOSE:

This high-level meeting aims to bring together personally invited representatives of academia, the tech industry, faith-based institutions, civil society, and youth to address the urgent issue of safe and ethical use of AI for children's wellbeing.

This meeting will emphasize the shared responsibility of all stakeholders to act collaboratively and effectively within their areas of influence to protect children.

The aim is to foster a shared understanding of the risks and opportunities presented by AI in enhancing child safety and child development, and to outline the responsibilities of each stakeholder in acting within their sphere of influence in line with a joint commitment to protect children.

### EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

1. **Shared Understanding:** Enhanced collective awareness of the current state of development of AI, including risks and opportunities relating to the safety and dignity of children
2. **Defined Responsibilities:** Clear delineation of the roles and responsibilities of science, the tech industry, religious communities incl. the Catholic Church, researchers, civil society, children and young people, and abused persons.
3. **Joint Commitment:** A Joint statement that outlines specific, actionable steps each stakeholder may consider enhancing child wellbeing with AI, enhancing opportunities for education and information of children and youth, and to combat child sexual abuse and exploitation using AI, including regular monitoring and evaluation of progress.

## ABOUT THE ORGANISERS:

**The Pontifical Academy of Sciences (PAS):** PAS has held various conferences on AI and humanity before.<sup>1</sup> PAS has 80 members who are leading scientists in different fields from all hemispheres. The goals of PAS include, "Stimulating an interdisciplinary approach to scientific knowledge, Encouraging international interaction, Furthering participation in the benefits of science and technology by the greatest number of people and peoples, Ensuring that science works to advance of the human and moral dimension of people, Achieving a role for science which involves the promotion of justice, development, solidarity, peace, and the resolution of conflict, Fostering interaction between faith and reason and encouraging dialogue between science and spiritual, cultural, philosophical and religious values..." PAS organizes meetings to promote the progress of sciences and the solution of important scientific-technical problems, which are fundamental for the development of mankind; PAS Academicians "...are chosen by the Academy on the basis of their eminent original scientific studies and of their acknowledged moral personality, without any ethical or religious discrimination, and are appointed for life by sovereign act of the Holy Father." Program of PAS see <https://www.pas.va/en/events.html>

## World Childhood Foundation

With 25 years of pioneering efforts, the World Childhood Foundation, founded and spearheaded by Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden, has played a crucial role in preventing child sexual abuse and exploitation. Childhood has during the 25 years of work to prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation consistently championed projects that prioritize children's safety and dignity, from ground-

breaking AI initiatives to community-based programs.

## Institute of Anthropology (IADC) of the Pontifical Gregorian University

The Institute of Anthropology. Interdisciplinary Studies on Human Dignity and Care (IADC) of the Pontifical Gregorian University researches and teaches on the issues of dignity and care in an intercultural and interdisciplinary way, basing its approach on an anthropological view of human life from a Christian perspective. The Institute (established in 2012 as Centre for Child Protection) contributes to the development of a common model of a safer world, it raises awareness of the urgency of safeguarding, especially with regard to minors and vulnerable adults.

## PARTICIPANTS

Recognizing that the responsibility to ensure ethical and safe use of AI to empower and protect children from harm is a societal challenge which requires the collective effort of diverse stakeholders, we aim to bring together a broad spectrum of professionals from the following sectors: Scholars on AI with a science and humanities background, experts in AI and machine learning, representatives from authorities and non-governmental organizations dedicated to education, youth representing networks and organisations, professionals from tech firms and other industries, government officials & individuals involved in creating, implementing and enforcing laws and policies related to child protection, representatives of religious groups and faith-based organizations that are engaged as advocates for the rights and wellbeing of children and persons in situations of vulnerability, philanthropic organizations.

<sup>1</sup> **Power and Limits of Artificial Intelligence** Antonio Battro, Stanislas Dehaene (Eds.). Proceedings of the Workshop 2016, *Scripta Varia* 132, Vatican City, 2017  
<https://www.pas.va/content/dam/casinapioiv/pas/pdf-volumi/scripta-varia/sv132pas.pdf>

**Robotics, AI and Humanity: Science, Ethics and Policy.** von Braun, J., Archer, M.S., Reichberg, G.M., Sánchez Sorondo, M. (Eds.), Springer Nature 2021, Open Access  
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-54173-6>

**Basic Science for Human Development, Peace and Planetary Health.** Proceedings of the Plenary Session 2022, J. von Braun,

P.K.A. Turkson, E. van Dishoeck, F. Gianotti, M.H.A. Hassan, E.M. De Robertis, C.J. Chen, V. Ramanathan and J. Mittelstraß (eds) *Acta* 27 | Vatican City 2023

<https://www.pas.va/content/dam/casinapioiv/pas/pdf-volumi/acta/acta27pas.pdf> Other related relevant conferences: **Summit of African Women Judges and Prosecutors on Human Trafficking and Organized Crime** December 2019; **Women Judges and Prosecutors on Human Trafficking and Organized Crime** November 2017; **Children and Sustainable Development: A Challenge for Education** November 2015

## DAY 1 | Thursday, 20 March 2025

15:00	WELCOME DRINK
16:00	VATICAN TOUR – DEPARTURE
18:00-20:00	WELCOME RECEPTION OF PARTICIPANTS

## DAY 2 | Friday, 21 March 2025

09:00-10:15	<b>OPENING SESSION</b> <b>Chair: Prof. Joachim von Braun</b> <i>President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences</i> <b>Welcome and Statements of Goals, Challenges and Opportunities to be Addressed by the Conference</b>
	<b>Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden</b> <b>Keynote speech</b>
	<b>Address to the Conference</b> <b>Cardinal Pietro Parolin</b> <i>Secretary of State of His Holiness Pope Francis – Vatican City</i>
	<b>Prof. Mariana Rozo-Paz</b> <i>Policy, Research and Project Management Lead at the Datasphere Initiative,  #Youth4OurDataFuture Project - Colombia</i> <b>Youth perspective</b>
	<b>Cardinal Peter Turkson</b> <i>Chancellor of Pontifical Academy of Sciences</i> <b>Welcome</b>
10:15-10:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:45	<b>SESSION I: AI and Its Effect on Children's Safety and Dignity</b> <b>Chair: Ms. Britta Holmberg</b> <i>Deputy Secretary General, World Childhood Foundation</i>
	<b>Session overview:</b> Setting the stage for understanding where we stand today in the intersection of AI and children's safety and dignity. Speakers from diverse sectors will explore AI's global impact—spanning education, governance, industry, and child protection—highlighting both its potential and the challenges it presents.
10:45-11:00	<b>Designing AI with Children in Mind</b> <b>Ms. Leanda Barrington-Leach</b> <i>Executive Director, 5Rights Foundation</i>
11:00-11:15	<b>The Beauty and the Threat of the Screen: Implications for Language and Reading Development</b> <b>Prof. Maryanne Wolf</b> <i>PAS Academician, Director, UCLA Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners, and Social Justice - UCLA</i>
11:15-11:30	<b>The Global Landscape of Child Sexual Exploitation and the Role of AI in Addressing It</b> <b>Ms. Mama Fatima Singhateh</b> <i>UN Special Rapporteur on the Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children</i>
11:30-11:45	<b>Youth perspective</b> <b>Ms. Imane Lakbachi (by Zoom)</b> <i>WHO Youth Council, African Union Office of the Youth Envoy, Director of Network Engagement at IYAPP, a global network advocating for SRHRJ (Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice) - Morocco</i>

<b>11:45-12:30</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>12:30-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00-16:30</b>	<p><b>SESSION 2: Research and Innovation Insights: Presentations and a Panel Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Co-Chairs: Prof. Dr. Jürgen Knoblich, PAS Academician, Scientific Director, Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, Vienna and Prof. Joachim von Braun, PAS President</b></p>
	<p><b>Session overview:</b>  This session brings together researchers to present the latest, cutting-edge insights on AI's impact on youth development, well-being, and mental health. The presentations will explore how AI interacts with children's cognitive, emotional, and social development, shedding light on both its benefits and potential risks. The session will conclude with a panel discussion, allowing for cross-sectoral reflections and discussions on the implications of research findings for policy, technology, and child protection.</p>
<b>14:00-14:20</b>	<p><b>Critical periods in the experience-dependent development of the child brain</b></p> <p><b>Prof. Wolf Singer</b>  <i>PAS Academician/Max Planck Institute for Brain Research</i></p>
<b>14:20-14:40</b>	<p><b>Adolescent mental health, NSSI and childhood abuse</b></p> <p><b>Prof. Christian Schmahl</b>  <i>Medical Director, Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim, Germany</i></p>
<b>14:40-15:00</b>	<p><b>Youth and AI – digital dilemmas and well-being in the context of youth development</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Emily Weinstein</b>  <i>Co-Director - Principal Researcher, Center for Digital Thriving, Harvard Graduate School of Education.</i></p>
<b>15:00-15:20</b>	<p><b>Problematic Social Media Use in Childhood and Adolescence</b></p> <p><b>Prof. Dr. Christian Montag</b>  <i>Head of Department of Molecular Psychology, Ulm University</i></p>
<b>15:20-15:50</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>15:50-16:10</b>	<p><b>Policy Guidance on AI for Children</b></p> <p><b>Prof. Dr. Cecile Aptel</b>  <i>Deputy Director, UNICEF Innocenti Global Office of Research and Foresight</i></p>
<b>16:10-16:30</b>	<p><b>Snap and AI-Generated Child Sexual Abuse Imagery: Research + Actions</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Jacqueline Beauchere</b>  <i>Head of Global Platform Safety, Snap Inc</i></p>
<b>16:30-16:50</b>	<p><b>TBD</b></p> <p><b>Hon. Brando Benifei</b>  <i>Rapporteur of the EU AI Act, President of the EU Parliament-US Delegation</i></p>
<b>16:50-17:10</b>	<p><b>Youth perspective – Discussion opening</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Similoluwa Okunowo (by Zoom)</b>  <i>Google DeepMind scholar in the AI for Science program at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS, South Africa), Nigeria</i></p>
<b>17:10-18:00</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>18:00-20:00</b>	<b>Dinner at Casina Pio IV</b>

## DAY 3 | SATURDAY 22 MARCH 2025

9:00-10:30	<b>Session 3: Panel Discussion: Understanding the Risks and Opportunities of AI for Children</b> <b>Co-Chairs: Ms. Britta Holmberg &amp; Ms. Erika Olsson</b> <i>World Childhood Foundation</i>
	<b>Session overview:</b> Bridging the discussions from previous day, this panel brings together experts to examine AI's dual role—both as a tool for innovation and empowerment, and as a source of potential risks. Discussions will explore AI's historical intersection with children's rights, the need for rigorous, evidence-based research to inform policy, AI's potential in preventing child sexual abuse, and its evolving role in education and science.
9:00-09:15	<b>Baroness Joanna Shields OBE</b> <i>Founder of WeProtect, Precognition, WeProtect, UK House of Lords</i>
9:15-9:30	<b>Understanding the risks and opportunities of AI for children</b> <b>Prof. Andrew Przybylski</b> <i>Professor of Human Behavior and Technology, Oxford Internet</i>
9:30-9:45	<b>Leveraging AI to Advance Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse Perpetration</b> <b>Dr. Christoffer Rahm</b> <i>Professor, Research Group Leader, Karolinska Institute</i>
9:45-10:00	<b>Youth Perspective</b> <b>Dr. Preetika Banerjee (by Zoom)</b> <i>PhD student in Health Economics and Outcomes Research, University of Washington. Research Fellow at the DTH-Lab, digital health interventions on young people's well-being</i>
10:00-10:15	<b>Safeguarding children in the AI digital environment and opportunities of innovations for children with disabilities</b> <b>Dr. Pedro Hartung</b> <i>CEO, ALANA Foundation, Brazil</i>
10:15-10:30	<b>Accelerating child safeguarding with AI</b> <b>Ms. Susanne Drakborg</b> <i>Senior Program Manager, World Childhood Foundation, Team Lead, Stella Polaris AI Hub</i>
10:30-11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:00	<b>Session 4: Panel Discussion: Ethical and Responsible AI: Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders and Regulation</b>
	<b>Session overview:</b> This session features two panels that build on the conference's core themes, exploring both the ethical foundations and the practical implementation of responsible AI. The first panel delves into the ethical principles guiding AI development and the responsibilities of key stakeholders—governments, industry, and civil society—in ensuring AI serves children's best interests. The second panel shifts from principles to practice, examining governance, regulatory frameworks, and the role of funders in driving responsible AI innovation. The panellists will open with very brief statements of not more than <b>3 minutes</b> .
11:00-11:45	<b>Panel 4.1 Protect, provide, participate: children first in the AI era</b> <b>Chair: Prof. Hans Zollner</b> <i>Director of the Institute of Anthropology, Pontifical Gregorian University</i>
	<b>Prof. Virginia Dignum</b> <i>Professor of Responsible Artificial Intelligence at Umeå University (Dept of Computing Science) and Director of the AI Policy Lab. Member of United Nations High Level Advisory Body in AI</i>
	<b>Ms. Saanika Kodial</b> <i>Brave Movement, Mumbai</i>
	<b>Exploring how technology can be leveraged for social good across Kenya and Africa</b> <b>Mr. Josiah Kiarie Kimani (by Zoom)</b> <i>AI for Science MSc student at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in South Africa.</i>

	<b>Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdullah</b> <i>Chief, Strategic Planning and Membership and Special Advisor to the Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)</i>
	<b>Dr. Brian Patrick Green</b> <i>Director of Technology Ethics - Markkula Center for Applied Ethics - Santa Clara University, USA</i>
<b>11:45-12:30</b>	<b>Panel 4.2</b> <b>Chair: Ms. Paula Guillet de Monthoux</b> <i>Secretary General, World Childhood Foundation</i>
	<b>Dr. Emilio Puccio</b> <i>Secretary General, European Parliament Intergroup on Children's Rights, Board member EU Child-Participation Platform and the EU Better Initiative for Kids (BIK+)</i>
	<b>Dr. Javier Medina Vásquez</b> <i>Deputy Executive Secretary, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean</i>
	<b>Ms. Elaine Zhang (by Zoom)</b> <i>The Datasphere Initiative, Youth4OurDataFuture Project, Duke University Durham, North Carolina, USA</i>
	<b>Hon. Neema Lugangira MP</b> <i>African Parliamentary Network on Internet Governance and Co-Rapporteur of the IPU Resolution on the "Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law"</i>
	<b>Mr. Iain Drennan</b> <i>Executive Director, WeProtect global alliance</i>
<b>12:30</b>	<b>The way forward</b> <b>Chair: Prof. Joachim von Braun</b> <i>President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences</i>
	<b>Proposals for action and closing remarks</b> <b>Cardinal Peter Turkson, PAS Chancellor</b> <b>Ms. Paula Guillet de Monthoux, Secretary General, World Childhood Foundation</b> <b>Prof. Joachim von Braun, PAS President</b>
<b>12:45-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch – End of Conference</b>

# List of Participants

**Prof. Dr. Joachim von Braun**

President, Pontifical Academy of Sciences  
Bonn University, Germany

**His Eminence Cardinal Peter K.A. Turkson**

Chancellor  
Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican City

**His Eminence Cardinal Pietro Parolin**

Secretary of State  
Vatican City

**Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden****Her Royal Highness Princess Madeleine of Sweden**

**Msgr. Dario E. Viganò**  
Vice Chancellor  
Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican City

**Ms. Sulyna Abdullah**

Chief, Strategic Planning and Membership and Special Advisor to the Secretary-General International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

**Ms. Lynn-Everdene Akisarlı**

Sub-Saharan Africa  
Health workforce | Emergencies | Mental Health

**Ms. Yalda Aoukar**

Co-founder and Managing Partner  
Bracket Foundation

**Prof. Dr. Cecile Aptel**

Deputy Director, UNICEF Innocenti Global Office of Research and Foresight

**Dr. Preetika Banerjee**

PhD student in Health Economics and Outcomes Research, University of Washington. Research Fellow at the DTH-Lab

**Ms. Leanda Barrington-Leach**

Executive Director, 5Rights Foundation

**Ms. Jacqueline Beauchere**

Head of Global Platform Safety  
Snap Inc

**Mr. Kenneth Bengtsson**

Chair  
World Childhood Foundation

**Hon. Brando Benifei MEP**

Rapporteur of the EU AI Act, President of the EU Parliament-US Delegation

**Mr. Charles Mingo Bennstrom**

Communications Manager  
World Childhood Foundation

**Prof. Ernesto Caffo**

President, Chair Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
Telefono Azzurro

**Ms. Kerstin Claus**

Independent Commissioner for Child Sexual Abuse Issues (UBSKM) by the Federal Government of Germany

**Mr. Juan Carlos Cruz**

Philanthropist / Survivor Activist  
Member of the Pontifical Council for the Protection of Minors

**Mrs. Michelle DeLaune**

President & CEO  
NCMEC, USA

**Ms. Brigitte De Lay**

Director  
Prevent Child Sexual Abuse Programme

**Prof. Dr. Virginia Dignum**

Professor of Responsible Artificial Intelligence at Umeå University (Dept of Computing Science) and Director of the AI Policy Lab. Member of United Nations High Level Advisory Body in AI

**Ms. Susanne Drakborg**

Senior Program Manager  
World Childhood Foundation  
Sweden

**Mr. Iain Drennan**

Executive Director  
WeProtect global alliance

**Ms. Sohayla Eldeeb**

DTH Regional Youth Champion  
Digital Transformation for Health Lab

**Sr. Prof. Gill Goulding**

Regis College, University of Toronto  
Canada

**Dr. Brian Patrick Green**

Director of Technology Ethics  
Markkula Center for Applied Ethics  
Santa Clara University, USA

**Ms. Paula Guillet de Monthoux**

Secretary General  
World Childhood Foundation

**Prof. Arturo Harker Roa**

Director of Imagina  
Universidad de los Andes

<b>Dr. Pedro Hartung</b> CEO, Alana Foundation, Brazil	<b>Mr. Nicolas Makharashvili</b> Director Safe Futures Hub / SVRI
<b>Ms. Julia Hiller</b> Office of the Independent Commissioner for Child Sexual Abuse Issues (UBSKM), Federal Government of Germany	<b>Dr. Javier Medina Vásquez</b> Deputy Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean Chile
<b>Mrs. Britta Holmberg</b> Deputy Secretary General World Childhood Foundation	<b>Prof. Dr. Christian Montag</b> Head of Department of Molecular Psychology Ulm University, Germany
<b>Mr. Martin Hullin</b> Director, Digitalisation and the Common Good Bertelsmann Stiftung France	<b>Ms. Irene Mwendwa</b> Afrofeminist AI and Data Governance Policy
<b>Mrs. Ida Jallow</b> Senior Liaison Officer ITU, Switzerland	<b>Mr. Similoluwa Okunowo</b> Google DeepMind scholar in the AI for Science program at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS, South Africa), Nigeria
<b>Dr Salman Khan</b> Regional Youth Champion for Central and Southern Asia Digital Transformation for Health Lab (DTH-Lab)	<b>Ms. Erika Olsson</b> Project Coordinator World Childhood Foundation
<b>Mr. Josiah Kiarie Kimani</b> AI for Science MSc student African Institute for Mathematical Sciences	<b>Prof. Andrew Przybylski</b> Professor of Human Behaviour and Technology Oxford Internet Institute
<b>Prof. Dr. Jürgen A. Knoblich</b> Academician, Pontifical Academy of Sciences Scientific Director, Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, Vienna	<b>Dr. Emilio Puccio</b> Secretary General European Parliament Intergroup on Children's Rights, Board member EU Child-Participation Platform and the EU Better Initiative for Kids (BIK+)
<b>Ms. Saanika Kodial</b> Brave Movement Mumbai, India	<b>Ms. Alexandra Rácz</b> Postdoctoral Student Angelicum, Pontifical Academy of Sciences
<b>Ms. Imane Lakbachi</b> Digital Transformations for Health Lab (DTH-Lab) Focal Point at the WHO Youth Council and Director of Network Engagement at IYAPP Casablanca, Morocco	<b>Dr. Christoffer Rahm</b> Professor, Research Group Leader Karolinska Institutet
<b>Mr. Sean Litton</b> President and Chief Executive Officer Tech Coalition	<b>Ms. Vicky Isabelle Rateau</b> Programme Officer with the Prevent Child Sexual Abuse Programme Oak Foundation
<b>Mr. Guillaume Landry</b> Executive Director ECPAT International	<b>Prof. Dr. Sergio Rodríguez López-Ros</b> Pro Rector of Universitat Abat Oliba CEU de Barcelona Special Envoy of the Sovereign Order of Malta Spain
<b>Mrs. Jane Leek</b> Child Protection Programme Lead Porticus/Philanthropy Netherlands	<b>Prof. Mariana Rozo-Paz</b> Policy, Research and Project Management Lead at the Datasphere Initiative, #Youth4OurDataFuture Project - Colombia
<b>Hon. Neema Lungangira MP</b> Chair of the African Parliamentary Network on Internet Governance, Chair of the Parliamentary Network on World Bank and IMF, UN IGF MAG Member	<b>Prof. Christian Schmahl</b> Medical Director, Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim, Germany

**Baroness Joanna Shields OBE**

Founder of WeProtect

Precognition, WeProtect, UK House of Lords

**Prof. Wolf Singer**

Academician, Pontifical Academy of Sciences

Max Planck Institute for Brain Research

**Ms. Mama Fatima Singhathe**

UN Special Rapporteur on the Sale and Sexual

Exploitation of Children

**Mr. Vilhelm Skoglund**

Founder, Astralis Foundation

**Ms. Melissa Stroebel**

Vice President, Research & Insights

Thorn, Sweden

**Ms. Laura Taddei**

Director of Operations and Strategy

Precognition, UK

**Dr. Beck Tench**

Center for Digital Thriving,

Harvard Graduate School of Education

**Ms. Charlotte Thibault**

Regional Youth Champion DTH-Lab

**Dr. Yuriy Tykhovlis**

Postdoctoral researcher

Pontifical University of Saint Thomas

**Mr. Sagar Vishnoi**

Co-founder

AI, Dangers to Children & Possible Solutions

India

**Dr. Emily Weinstein**

Co-Director - Principal Researcher

Center for Digital Thriving, Harvard Graduate

School of Education

USA

**Mr. Sebastian Wijas**

Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas

Rome, Italy

**Prof. Maryanne Wolf**

Director, UCLA Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners, and

Social Justice - UCLA

Academician, Pontifical Academy of Sciences

**Ms. Elaine Zhang**

The Datasphere Initiative

#Youth4OurDataFuture Project

Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

**Prof. Hans Zollner**

Director of the Institute of Anthropology, Pontifical

Gregorian University, Rome

## General information

- Dress code is business attire.
- Accompanying persons are invited to the entire event including the meals.
- Please remember to bring a valid ID.
- In case of any problems, please call the Academy on +39 0669883195 or +39 0669881441.
- On travel days, the mobile phone number +393420026216 will be available.
- Please refer to [www.pas.va](http://www.pas.va) for further information on the Academy, the Academicians, and current and past events.

## Access instructions to the Vatican and the Casina Pio IV

- Your name is already communicated to the Vatican Security. The Security at the gate will check your identity and let you in. If you are bringing a guest, kindly let us know, and we shall add their name on the list.
- You can come through the closest entrance called Perugino (Via della Stazione Vaticana, no number, it's a very short street). Instructions to reach the Casina Pio IV, headquarters of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, can be found in the following link:  
<https://www.pas.va/en/about/contacts-and-maps.html>
- For all eventualities the telephone numbers of the Academy are the following:  
+39 06 69883195 or +39 06 69883451. A mobile number is also available: +39 3420026216



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THE PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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