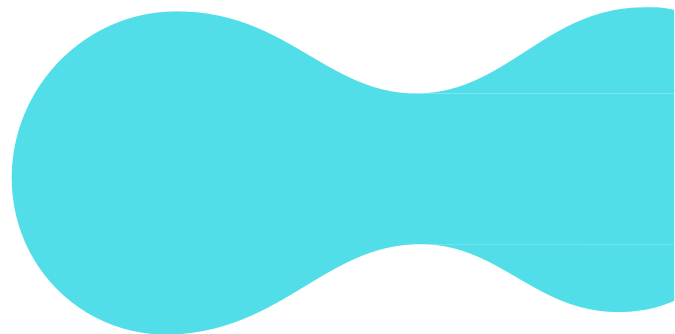




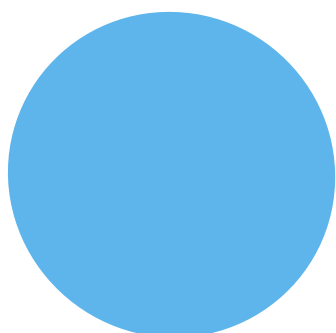
Global  
**Online Safety Regulators**  
Network

# Three-Year Strategic Plan (2025-2027)



# Contents

3	Introduction
3	Online safety initiatives around the world
4	The purpose of the Network
5	Three-Year Strategic Plan (2025-2027)
7	What will success look like in three years?



## Introduction

The Global Online Safety Regulators Network ('the Network') is the first dedicated forum for independent online safety regulators around the world. The Network enables regulators to share experience, expertise, and evidence, paving the way for coherent international approaches to online safety regulation.

The launch of the Network in November 2022 was in part a response to the significant growth of online safety regulation over the preceding few years. Since then, more regions around the world have steadily progressed towards legislating, accompanied by a host of multilateral and multistakeholder initiatives on online safety.

The significant growth of the Network has matched this growth in online safety regulation. Over the last two years, the Network has grown from four to nine members, now representing Australia, Ireland, Fiji, France, the Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, South Africa, and the United Kingdom. In addition, the Network has welcomed 18 observers over the last two years, all committed to working collaboratively with member regulators to advance online safety. Together, the Network is represented by members and observers from six continents.

As online safety regulation and the Network itself has grown, the Network has seen an evolution in our work together and our collective mission to develop regulatory coherence across jurisdictions and to promote compliance with rights-respecting online safety regulation by leveraging our role as the only global network of and for independent online safety regulators.

In service of this mission, this year the Network created a Three-Year Strategic Plan, to set a clear direction for our work from 2025 to 2027.

## Online safety initiatives around the world

A growing number of countries and regions around the world have introduced and passed online safety legislation over the last few years. To name a just few – Australia, Fiji, Ireland and the UK have all passed their own Online Safety Acts and the European Union has enacted the Digital Services Act. In South Korea and South Africa, existing legislation has been

amended or expanded in scope to cover the regulation of online spaces. In each of these cases, regulators have taken on new responsibilities to regulate digital platforms and services. Brazil, Canada, New Zealand and the USA have all either consulted on or proposed legislation to protect users from online harms as well.

Alongside enacted and proposed legislation, a wave of multistakeholder and multilateral initiatives have been stood up to advance internet governance and online safety.

These initiatives vary in their focus. Some have focused on specific harms areas, such as the Christchurch Call to Action, which formed in May 2019, two months after terror attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand. Since then, the initiative has built a global community of governments, online service providers, and civil society, working together to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist content online. The Christchurch Call Foundation was announced earlier this year to further coordinate these efforts.

Others have worked towards producing frameworks and principles for online safety more broadly, such as the World Economic Forum (WEF)'s Global Coalition for Digital Safety, and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)'s Digital Policy Committee. The WEF's Global Coalition was formed in 2021 as a platform for global collaboration among regulators, industry experts, academics, and civil society organisations to improve digital safety, and it since has put forward a comprehensive framework for risk assessment, a set of principles for rights-respecting digital safety, and a typology of online harms and interventions. The OECD's Digital Policy Committee has been working towards developing evidence-based policies around online safety and wellbeing, to support OECD member countries' approaches to online safety. The Committee has produced reports and working papers on implementing digital safety by design for children and benchmarking industry practices around violent extremist content online and child sexual exploitation and abuse. These are only three examples of the numerous and important multilateral and multistakeholder initiatives stood up to tackle online safety.

## The purpose of the Network

The Network was launched in November 2022 in recognition of the importance of regulators working towards global solutions to novel online safety regulation challenges. Our mission is to develop regulatory coherence across jurisdictions and to promote compliance with rights-respecting online safety regulation by leveraging our role as the only global network of and for independent online safety regulators.

For our first two years, the Network has worked towards our mission by building strong foundations and growing our pool of experience and expertise through our members and observers. We have 25 members and observers from six continents now involved in the Network and we have published position statements on [Human Rights & Online Safety Regulations](#) and on [Regulatory Coherence](#). More about our work to date is set out in the Network's 2024 Annual Report.

The Network has created this Three-Year Strategic Plan to consolidate our progress to date and to agree a clear path forward. Under the umbrella of our overall mission, the Strategic Plan sets out the Network's main priorities over 2025-2027, and outlines what progress will look like for each of these priorities by the end of 2027.

## Three-Year Strategic Plan (2025-2027)

Earlier this year, the Network published its second position statement, focused on the importance of regulatory coherence and coordination. This articulated the Network's vision for advancing coherence in members' approaches to online safety, and the steps the Network had already started taking towards realising it. The Network followed this with the publication of a [Regulatory Index](#), a comparative document which maps members' respective online safety remits. The Regulatory Index enables the Network to identify opportunities to pursue coherence between our respective regulatory frameworks, by understanding the areas of commonality and divergence across our respective roles and duties.

Based on these documents, reflections on our last two years of work, and input from both members and observers, the Network has identified key themes and activities that will be our focus over the next three years. Together, these form our Three-Year Strategic Plan.

The Network has chosen to focus on three thematic priorities:

- **Building regulatory coherence across jurisdictions.** Regulatory coherence is important to allow regulators grappling with novel frameworks to support one another in implementing effective online safety regulation, to enable companies to benefit from compliance economies of scale and legal certainty, and above all, to ensure that the online safety of internet users in our respective countries does not stop 'at the border'.
- **Contributing to the evidence base of online safety & surfacing best practices.** The evidence base for online safety regulation is nascent, and focusing on this priority will enable regulators, governments, and policymakers to share expertise and to develop novel regulatory tools and practices. Our work to surface best practices will also

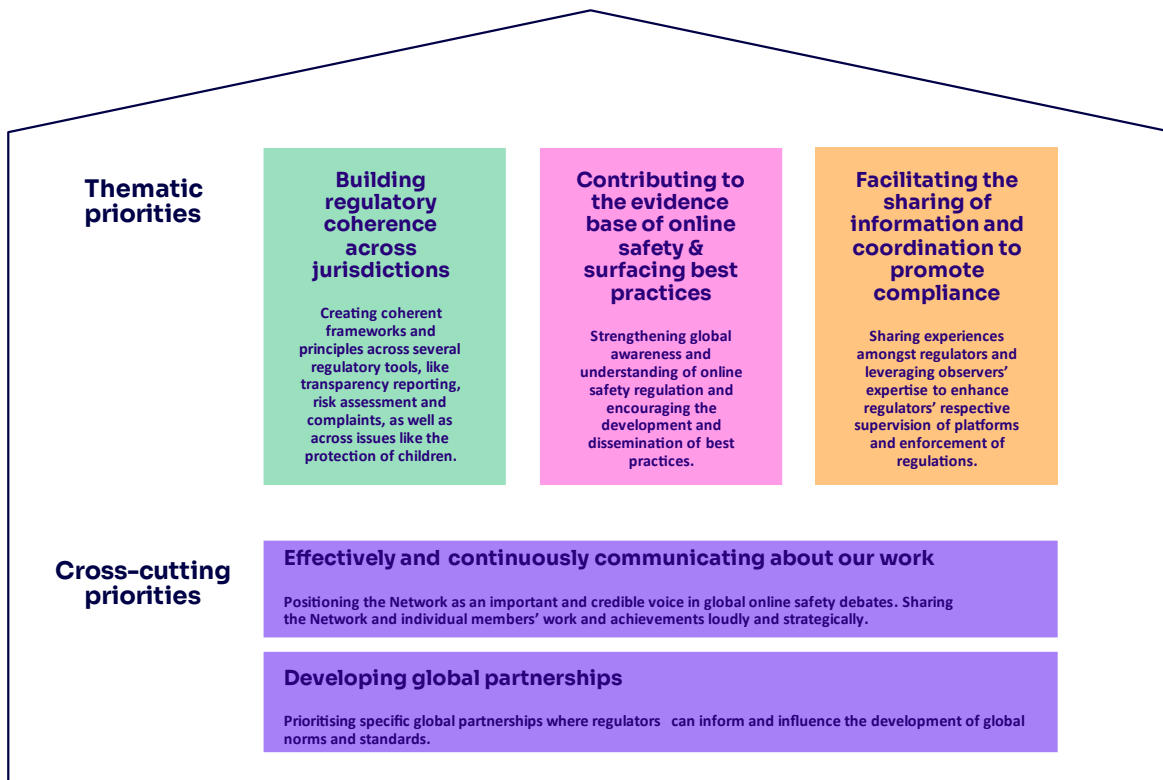
support new and emerging regulators to learn from our collective experiences as they commence their own online safety regulatory journey.

- **Facilitating the sharing of information and coordination to promote compliance.** From the beginning of the Network, regulators have found the ability to share informally as one of the most valuable parts of our work. Building more space for this kind of information sharing will deepen our understanding of users' experiences on platforms and strengthen our capacity to hold platforms accountable for ensuring user safety – especially where there are risks of cross-border harm or instances of systemic non-compliance.

In addition to our thematic priorities, the Network has identified two cross-cutting priorities. These priorities are focused on raising the profile and maximising the impact of the Network through effective communication and partnerships.

- **Effectively and continuously communicating our work.** Our work as a Network will only be impactful if the Network can contribute to global debates on online safety issues and share our learnings and outputs with others. This includes communicating opportunities for the global policy community to engage with the Network and its members in various forms.
- **Developing global partnerships.** Many global efforts exist to develop coherence and standards in online safety regulation. We are most likely to achieve our goals by working in concert with partners who share our vision and by leveraging the experience and expertise of our Network observers across our work.





## What will success look like in three years?

As a Network, we see a number of clear measures of success under the Strategic Plan. Success will mean that:

- Members will have developed coherent regulatory tools and policies. We will also have developed a common set of principles for what we want to see from regulated services.
- Members and observers will have a common understanding of best practices for online safety and a growing number of regulated services will have adapted these practices.
- Clear mechanisms will have been established for members and observers to share information with each other.
- The global online safety community will know about the Network and understand our collective values and positions on key online safety issues.
- The Network will have strong relationships with key multilateral groups and global online safety experts.

From 2025-2027 the Network plans to develop several outputs under the Strategic Plan, which will help us meet our collective goals:

- Frameworks and principles for common regulatory tools such as transparency, risk assessments, and complaints handling that regulators can apply to their own jurisdictions or which can prove useful in their policymaking.
- Forums, regular dialogue, and collaboration opportunities for members and observers to share and showcase their research, policy work, and online safety resources.
- Repositories for members to share non-sensitive information and data related to their online safety regulatory activities.
- Opportunities for members and observers to represent the Network and raise the public profile of their work.

Ultimately, the success of the Global Online Safety Regulators Network depends on our common commitment to develop regulatory coherence across jurisdictions and to promote compliance with rights-respecting online safety regulation. We believe that in implementing our Three-Year Strategic Plan we will be making significant progress towards achieving this shared mission.

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