

HEROES

Novel Strategies to Fight Child Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking Crimes and Protect their Victims

HEROES is structured as a comprehensive solution that encompasses three components: **Prevention, Investigation** and **Victim Assistance**. HEROES will establish a coordinated contribution with LEAs by developing an appropriate, victim-centred approach that is capable of addressing specific needs and providing protection. Moreover, HEROES will establish new innovative strategies that in the short, medium and long term will improve the way in which LEAs and CSOs carry out criminal investigations, assist rescued victims, and prevent the occurrence of Trafficking of Human Beings (THB) and Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (CSA/CSE).

Objectives

Prevention

- ✓ To provide a variety of preventive measures to reduce THB and CSA/CSE crimes.
- ✓ To reduce the demand of services that may be provided by victims in both legal and illegal sectors.
- ✓ To reduce the risk of (re-)offending by better understanding the behaviour of abusers and potential abusers.

Investigation

- ✓ To analyse possible involvement of organised crime groups implicated in THB and CSA/CSE in other crimes.
- ✓ To develop new approaches to investigate THB and CSA/CSE crimes.
- ✓ To address new threats of child abuse and coercion and extortion of victims that have escalated in the last years.
- ✓ To provide Law Enforcement Agents with effective means to detect, investigate and bring down open and hidden P2P networks and websites.

Victim Assistance

- ✓ To Develop a set of holistic measures to ensure adequate THB and CSA/CSE victims' protection and assistance
- ✓ To develop new approaches to investigate trafficking of human beings and CSA/CSE crimes
- ✓ To develop new approaches to mitigate the impact on victims of THB and CSA/CSE and to reduce re-victimisation in the short and long term

Impact

Victims

Improvement of the cooperation between main parties involved, by means of developing an integral and transversal system that is victim-centred, thereby reducing secondary victimisation.

Citizens

Increase citizens empowerment to address the threats of THB and CSA/CSE. It will also increase the European community's perception of security.

NGOs

The support of international NGOs will be an enormous value to help victims and to tackle THB and CSA/CSE from a global perspective. This partnership will benefit from bidirectional knowledge sharing between researchers and NGOs.

LEAs

Toolkits to gather information, analyse multimedia files, securely, identify victims and offenders and enhanced training curricula focusing on victim's needs from which investigations can prove to be more effective.

Concept

Prevention

01

Implementing a mixed approach of technology and social action.

Investigation

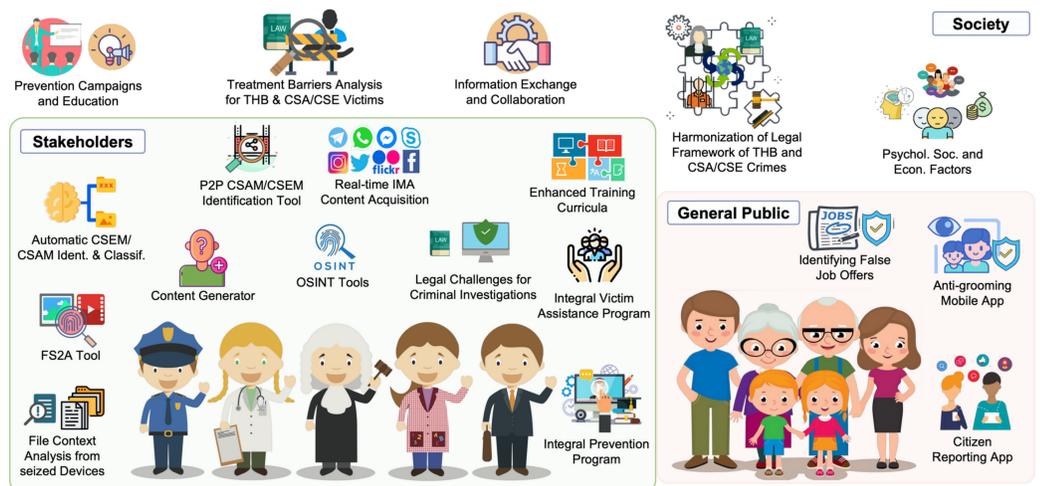
02

Developing technological tools that cover the most important needs of LEAs: data gathering and analysis while embracing the very technical, ethical and legal challenges unique to fighting THB and CSA/CSE crimes

Victim Assistance

03

Focusing on prevention and developing technological tools for more effective investigations.



Consortium



Contact



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