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1. What laws and regulations contain legal definitions of the following terms or corresponding terms in your local jurisdiction (links to existing U.S. legal definitions are included, where relevant, as background for comparison – please include definitions of any corresponding terms in your country):

- a. child or minor (18 U.S.C. 2256(1), <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2256>)

“child” means “a person below the age of eighteen years.”

Section 2, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Prohibition) Act, revised edition 2020;  
Section 2, The Cybercrime Act, 2020.

- b. child sexual exploitation (Missing Children’s Assistance Act of 2023, Section 2, (a)(1)(9), <https://www.congress.gov/118/bills/s2051/BILLS-118s2051es.pdf>)

Not specifically defined.

“Commercial sexual exploitation” means “means the employment, hiring, use, persuasion, inducement, coercion or enticement of a child to engage in, or aid another person to engage in, sexual intercourse, fondling, oral sex, sodomy or any other sexual activity, or to engage in prostitution, indecent behaviour or incest with other children or with adults, or to perform in obscene or indecent exhibitions or shows, whether live or via audio-visual aids or on film, or by electronic media or to pose or act as a model in obscene publications or other pornographic materials, or to sell, or participate in the selling of, or to distribute or participate in the distribution of, such publications or materials in exchange for money, gifts, goods or other item for the benefit of that child or of an intermediary third party involved in the sexual exploitation and includes the illicit transfer or sale of the organs of a child.”

Section 2, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Prohibition) Act, revised edition 2020.

- c. sexually explicit conduct (18 U.S.C. 2256(2), <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2256>)

This term is not specifically defined. Section 2, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children



(Prohibition) Act, revised edition 2020 defines “sexual activity” to include “fondling, oral sex, sodomy or any other activity intended to provide sexual gratification.”

**d. child sexual abuse (18 U.S.C. 2243(a), <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2243>)**

Not specifically defined. Section 2, Families and Children Act, Revised Edition 2003, defines “child abuse” as “the infliction on a child of physical, psychological, emotional or sexual harm, injury, abuse or exploitation, and the ill-treatment or neglect of a child.”

**e. child pornography or child sexual abuse material (CSAM) (18 U.S.C. 2256(8), <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2256>)**

“Child Pornography” is defined to include “any photographic, film, video or other visual representation, whether or not it was made by electronic or mechanical means, that shows a person who is or is depicted as being under the age of eighteen years and is engaged in or is depicted as engaged in explicit sexual activity, or the dominant characteristic of which is the depiction, for a sexual purpose, of a sexual organ or genital area or other area of the body of a child, or any written material or visual representation that advocates or counsels sexual activity with a child.”

Section 2, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Prohibition) Act, revised edition 2020.

The Cybercrime Act, 2020 incorporates this definition by reference.

**f. computer-generated images or videos of child pornography or CSAM (created by artificial intelligence or morphed) (18 U.S.C. 2256(8) & (9), <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2256>)**

Not specifically defined, though the above definition of “child pornography” includes content “made by electronic or mechanical means.”

**g. enticement or grooming (encouraging, persuading, or coercing a child to engage in sexual activity or to create child pornography or CSAM) (18 U.S.C. 2422(b), <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2422>)**

Not specifically defined.

The offense of “child prostitution” occurs when “A person who gives or promises remuneration, gifts, goods, food or other benefits to a child or to a person having authority or control over a child for the purpose of having sexual intercourse with or for carrying out any other sexual activity with that child commits an offence. But it is not an offence when the child is above the age of 16 and in a consensual relationship with the person.”

Section 3 Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Prohibition) Act, revised edition 2020.

**h. legal age of consent for sexual activity – are there laws and regulations, if so, what ages are specified?**

Sixteen years old.



Section 2 of the Belize Criminal Code provides: “In the case of a sexual assault upon a person, a consent shall be void if the person giving it is under sixteen years of age without prejudice to any other grounds set out in this section.”

Section 2 of the Criminal Code (Amendment) (No. 2) Act, 2014.

- i. **Sextortion (extorting money or sexual favors from a child by threatening to share sexually explicit, child pornography or CSAM images of the child) (Missing Children’s Assistance Act of 2023, Section 2, (a)(1)(8), <https://www.congress.gov/118/bills/s2051/BILLS-118s2051es.pdf>)**

Not specifically defined. See definition of “commercial sexual exploitation” in response to 1(b) above.

“Coercion” includes:

- (a) violent as well as non-violent forms of, or psychological coercion;
- (b) threats of serious harm to, or physical restraints against, any person;
- (c) any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in harm to, or physical restraints against, any person;
- (d) the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process.”

Section 2, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Prohibition) Act, revised edition 2020.

**2. Please explain any legal or regulatory requirement or recommendation for Online Platforms to undertake any of the following activities on their systems to protect children online from sexual exploitation:**

- a. **review, screen, moderate, or detect content to identify child pornography or CSAM content**

There is no legal requirement to report this sort of content, however, the law provides for the voluntary review and removal of this content by Service Providers. Section 13 of the Cybercrime Act provides:

- (1) A service provider or a user of the service provider’s service, shall not be deemed a publisher or speaker of any information that is provided by another service provider or user.
- (2) A service provider or user shall not be liable for–
  - (a) any action taken to enable or make available to a subscriber or user, the technical means to restrict access to any material described under paragraph (b); or
  - (b) any action voluntarily taken in good faith to restrict access to or availability of material which the service provider or user considers to be obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, excessively violent, harassing or otherwise objectionable, whether or not the material is constitutionally protected.

The Cybercrime Act defines “service provider” as:

- (a) any public or private entity that provides to users of its service the ability to

communicate by means of a computer system; or  
(b) any public or private entity that processes or stores computer data on behalf of a communication service or users of the service.

- b. review, screen, moderate, or detect content to identify enticement, grooming, or sextortion of a child**

See response to 2(a).

- c. report child pornography, CSAM, enticement, grooming, or sextortion that they become aware of or are notified about on their systems to a law enforcement or government agency or nongovernmental organization**

N/A

- d. remove or take down any child pornography, CSAM, enticement, grooming, or sextortion that they identify, become aware of, or are notified about**

See response to 2(a).

- e. review content by human moderators to screen or moderate for child pornography or CSAM**

See response to 2(a).

- f. remove child pornography, CSAM, enticement, grooming, or sextortion from their systems when notified of its presence by a victim, nongovernmental organization, law enforcement, or government agency**

See response to 2(a).

- g. use any specific technology to detect, remove, block, or take down any child pornography, CSAM, enticement, grooming, or sextortion, including:**

- i. "Hashing technology" (<https://www.thorn.org/blog/hashing-detect-child-sex-abuse-imagery/>). Many Online Platforms hash and tag images and videos of child pornography or CSAM and then use hashing technology to scan content on their systems to detect the distribution of child pornography or CSAM online so it can be removed.
- ii. Artificial intelligence or machine learning tools to detect the presence of child pornography, CSAM, enticement, grooming, or sextortion.

N/A

- h. if the applicable laws or regulations require some, but not all, Online Platforms to perform any of the above activities, describe how the differing requirements apply. For example, are differences based on the number of online users, types of services offered, etc.?**

N/A

3. **Are Online Platforms legally required or recommended to implement any method to verify the age of a user before allowing access to an online platform?**

None found.

4. **Are Online Platforms legally required or recommended to implement any method to obtain parental consent before a child uses the services of such Online Platforms?**

None found.

5. **Are there legal remedies for children who have been victimized by online child sexual exploitation? This may include children who are victimized by the distribution of child pornography or CSAM imagery in which they are depicted, or children victimized by enticement, grooming or sextortion. If such legal remedies exist, do they include:**

No

- a. **The ability to stop the publication of the pornography or CSAM imagery by the Online Platform?**

None found. See response to Question 2(a) above re: Service Provider liability.

- b. **An obligation on the part of the Online Platform to take active steps to remove the pornography or other imagery from their servers?**

None found. See response to Question 2(a) above re: Service Provider liability.

- c. **An ability to get an injunction or other court order against the Online Platform to stop them from publishing the pornography or imagery?**

None found. See response to Question 2(a) above re: Service Provider liability.

- d. **A protective order or other court order that prohibits the person who posts the pornography or imagery from doing so in the future on the same or other Online Platform?**

None found. See response to Question 2(a) above re: Service Provider liability.

- e. **the ability to seek financial damages or any sort of monetary recovery from an offender who has shared the child's image or video, either in a civil or a criminal proceeding?**

None found. See response to Question 2(a) above re: Service Provider liability.

- f. **the ability to seek any other forms of victim compensation/recovery/services provided for under the law and/or by a government-funded source?**

None found. See response to Question 2(a) above re: Service Provider liability.

- g. **notification to a victim when an offender is arrested for distributing child pornography or CSAM in which the child is depicted?**

None found. See response to Question 2(a) above re: Service Provider liability.

**6. “Safety by Design” is defined as tools or processes that are built into an Online Platform to protect children by making it easier for the relevant Online Platform to detect or prevent the distribution of child pornography or CSAM.**

**a. Are Online Platforms legally required to incorporate “Safety by Design” into their systems?**

None found.

**i. If so, must these steps be taken before the launch of an Online Platform?**

None found.

**ii. If so, if an Online Platform has already been in public use, when must they have incorporated “Safety by Design” measures?**

None found.

**iii. For each of 6(a)(i) or (ii) above, please describe the legal requirement or recommendation.**

None found.

**b. Please include information about the parameters for monitoring, management, and enforcement of any legal or regulatory requirements for the Online Platform’s incorporation of “Safety by Design”?**

None found.