

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

## Pedophilia and child pornography

21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2019

Training and Educational Complex  
Via Maucini, 13 - Pachino (SR)



## Press release

### **PEDOPHILIA/METER REPORT 2018, PEDOPHILES: MORE ORGANISED. UNPUNISHED THEY SMUGLE MORE UNIMAGINABLE PHOTOS AND VIDEOS. LITTLE ACTION AND WIDESPREAD INDIFFERENCE. MANY RESPONSIBLES FOR THIS HUGE AND HORRIBLE TRAGEDY**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2019, Pachino (SR) – Pedophiles, pedo-pornographers and child abusers are even criminally more organised and structured in 2018: they produce, share, possess and disseminate much more photos and videos through the web. Images with terrible content: more and more younger children (newborns and preteens are the favourites of pedophile abusers). There is an increase of male children, the female preference remains stable. Numbers in the 2018 report represent the formal and detailed reports in the world: We are aware that numbers do not tell everything: reality is always more awful – declares father Fortunato Di Noto, president and founder of Meter Association.

Links and chats decrease, but numbers remain ruthless: online child pornography is an always flourishing industry in the world economy. These are the real data, that can be observed in the 2018 Report presented today by Meter in Pachino (SR) (every number represents a child that has already been abused and is a slave of these new forms of sexual exploitation).

**MORE VIDEOS AND FOTOS, LESS LINKS** – Data registered from OS.MO.CO.P, World Observatory Against Pedophilia, Meter's excellency, show that in the last year reports sent to the CNCPO (National Center for the contrast to online pedophilia, managed by the National Police) have decreased: from 3,137 in 2017 to 1,780 in 2018. Slight decrease also for the monitored links, from 17,299 to 14,179, and also for reports received by users on the form on Meter's web page, [www.associazionemeter.org](http://www.associazionemeter.org): from 302 to 224. The number of photos found during the monitoring has increased, from 2,196,470 to 3,053,317. There a growth also for the Deep Web, the dark side of the net: from 50 to 261 reports. Also reported videos have increased, from 985,006 to 1,123,793.

**TONGA (.to), THE MOST RELEVANT DOMAIN, FOLLOWED BY GUERNSEY (.gg) IN THE HEART OF EUROPE AND BY THE BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN (.io)** – For what concerns first level domains, the international "plates" of sites and portals with child sexual abuse material, Tonga maintains the first place: 1,717 reports against the 10,096 of 2017. In the second place Guernsey, island the English channel in the heart of Europe: it is located in front of the north-west coast of France, but it depends from the British Crown although it does not belong to the United Kingdom. In 2017 Russia was at the second place with 1,150 reports (this year just 157 reports, at the 17<sup>th</sup> place). At the third place the British Indian Ocean Territory, which is not efficiently supervised by police forces and responsible of domain registries; it is made of six atolls, more than 1000 islands, it is the American military base Diego Garcia. On these domains unthinkable and shameful material is uploaded. In 2017 at the third place there were Saint Pierre et Miquelon with 1,091 reports, which are not in the ranking this year. Italy is at the 15<sup>th</sup> place with 71 reports. In general first level domains have reduced by half: from 13,756 in 2017 to 7,714 in 2018.

**IMPORTANT COOPERATION BETWEEN METER AND THE RESPONSIBLE OF THE DOMAIN REGISTRY OF TONGA (.to)** – during 2018 the file-sharing platform Dropfile.to was shut down; this platform had reached the higher number of links (10,096) of child sexual abuse material during 2017. In April 2018 **the ccTLD administrator for the “.to” domain contacted Meter about the data that had emerged in Meter’s Annual Report 2017; he said he was alarmed and affirmed that the Kingdom of Tonga has zero tolerance for child pornography and that they swiftly remove it when it is reported to them. Such cooperation is still working.**

**OCEANIA** – As already said, the first in Oceania remains Tonga with 1,717 reports during 2018; Wallis et Futuna have 393. The New Zealand domain (.nz), with 273 reports, is under the attention of New Zealander Police and server providers (mega.nz), who **promptly remove the reported material and forward data to the local police.** The total number of reports, with Palau, West Samoa, Cocos Islands and Tokelau, is 2,750.

**ASIA, NEXT TO THE BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY THERE ARE PAKISTAN AND TAIWAN** – in Asia, the British Indian Ocean Territory has 912 reports, followed by Pakistan (586), Taiwan (43), Indonesia (9), Japan (4). In total 1,554 reports.

**IN EUROPE, GUERNSEY, FRANCE AND ALBANIA ARE FIRST** – In Europe, Guernsey, which depends from the British crown is first (with 1,108 reports), followed by France (702) and Albania (302). Russia reaches 157 reports at the 4<sup>th</sup> place, Italy is 5<sup>th</sup> with 71, Germany 6<sup>th</sup> with 24. There is also the domain for the ex soviet union “su” with 6 reports, the same as for Poland, followed by Island (4) and European Union (3). In total 2,432 reports. **Reports on platforms with “.fr, .de, .ch, .sk” domains are regularly forwarded to the competent Police. Often there is no investigation action, and after many years some child pornography portals remain accessible. With the Italian and Polish Polices we have a formal protocol, they always undertake incisive actions.**

**IN AMERICA, HAITI, COLOMBIA AND GREENLAND** – In America we can find Haiti (600 reports), Colombia (230), Greenland (5). Total: 835 reports.

**IN AFRICA, Mayotte, Libya and Gabon** – Meter’s reports ranking is closed by Africa: Mayotte (with 131 reports), followed by Libya (8), Gabon and Equatorial Guinea (2). Total: 143 reports.

**WHERE ARE THE SERVERS LOCATED** – The suffixes of the reports are the “plates” of the websites that Meter reports to the Italian Postal Police thanks to OSMOCOP, but they don’t indicate the geographic location of servers, which means where the computers who contain those portals are. **It’s like someone going around Italy with a foreign plate in order not to pay fines**, for example.

And indeed: 6,388 reported links are physically located in Europe (findings peak in July, 1,809), 5,826 in America (peak in January with 1,190); 155 in Asia (peak in March with 121 links), 120 in Africa (peak in February with 76 links); 31 are located in Oceania (peak in March with 29 links). Comparing the charts of the geographical location of servers of the 2017 and 2018 Reports, the situation hasn’t changed: Europe, America, Asia, Africa and Oceania are in the same order, but links have decreased in Europe (from 8,117 to 6,388) and America (from 6,341 to 5,826), they have increased in the rest of the world: from 70 to 155 in Asia, from 37 to 120 in Africa, from 3 to 31 in Oceania.

**166,222 LINKS REPORTED FROM 2002 TO 2018** – If we look at the total number of reports, we have reached 166,222 links in the last 15 years; the peaks were in 2017 (17,299), 15,946 in 2012, 13,766 in 2010. The lowest data was in 2007 with 3,480 links. Looking at the monitoring, December is the month with the highest number of divulgation and trading of photos (1,390,262), while for videos the peak is in July (262,264). Numbers increase constantly every year and it becomes more and more complicated to monitor a phenomenon that exploits the power of the web and the connivance of those who manage the spaces where this criminal activity flourishes, although we built important cooperations during 2018. Those images and videos are sold, shared like cards of a digital album with infinite pages. Those are catalogues of these young slaves of the desire of unscrupulous men and women.

## **THE MENU OF PEDOPHILES: CHILDREN BETWEEN 8 AND 12 YEARS OLD, FOLLOWED BY THOSE BETWEEN AND 7, AND BY THOSE BETWEEN 0 AND 2, PREFERRED MONTHS: JULY AND NOVEMBER-**

With respect to the “preferences” of pedophiles about child sexual abuse material, the current trend is to choose links with photos and videos of children aged between 8 and 12, the peak of reports is July (1,535). Followed by the range 3 and 7 years old. The month with the highest number is July, with 407 reported links; the age range 0/2 is preferred in November (63). Since they are inexperienced and solitary surfers of the net, children of the 8/12 age range become easy victims of cyber-pedophiles.

## **PHOTOS: 8/12 AGE RANGE IS THE MOST REQUESTED ONE, FOLLOWED BY 3/7 AND 0/2 –**

What about photos? In November 2018 we reported 710,828 pictures; in December there was the peak for the age range 3/7 (683,392), and August for those of the age range 0/2 (219). These last pictures belong to so-called *infantophilia*, that is the attraction from adults for children from a few days to 2 years old. We are talking about violence on defenceless children, who are never going to tell about the violence, assuming that they survive it.

## **VIDEOS: SAME TREND AS FOR PHOTOS –**

Trend is the same for videos: July is the month with 261,524 files of the 8/12 age range; August for those from the 3/7 age range (178,634); November from the 0/2 age range with 97 videos. The differences between the data of the monitoring and the totals by age groups are due to the impossibility to detect the real age of some children because they are not clearly visible.

## **FILE SHARING, THE USE OF THE CLOUD CONTINUES –**

Where do pedophiles and pedo-pornographers keep and store their infamous material? On file sharing platform that allow a quick, timed and often anonymous exchange. The cloud is one of the main trend: it assures a timed lasting of files, makes them available on the users' devices and allows their sharing. The chance to have such a large available space allows the cyber-pedophile to exploit such technologies and to share them with his “colleagues”.

## **DEEP WEB, THE UNEXPLORED CROSS-BORDER –**

The real cross-border of file sharing is the Deep Web, the dark side of the net. It is a submerged area of the Net which is very difficult to individualize and explore. This is why police forces of all states should cooperate with each other; in this way they would avoid the loss and waste of vital information in an immediate fight against the pedo-criminal web, and bring to the release of children involved in this obscene violence market.

The monitoring of online pedophilia still continues to be ignored by political forces which have no interest to put this important fight against pedophile crime in their agendas. All what is not done is for sure at the expense of young victims: people remain silent, waiting for other minors to be involved in this atrocity, because remember that the Web does not rest or stop. We are waiting for who has supervision and justice responsibility to act so that whatever happens on the Web every day will not remain silent. We also expect the same sensibility from common citizens because children represent the future for us all.

## **PEDOPHILE AND PEDO-PORNOGRAPHIC ONLINE TOURISM –**

Pedophilia is discovering organised trips. On several websites users can freely express their preferences by voting for their category of interest. Through these online surveys the purpose is to test the real interests of the users in order to produce material which is consistent with the demand. It is also possible to buy preteens packages, on the basis of one's preferences: *8/14 years old models, the total number of images and videos, the chance to become a member to all platforms, daily updates, 100% anonymous*. And much more. All of this happens quietly, thanks to electronic anonymity: this creates addiction and repeatability in the acquisition and dissemination of such material. All of our reports can be verified thanks to our partnership with the Italian Postal and Communications Police – Compartment of Catania.

## **FEW SURVEILLANCE OF FOREIGN POLICE FORCES -**

Some Police forces, that have received reports through their dedicated institutional forms, did regretfully never send a feedback and/or notice of the opening of an investigation procedure or deepening of the case. We also have to highlight that who manages the companies who offer online service does not look to feel involved by the problem and by the need of cleaning up.

**THE PEDOPHILE LOBBY -** Pedophiles and child pornographers do not only use the Net as a means to spread photos and videos to get richer, they also use it to stick up for pedophilia and try to normalize it. It

is a real structured and well organized lobby which provides advice on how to groom children. There are countless groups and “rooms” where they tell stories about sexual encounters with children and run tests to “measure” their sexual attraction towards children.

To oppose the pedophile ideology in 2012, with law 172, Italy has ratified the Lanzarote Convention of the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2007; this introduced the art. 414 bis in the Italian Penal Code. For the first time the expressions “pedophilia and cultural child pornography” have entered the Italian regulations: «Unless the fact constitutes a more serious offence, anyone who with any computerised means and also with just a cultural aim, spreads legitimizing judgements, instigates to commit or carries out apology of the behaviours required by the articles 600-bis, 600-ter, 600-quater, 600-quater.1, 600-quinquies, 609-bis, 609-quater and 609-quinquies, carried out with minors is punished with imprisonment from 3 to 5 years».

Despite the Lanzarote Convention (2007), websites continue to flourish on the Web. Pedophiles have various identification logos or symbols to recognise each other, to distinguish their sexual preferences and to specifically indicate their favourite gender; as a matter of fact members of pedophile organizations do encourage the use of descriptions like “boylove”, “girllove”, and “childlove”.

**A RAISE IN THE NUMBER OF CASES OF THE LISTENING CENTRE** – In 2018 many people asked for the help of the Listening Centre, we are talking about 177 people; 122 from Sicily, 11 from Campania and Lazio. 9 from Lombardia, 6 from Tuscany, 5 from Piemonte, 4 from Calabria, 3 from Puglia, 2 from Marche and Veneto, 1 from Molise and Sardinia. Problems we have dealt with regard mostly familiar dysfunctional relations (36 out of 177): 22 out of 177 regard sexual abuse situations happened in the past. There is an increase in requests coming from adults who were sexually abused as children.

**FREE TOLL NUMBER: SICILY, LAZIO AND LOMBARDIA ARE THE FIRST** – At the toll free number, 800-455270, Meter received 692 phone calls against the 1,024 of 2017. There has been an increase of calls for training/educational interventions by the professionals of the Association (70), followed by Psychological counselling (69), spiritual advice (68), interviews (21) and counselling for schools (20). Also in 2018 the majority of telephone reports (451 out of 692) originates from Sicily, where our National office resides, followed by Lazio (80 call), Lombardia (42), Liguria and Friuli (5), Basilicata (2).

**METER AND THE CHURCH** – Since its birth Meter has been a catholic reality embedded in the reality of the Church. In 2018 we held 36 courses and meetings about pedophilia; we offer a training programme about prevention. In 2018 we met 14 dioceses (72 from 2012 to today). Meter’s participation is also requested in religious celebrations, Father Fortunato is invited to celebrate the Mass in particular moments of the liturgical year. Numerous parish communities commit themselves every month to say the Holy Rosary: “*In defence of children... let’s pray*”. Since many years we offer the *Course for the new pastoral against pedophilia and child sexual abuse*. The course has the aim to provide theoretical and practical contents, that help to rapidly recognize the signals of discomfort coming from the child, signals which are indicators of abuse and need the intervention of skilled professionals.

From the 25<sup>th</sup> of April to the first Sunday of May we celebrate the GBV – *Day for children victims of violence, exploitation and indifference*. The first Sunday of May the Pope remembers Meter and the churches pray for the GBV.

**2018 MEETINGS** - In 2018 Meter took part to **277 conventions and training**, sensitization and prevention meetings on request of public and private bodies all over the national territory. The main topic that Meter’s professionals dealt with relates to pedophilia and pitfalls of the Net, the analysis of the profiles of pedophiles and victims, the dynamics of the phenomenon and the risks which hide behind Internet and technology. Particular attention has been given to the topics of education, of childhood rights and social commitment, by holding into account the responsibility that adults have for the wealth of children. There were also important meetings on the themes of bullying and cyber-bullying. Our professionals **met 21,811 people**: summary cards that accompany each event to which Meter participates, allow us to calculate the number of encountered people, the kind of meetings and the issues we dealt with on the various occasions.

**METER AND SCHOOL** – During our training meetings and conventions we met 1,115 teachers and the topics were bullying and cyber-bullying, Internet and new media, pedophilia and child abuse, protection of childhood rights. We met 5,614 students in prevention, training and intervention activities aimed to educate

to affectivity and management of emotions, to the good use of the Internet and of new media, to childhood rights and to the management of bullying and cyber-bullying episodes. We met 205 families, once again over topics linked to the problems related to childhood and adolescence.

Meter also provides training on the topics of psychology, bioethics and education to university students thanks to protocols signed with Universities.

**METER'S MULTI-FUNCTIONAL CENTRE** – In 2018 Meter provided support to parenting through 364 family meetings in the family room (a cosy, warm, exclusive, technological room that was created to embrace every family's request; they will be able to: watch the intervention and the activities of their child through dedicated network channels), 156 telephone consultancies, 1,104 psycho-educational interventions for children, 36 psycho-educational consultancies for teachers, 2 special training courses and 34 children accessed the *Snoezelen room*: a multi-sensorial room, which allows the child to explore, get to know the environment and interact with it in a nice context, by using a multi-sensorial stimulation and integration. 44 families have been supported.

**FATHER DI NOTO: “WE BELIEVE THAT THIS REPORT IS EMBARRASSING.** Very little contrast, soft and non-transparent effective responses, millions of children that have already been abused, the attempt to normalize pedophilia, often ignored reports, none right relevance for the seriousness of offences, we would like to say to the Police forces and to the European and worldwide governments that it is not by ignoring reports that we will defeat those criminals. There is no preventive and education action, which is a silver bullet for a process of child protection. There is no uniform law: Europe and many countries in the world should responsibly and seriously deal with the protection of children, but this does not happen. Silence and indifference kill even more the weak lives of children victims of such pervert and cruel action. An abuse remains an abuse, and it leaves permanent marks. We know that there are transversal economic interests, and this is unacceptable” says Father Di Noto.

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#### **National Office**

Avola (SR) - 96012

Viale Lido Corrado Santuccio, 13

tel. +39 0931 564872

segreteria@associazionemeter.org

www.associazionemeter.org