

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



pedophilia and  
child pornography

## Child Victims

### PEDOPHILIA AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY - METER 2025 REPORT: DIGITAL ABUSE OVERWHELMS CHILDREN. OVER 8,000 DEEPNUDE VICTIMS AND 2.5 MILLION PHOTOS AND VIDEOS.

ROME, February 24 – *TikTok, Telegram, and Signal*, along with less accessible areas of the internet like the *Dark Web*, are now some of the main channels for the dissemination and exchange of child pornography. This situation is further exacerbated by generative artificial intelligence, capable of creating manipulated images and videos and producing *deep-nude content*. The Meter Association's 2025 Report, presented in Rome at the Sala del Parlamentino at the INAIL headquarters, highlights a profound transformation of the phenomenon, increasingly characterized by the use of advanced technologies and tools that are difficult to intercept.

During 2025, **8,213 minors were identified as victims of deepnude**, or artificially generated images in which minors are stripped naked or digitally manipulated. This figure adds to the **785,072 images** and **1,733,043 videos** containing actual child abuse reported during the same period.

**THE RISKS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE** – The images *Deep Nude* is a particularly serious form of abuse because it always targets a real victim: the minor whose image is manipulated without their consent. AI transforms harmless material into sexual content, profoundly violating the minor's identity, dignity, and safety. These practices fuel the child pornography market and the demands of criminal networks, exposing victims to serious psychological consequences, including anxiety, guilt, isolation, fear, and blackmail. Beyond the individual harm, these practices have a destabilizing effect



on society, normalizing criminal behavior and encouraging the spread of real child pornography, increasing pressure on child protection systems.

**OVER 8,000 DEEPNUDE VICTIMS , 14% GENERATED WITH GROK** – Thanks to the activity of the World Observatory Against Paedophilia established by us, *Meter* Association has identified **115 groups** and *bots* active between *Signal* and *Telegram* , used for the dissemination of *deep nude content*, for a total of **8,213 minor victims**, stripped naked through the use of AI.

*Telegram* remains the most widely used platform; among the tools for creating *deep nudes* and *deepfake* also emerges *Grok*, the model developed by Elon Musk, responsible for the creation of 1,121 detected contents, equal to 14% of the total.

**GLOBAL AND LOCAL DISTRIBUTION** – Monitoring identified **505 national domains** implicated in the dissemination of illicit material. The countries and territories most affected include New Zealand with 177 reports, the British Indian Ocean Territory with 110, Montenegro and Russia with 46 each, and the United States with 44. Among the national domains monitored by Meter is the Italian .IT domain, with 14 reports.

**About 1,532 links** were reported on generic domains. Among these, 5 compressed macro-folders (.RAR) containing **4,964 additional archives were identified**, tools that allow the accumulation and distribution of large quantities of child pornography. Access to these archives generally requires registration and/or payment, and each archive may contain single files or numerous links leading to further illegal content. The most frequently reported generic domain is .COM, with 964 cases detected, confirming how distribution networks use centralized platforms to make the circulation of illegal material quicker and more difficult to intercept.

At the same time, the total number of reported links (national and generic domains) has decreased, from 8,034 in 2024 to 2,037 in the last year. This decline is not because the phenomenon has diminished, but because pedophiles are increasingly using ephemeral links that change after each visit and remain available only for short periods. The increasingly sophisticated use of artificial intelligence, automated *bots*, and encrypted digital tools has made the spread of child pornography faster and more difficult to intercept.

**THE VICTIMS? MINORS BETWEEN 8 AND 12 YEARS OLD AT THE CENTER OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY EXCHANGE** – Analysis of evidences identified reveal a greater concentration of content involving minors in the 8-12 age group, with 422,368 photos identified. This is followed by the 3-7 age group, with 360,563 photos, and the 0-2 age group, with 1,972 images. This data highlights a significant exposure of minors of primary school age.

The same trend is also seen in video content, with overall higher numbers. 1,337,792 videos were detected for the 8–12 age group, 394,417 for the 3–7 age group, and 834 for the 0–2 age group. The high number of videos confirms the growing spread of dynamic content, which is more complex to identify and remove and often used for sharing and circulation in closed or encrypted contexts.



## **GAMING AND ONLINE RISKS: ON ROBLOX 45% OF MINORS REPORT GRANT ATTEMPTS, BUT ONLY 10% ARE AWARE OF IT**

– A study conducted by the Meter Association on a sample of 467 minors between the ages of 9 and 11 highlights significant issues related to the use of the *Roblox gaming platform*, a popular daily occurrence for children and adolescents. Seventy percent of the minors involved reported being exposed to at least one risky situation while playing.

Among the most significant findings, 45% of respondents reported having received solicitation attempts from strangers through private chats or online profiles, but only 10% demonstrated full awareness of the phenomenon and its severity. Fifty percent of minors reported having blocked unknown users who requested personal information, often for fear of identity theft or unauthorized access to their accounts, without, however, informing the adults responsible.

Cyberbullying is equally widespread: 35% of minors report having experienced offensive behavior, threats, or intentional exclusion from gaming activities, with consequences that can impact their emotional well-being. Furthermore, 30% of minors report that their parents regulate their use of digital devices as a form of reward or punishment, a factor that can influence their propensity to report critical incidents. Data collected highlights the need to strengthen prevention, digital education, and support activities for minors, promoting informed use of online platforms and greater collaboration between families, educational institutions, and professionals, in order to ensure more effective protection of minors in digital environments.

## **PEDOMAMA, ANIMAL ABUSE, AND VIOLENCE AMONG CHILDREN: EMERGING PHENOMENA IN ONLINE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

– Monitoring activities highlight increasingly complex and diverse forms of abuse. Among these is the phenomenon of “pedomamas”, or women and mothers who produce child pornography. 11,240 videos and 320 images shared via messaging platforms such as *Signal*, *Telegram* and *Viber* were documented. The analyzed content depicts domestic contexts, suggesting the presence of direct relationships between victims and perpetrators of abuse.

24 active groups have been identified on a report in which minors, with an average age of around 11 years old, are victims of abuse committed through the use of animals. Another growing concern concerns cases of child abuse. Thirty-two percent of the content analyzed concerns the production and dissemination of sexually explicit material among peers. Twenty-three percent relates to the nonconsensual dissemination of intimate images, 18% to sexual blackmail (*sextortion*), 15% to forms of grooming involving requests for nudity or explicit content, and 12% involves sexual abuse committed by one minor against another.

These data confirm the evolution of the phenomenon, which is increasingly widespread even among minors themselves and facilitated by the use of digital technologies.



**METER'S APPEAL: SURVIVORS ASK FOR HEARDNESS AND INTERVENTION** – *Meter* Association renews its appeal to institutions, organizations, and media professionals to help raise public awareness of a serious and widespread phenomenon: pedophilia and child exploitation. Each number represents a victim, a child or adolescent who survived abuse, a minor seeking a voice and protection. It is essential that everyone, in various capacities, become advocates for the well-being of children, spreading awareness, prevention tools, and accurate information through organizations that truly work to protect minors. Only through a shared commitment between civil society, journalists, and institutions will it be possible to reduce the silence surrounding these crimes, offer support to victims, and effectively combat all forms of abuse.

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