

FORUM: United Nations Economic and Social Council

QUESTION OF: Evaluating the role of digital technologies on social development and mental health

The United Nations Economic and Social Council,

Fully aware of the rising use of digital technologies in people's lives, making them change their lifestyle and bearing consequences that are not always positive,

Affirms the significance of mental health for the influence of future states and the generations to come,

Regretting the lack of mental health literacy, especially worrisome in teenagers from less economically developed countries,

Mindful of the lack of use of digital technologies used for social development and the treatment of mental health, more significant in rural areas where fundamental services are less common,

Draws attention to the particular importance the role psychiatry places in society alongside other mental health-related professions,

Recalling its resolution E/CN.5/2021/L.5 that encourages the improvement of mental health as a human right and stresses the importance of updating regulations as digital technology improves, and nd E/CN.5/2021/L.5 in which the UN recognizes the impact of covid-19 on our economy, society, and well-being,

1. Urges all Member States to incorporate a dedicated unit of study in the school curriculum regarding the advantages and disadvantages of digital technologies mandatory for all students in primary and secondary education, covering information such as, but not limited to:
 - a. The healthy usage of digital devices,
 - b. The responsibility of online users to uphold moral values,
 - c. The censorship of information in different regions, and
 - d. The dangers that may be encountered online such as:
 - i. Scams and frauds,
 - ii. Theft of personal information,

- iii. Breaches of privacy,
- iv. Misinformation, and
- v. Cyberbullying;

2. Recommends member states to ensure and address cyber security by:
 - a. Updating and developing national strategies as well as strengthening the legal and regulatory framework with the participation of:
 - i. The technical community,
 - ii. The private sector to build effective resilience capacities,
 - b. Increasing international cooperation by measures such as but not limited to:
 - i. Creating international communities researching for ways to respond to possible cyber-attacks and crisis,
 - ii. Receiving the support of MEDC's to provide the countries in need, the assistance and funding for the respective issue,
 - c. Creating a strong cyber workspace by measures such as, but not limited to:
 - i. Installing a stem to advance the security,
 - ii. Hiring professionals and experts,
 - d. Recommending the condemnation of any actions taken by Member States which seek to disrupt social stability and cause discomfort to citizens of another nation;
3. Requests that governments develop surveillance and monitoring systems that protect users' essential freedoms and ensures that digital companies do not favour harmful practices regardless of users' age by:
 - a. Implementing operational limitations to those companies that have not taken measures to minimise harmful practices such as fostering addictive practices that refrain users from having tangible social interactions,
 - b. Requiring all social media companies to submit annual reports to on their moderation system in reference to the flagging, reporting, and removal of malicious content with suitable consequences and shortened response times,
 - c. Combating the spread of misinformation by allowing content to be marked "doubtful" or "untrustworthy" after receiving large quantities of continuous reports from the user base or upon recommendation from the United Nations;
4. Remains seized on the matter.