

Press Release

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Council of Europe *Wild Web Woods* game hits one million milestone

Strasbourg, 22.05.2008 – The number of connections to *Wild Web Woods* – Europe's first internet safety game for children – has topped one million worldwide and is expected to grow even further.

"While we appreciate the enormous potential of the internet for children to discover the world, we are also aware of the inherent dangers of the use of the internet for our children and this is why we decided to launch *Wild Web Woods*," said Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

The *Wild Web Woods* game has been developed to help children learn the rules of internet safety in a fun format, using familiar fairy tales to guide children through a maze of potential dangers to the fabulous "Kometa". The game, mainly for children between 7 and 10, was launched in English at the end of last year. It is hosted on the Council of Europe website and can be played in 14 different languages.

The Council of Europe is working with both children and adults to make the internet safe for people of every age. The 47-nation organisation is at the forefront of efforts to combat internet crime.

The game has been developed in the framework of the Council's "Building a Europe for and with children" programme, set up to promote children's rights and protect them from all forms of violence - including online dangers. It is also a fundamental step in the Council of Europe's efforts to curb the grooming of children by abusers through the internet, following the principles of the recently-launched [Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse](#).

[Link to the game](#) (14 language versions)

For more on the children's programme see www.coe.int/children

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A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.