



THE PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
IN GENEVA

January 18, 2022

Mama Fatima Singhateh  
Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual  
exploitation of children, including child  
prostitution, child pornography and other  
child sexual abuse material  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dante Pesce  
Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the  
issue of human rights and transnational  
corporations and other business enterprises  
Geneva, Switzerland

Koumbou Boly Barry  
Special Rapporteur on the right to education  
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Tomoya Obokata  
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of  
slavery, including its causes and consequences  
Geneva, Switzerland

Siobhán Mullally  
Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons,  
especially women and children  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dubravka Šimonovic  
Special Rapporteur on violence against women,  
its causes and consequences  
Geneva, Switzerland

Elizabeth Broderick  
Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on  
discrimination against women and girls  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Special Procedures Mandate Holders:

Please find enclosed the U.S. response to the letter from your predecessor dated 30 March 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Daniel A. Kronenfeld', with a stylized, flowing script.

Daniel A. Kronenfeld  
Deputy Permanent Representative  
Human Rights

## **Information Concerning Omegle**

Thank you for your letter dated March 30, 2021, requesting information regarding the alleged role of Omegle in facilitating the exploitation and sexual abuse of children through their online platform. We are grateful for the work you do across the globe to promote respect for human rights, and for the opportunity to provide the below information concerning U.S. law, policy, and practice.

The United States reaffirms its commitment to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms. The United States also condemns the exploitation and mental, physical, and sexual abuse of children online and in-person. The U.S. Government recognizes that children are at heightened vulnerability to and risk of online exploitation due to the increased use of digital platforms in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

U.S. law enforcement takes very seriously all allegations of online child sexual exploitation and abuse, such as the production, distribution and receipt of child sexual abuse material, or the live streaming of child sexual abuse. When made aware of such allegations from the public, online platforms, or through other means, U.S. law enforcement pursues all necessary investigative action, and works with our state and local partners, to identify and rescue the child from further online sexual abuse and identify and prosecute the offenders. With respect to your allegations against Omegle, the United States Department of Justice takes allegations of criminal wrongdoing seriously. Although we appreciate having the benefit of your views on this matter, longstanding policy and practice of the Department prevents us from discussing this information with you further or confirming the existence of any investigation. As such, please do not interpret this acknowledgement as a confirmation or a denial of an investigation of any of the matters described in your letter.

U.S. Federal law enforcement engages with international law enforcement partners, non-governmental organizations, and online platforms to identify children and offenders whether they reside domestically or abroad. Specifically, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) investigates allegations of the online sexual exploitation of children. Many of these allegations reveal children being victimized and abused on a variety of online social platforms. As a matter of course, HSI is unable to specifically comment on any ongoing or active investigation, including those during the appeals phase of a case.

To combat these online threats facing children, HSI has partnered with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to develop outreach materials to engage and inform children, teens, and parents. Project iGuardian leverages HSI's efforts towards providing children, teens, and parents with awareness, tips, and resources to guard themselves against the dangers of online environments, as well as contact information for additional resources and guidance on how to file a report.

In March 2020, after robust consultation with major tech companies, the United States and the other Five Country Ministerial members (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom) released the "Voluntary Principles to Counter Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse" as a framework to combat this issue. The U.S. Government continues to promote these

Voluntary Principles, and advocates against child sexual exploitation and abuse. Additionally, the U.S. Department of State strongly encourages U.S. businesses to perform due diligence and to respect human rights wherever they conduct business.