



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Child rights impact assessment: impact and legal analysis for the development of the CRIA

Hof, S. van der; Challis, L.; Wanroij, E. van; Schermer, B.W.

Citation

Hof, S. van der, Challis, L., Wanroij, E. van, & Schermer, B. W. (2024). *Child rights impact assessment: impact and legal analysis for the development of the CRIA*. The Hague: Ministry for Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/4209969>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Leiden University Non-exclusive license](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/4209969>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).



Ministerie van Binnenlandse Zaken en
Koninkrijksrelaties

Children's Rights Impact Assessment

Fill-in document

March 2024

*Developed by Leiden University and Considerati,
Commissioned by Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations*

Disclaimer: The translation of the CRIA is solely intended to provide information. The text of the translation is an unofficial translation. The Dutch text of the CRIA is the only authentic and formal text.

Table of contents

INTRODUCTION	3
1. PREPARATIONS	4
2. OBJECTIVE	5
3. RISKS	7
4. COURSES OF ACTION	10
5. ASSESSMENT	11

Introduction

Are you developing digital services aimed at children? If so, you need to consider the risks they pose to child wellbeing. In front of you is the Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA). The Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations commissioned the CRIA to help you identify the potential impact of the digital service on children's rights and wellbeing.

The main purpose of the assessment is to facilitate discussions on the impact of digital services on children's rights. The assessment can also serve as an accountability tool, but its main focus is on raising awareness from the dialogues during the CRIA process.

The CRIA consists of a **fill-in document** and a **manual**. You can use the fill-in document to record the answers to the questions aimed at identifying the impact on children. In the accompanying manual, you will find all the background information you need to answer these questions properly. In addition, the manual provides information on the process. For a good overview, the chapters in this fill-in document correspond to the chapters in the manual.

- *Want to know more about the CRIA, when to conduct a CRIA, how it relates to other assessments and what process to follow? Then read the introduction to the manual now*

1. Preparations

Pre-scan questions

Conducting a CRIA is an important step in ensuring the protection of children's rights in relation to digital services. But is the CRIA relevant to you? To determine this, the following questions can help you.

➤ *More explanation of the pre-scan questions can be found in chapter 1 of the manual*

1.1 Do you offer or use a digital service?

☐ Yes ☐ no

1.2 Is the digital service actually accessible to or deployed to persons under 18 years of age?

☐ Yes ☐ no

1.3 If you answer 'no' to question 1.2, can you demonstrate that the service will not be used by persons under 18 years of age or it will not be used with respect to persons under 18 years of age?

☐ Yes ☐ no

If you answered 'yes' to question 1.2 and 'no' to question 1.3, continue answering the questions. If your service is not accessible to persons under 18 years of age or is not used with them, you can stop the CRIA.

2. Objective

To thoroughly assess the potential impact of a digital service, it is essential to understand the reasons for its deployment. What is the rationale for developing or implementing the service? What purpose does the service serve and what positive impact can it have on a child's rights and wellbeing?

➤ *You can find more explanation of the questions in chapter 2 of the manual*

Description digital service

2.1 Give a description of the digital service.

2.2 What technology will be used to realise the digital service?

2.3 What is the scope of the service?

2.4 Who is the target audience?

Description of the purpose of the digital service

2.5 What is the goal to be achieved by using the digital service? What is the main goal and what are any sub-goals?

2.6 Is the digital service to be provided an effective means of achieving the stated objectives? Explain.

2.7 When is the digital service a success? How and when do you measure this? (e.g. after 1 month or 2 years?)

Description contribution to children's wellbeing

For the final proportionality assessment, it is important to properly identify how the digital service contributes to children's rights and wellbeing. The assessment is done using eight elements in questions 2.8 to 2.24.

- *More explanation of these questions can be found in chapter 2 of the manual*
- *Note: During the process of completing contributions, it is very likely that discussions on potential risks are already taking place. It is advisable to fill these in directly in section 3 Risks.*

2.8 In what ways does the digital service provide a sense of purpose, and does it contribute to their self-esteem?

2.9 How does the digital service contribute to a sense of control and learning to make choices?

2.10 How does the digital service encourage children's curiosity, openness to new experiences and creative skills?

2.11 How does the digital service contribute to how children perceive their own skills?

2.12 How does the digital service enable children to prevent or reduce feelings of stress by providing positive forms of peace, calm and escapism?

2.13 In what ways does the digital service facilitate making secure connections with peers, family or other important people in their lives?

2.14 How does the digital service ensure an accessible, diverse and inclusive user experience?

3. Risks

Digital services may involve risks for children. The potentially negative impact of digital services on children's rights and wellbeing is addressed in the following questions using an online risk rating.

- *When answering the risk questions, assume the situation before measures have been taken.*
- *Calculate the risk estimate by multiplying probability by impact. Calculate this for each defined risk, so you will calculate multiple risk estimates per risk classification.*
- *More explanation of the questions the various risks can be found in chapter 3 of the manual.*

3.1 Content risks (risks related to content): What (potential) risks exist for children to be confronted (unexpectedly and unintentionally) with content potentially harmful to them when using the digital service?

--

Opportunity	Impact	Risk assessment

3.2 Behavioural risks (conduct risks): what (potential) risks could arise for third parties from children's behaviour when using the digital service?

--

Opportunity	Impact	Risk assessment

3.3 Contact risks (contact risks): what (potential) risks are there in the design and use of the digital service for children in their interaction with third parties?

--

Opportunity	Impact	Risk assessment

3.4 Consumer risks: *what (potential) risks are there in the design and use of the digital service for children in their capacity as consumers?*

--

Opportunity	Impact	Risk assessment

Cross-cutting risks

Intersecting risks or 'Cross-cutting risks' are risks that can occur between all the above risk categories and that can potentially increase or multiply the risks - in combination - to children, their rights and their wellbeing. The following are cross-cutting risks.

3.5 Advanced technology risks: *Which advanced technologies as part of the design of the digital service may pose (potential) risks to children, also considering their age and evolving capacities?*

--

Opportunity	Impact	Risk assessment

3.6 Privacy risks: *What forms of breaches of children's privacy may result from the design or use of the digital service? Breaches of children's privacy include arbitrary or unlawful interference with the child's private life and communications, unlawful processing of the child's personal data or (potential) damage to the child's integrity, honour or reputation.*

--

Opportunity	Impact	Risk assessment

3.7 Health risks: *To what potential harm to children's mental, emotional or physical health could the use of the digital service lead, also taking into account their developing abilities?*

--

Opportunity	Impact	Risk assessment

3.8 **Other risks:** What other risks are there on your platform before measures have been taken?

--

Opportunity	Impact	Risk assessment

4. Courses of Action

If (potential) risks have been identified, action options should be determined. How can the (potential) negative impact of the digital service on children's rights and wellbeing be mitigated? And what is the likely impact of the action? So in this step, you focus on defining measures that can mitigate the previously formulated risks. Measures play a crucial role in safeguarding children's rights and wellbeing and to prevent or minimise any harm or negative impact.

➤ *You can find more explanation of the questions in chapter 4 of the manual*

4.1 What child-oriented measures have you taken, or will you take, to prevent risks?

Risk classification	Risk description	Measures	Residual risk	Administrator
<i>Content risk</i>				
<i>Behavioural risk</i>				
<i>Contact risk</i>				
<i>Consumer risk</i>				
<i>Advanced technology risk</i>				
<i>Privacy risk</i>				
<i>Health risk</i>				
<i>Other risks</i>				

5. Assessment

In the final stage, you make a trade-off based on the previously analysed contributions related to children's rights and wellbeing on the one hand and the risks related to child rights and child wellbeing on the other. By weighing, among other things, the risks, the severity of residual risks, the effectiveness of the digital service and the contribution to child wellbeing, you can determine the impact of your service on children's rights and wellbeing. This balancing allows you to assess the extent to which your service positively or negatively impacts children's rights and wellbeing.

➤ You can find more explanation of the questions in chapter 6 of the manual

5.1 Effectiveness: Look at your answer to question 2.6 - Does this digital service indeed achieve the objective? Explain.

--

5.2 Subsidiarity: Is the service the best way (taking into account the wellbeing of the child) to achieve the goal? Are there no other ways available to do this? Explain.

--

5.3 Proportionality/Balancing of interests: Is the identified (potential) violation of children's rights proportionate to the objectives after measures taken? Complete the chart and then substantiate the balance of interests.

Benefits (see intended goals)	Disadvantages (negative impact on children)
Benefits for your organisation: - - -	- - -
Child wellbeing benefits: - - - -	

Trade-off:

--

5.4 Conclusion: *Given your answers to the above questions, what is your conclusion regarding the design and deployment of your (proposed) digital service?*

--

5.5 Follow-up actions: *What actions are needed to properly secure the findings from this assessment?*

--

5.6 Monitoring: *How can you monitor that formulated management measures are effectively implemented? At what time and under what circumstances will you re-run the CRIA?*

--