

Geneva, 16 September 2022
51st HRC Session
Item 3 – ID on the report of OHCHR
on the right to privacy in the digital age
Speaker: Maria D’Onofrio

Oral statement submitted by
IIMA – Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice
And co-signed by
VIDES International – International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development

IIMA and VIDES welcome the report of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to privacy in the digital age.

Digital violence and abuse are indeed increasing in the recent years, also as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Of a total of 274 girls, adolescents and young women between the ages of 10 and 19 interviewed in Ecuador in 2021, 3.6% stated that they had experienced situations of violation in the area of digital technology management.

Accordingly, another study published in October 2020, reports that 77% of girls and young women in Ecuador reported having faced some type of online violence and harassment on a frequent basis. The most common forms are threats of sexual violence, offensive language and sexual harassment.

We call upon States to:

- Promote the correct use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) through adequate sensitization programs to prevent digital violence against children and women.
- Protect children and women from digital violence and harassment in compliance with international human rights law, while respecting the right to privacy.

Thank you.