

# **Fighting pedophilia: In the wake of Penal Code (Amendment 118), 2014, and of the bill to limit the use of site to prevent offenses (Amendment 2) 2014**

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## **Abstract**

The online space is awash in pedophilic content. The characteristics of this space have made it into a fertile ground for such content, in a way that challenges the judiciary and the law-enforcement agencies. The creators of pedophilic content, its distributors, and its consumers are taking advantage of network architecture to carefully avoid criminal liability and prosecution. Recently, two legislative steps have been taken to escalate the struggle against pedophilic content on the Internet. One is an amendment to the Penal Code of 1977, which adds a prohibition against use of pedophilic materials, alongside the existing prohibition against publishing and holding such content. The other is a bill seeking to establish the authority to limit access to Internet sites that display pedophilic content, and to require filtering searches for sites of this type. The article analyzes these two legislative steps, one in the field of substantive law, the other in the area of enforcement, which illustrate the attempt of the judicial system to reduce its permanent and growing lag behind technology. The article presents justifications for these two legislative steps in the face of criticism against them, and argues that both measures deserve to be promoted in legal and technological spheres.\*

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