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The Daily Record WEEKEND

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CYBERCRIME

# U.N. treaty sparks human rights concerns



U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres said the convention was “a promise that fundamental human rights such as privacy, dignity and safety must be protected both offline and online.”

MICHAEL M. SANTIAGO/GETTY IMAGES FILE

## Critics say whistleblowers, activists, journalists could be targeted

**Meridith LaVelle**
University of Mannheim
**and Mary Lind**
Binghamton University | THE CONVERSATION

The United Nations Convention against Cybercrime is the first international treaty aimed at combating criminal acts committed online and at supporting victims of those crimes. At the initial signing ceremony on Oct. 25, 2025, U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres said the convention was “a promise that fundamental human rights such as privacy, dignity and safety must be protected both offline and online.”

Civil society groups around the world, however, argue that the convention could make it easier for authoritarian governments to share information about people engaging in regular online activities. Because of vague language in the document, critics contend that governments would have the ability to criminalize legitimate online expression or other activities. Legal gray areas also heighten concerns for the protection of whistleblowers, activists, journalists, researchers and

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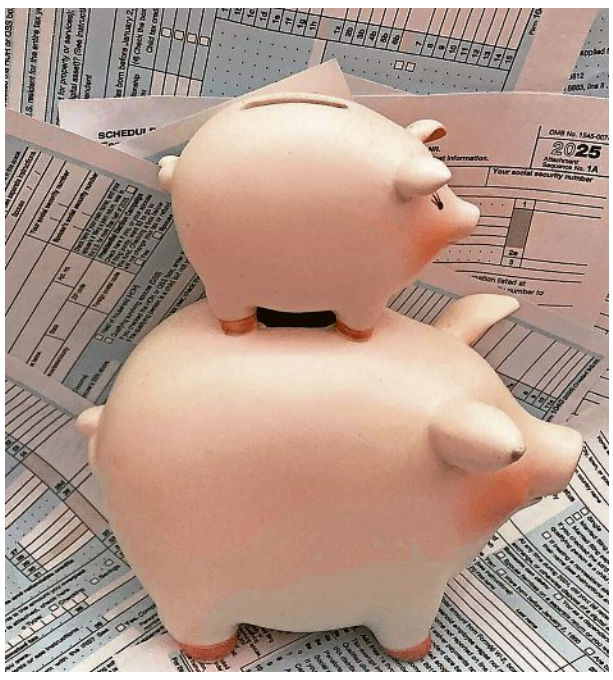
Although the U.N. cybercrime convention says that human rights must be respected, it is ultimately not a human rights treaty. It falls under the U.N. Office of Drugs and Crime. Because of this, there is no treaty body to monitor violations.

DANIEL SLIM/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES FILE



The baseline amount that individuals can contribute to their 401(k) plans has increased to $25,500 in 2027, up from $24,500 for 2026.

SUSAN TOMPOR/DETROIT FREE PRESS FILE

# Workers can add extra $1,000 a year to 401(k)

**Susan Tompor**
Detroit Free Press | USA TODAY NETWORK

DETROIT – Many savers who love to stuff their retirement plans to the max will be allowed to set aside an extra $1,000 a year in their 401(k) plans in 2027 based on new contribution limits announced by the Internal Revenue Service.

And some savers who are 50 and older can boost their savings even more than that if they are able.

The baseline amount that individuals can contribute to their 401(k) plans has increased to $25,500 in 2027, up from $24,500 for 2026.

The new limit also applies to those who participate in 403(b) plans, governmental 457 plans and the federal government’s Thrift Savings Plan.

Many Gen X savers, depending on their age, can contribute more than $25,500 next year. And a limited group of others can save even more than those 50 and older.

According to the IRS announcement on Nov. 12, the catch-up contribution limit that generally applies

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# Child support myths debunked by director

Wooster Daily Record | USA TODAY NETWORK

WAYNE COUNTY — When Justin Kleinknecht took over as director of the Wayne County Child Support Enforcement Agency in October, one of his first goals was to help residents understand what the agency does, and who it serves.

“There’s so much information about child support circulating in the community,” Kleinknecht said. “We want people to have access to accurate, up-to-date information so they can better understand the program and the support it provides.”



Kleinknecht

Kleinknecht brings nearly a decade of experience in Ohio’s child support and family services systems to his new role. He began his career with the Columbiana County Department of Job and Family Services in 2018, working with interstate child support cases before serving in Children Services and later returning to lead Columbiana County’s child support program. Under his leadership, Columbiana

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