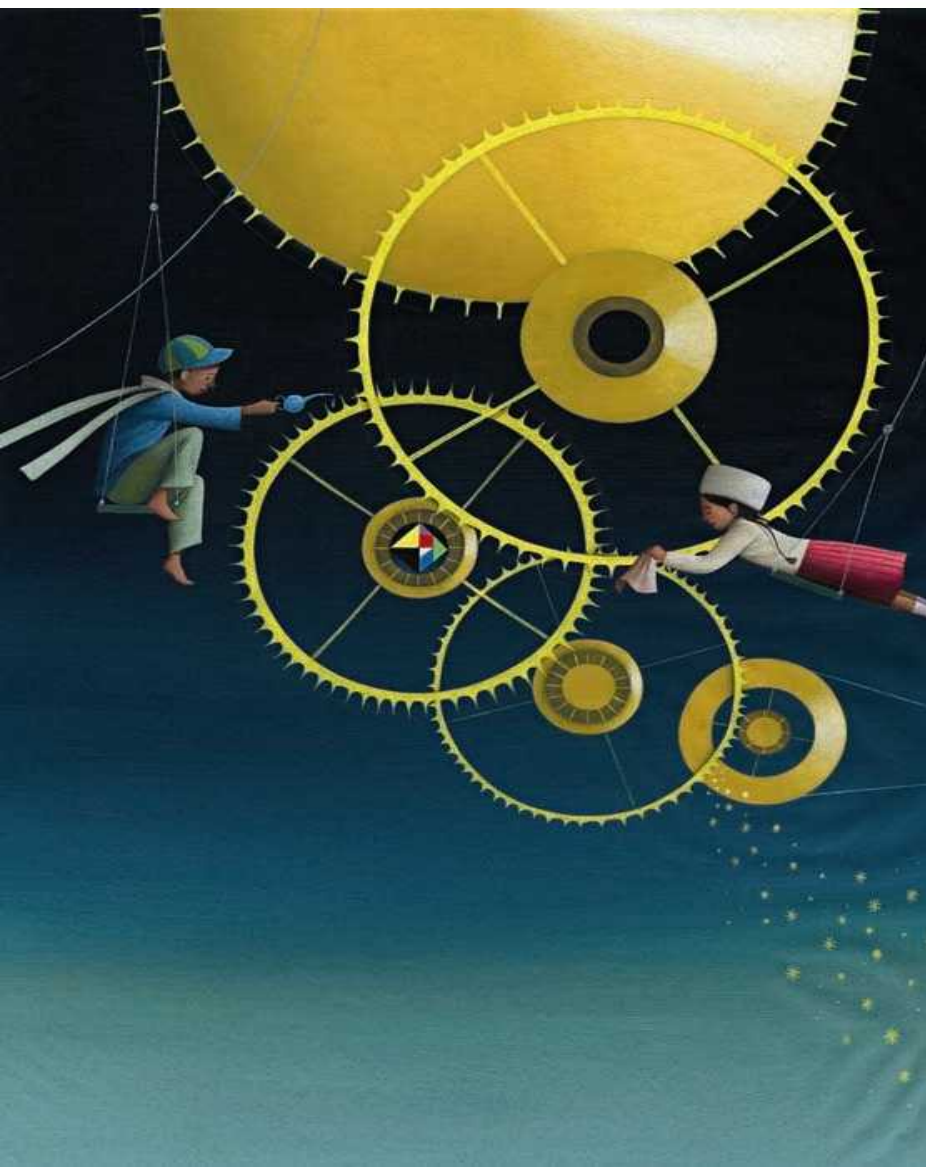




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Council of Europe Policy Guidelines on Integrated National Strategies for the Protection of Children from Violence

By Lioubov Samokhina





Mandate:

- 2005 Warsaw Summit
- recommendations of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
- recommendations of the UN Study on Violence against Children





The UN Study on Violence:

- the development, by 2007, by each country of a national strategy to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children





► Council of Europe Strategy on the Rights of the Child (2009-2011):



- take on the role of regional initiator and coordinator of national and regional initiatives to eliminate violence against children
- act as the European forum for follow up to the recommendations included in the UN Study on Violence
- finalise the Guidelines
- support the adoption and implementation of integrated national strategies in member States



► Approach

- bottom-up consultations at national level
- involvement of all stakeholders
- multidisciplinary
- open debate on the text





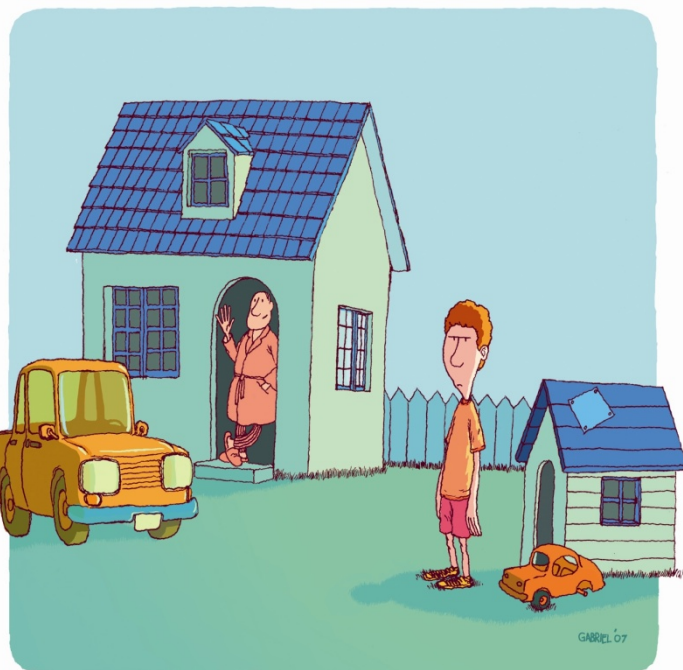
► Guidelines

- **Navigation chart (international and regional human rights standards)**
- **8 general principles (protection against violence; the right to life and maximum survival and development; non-discrimination; gender equality; child participation, state obligations, other actors' obligations and participation, best interests of the child)**
- **4 operative principles (multidimensional nature of violence; integrated approach; cross-sectoral cooperation; multi-stakeholder approach)**





Main objective



- ▶ **stimulate change in the perception of children and childhood**
- ▶ **foster a culture of respect for the rights of the child**
- ▶ **afford more protection against violence**



Prevention of violence:

- Education in children's rights
- Training of professionals
- Sensitisation of the media and the new information and communications sectors
- Child-friendly reporting system
- Child-friendly services and mechanisms





Integrated National Strategies against violence:

- ✓ **multi-faceted and systematic framework**
- ✓ **with specific time frame**
- ✓ **with realistic targets**
- ✓ **coordinated and monitored**
- ✓ **supported by adequate human and financial resources**
- ✓ **based on current scientific knowledge**



Focal Point on the Rights of the Child:

- Acts as a *liaison* between the Council of Europe and child protection authorities at national, regional and local levels;
- co-ordinates the preparation of national responses on issues relevant to several policy areas;
- co-operates with the Council of Europe on the adoption and implementation of national strategies against violence





Follow up (2010-2011):

- Translation into at least 10 languages
- Regional awareness-raising seminars
- Invitation to countries to pilot the Guidelines
- Technical assistance
- Campaign against sexual violence (as from end of 2010)



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more information at:

www.coe.int/children

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