

## **Compilation of good practices on child-friendly migration-related procedures**

### **Call for expression of interest**

The Council of Europe is committed to assisting its member States to build strategies to respond to the problems affecting refugee and migrant children, with special focus on those who are unaccompanied or have been separated from their families. The [Council of Europe Action Plan on Protecting Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe \(2017-2019\)](#) was adopted in May 2017. It outlines concrete actions to be undertaken by the Council of Europe, grouped around three pillars. The actions under the first pillar are aimed at ensuring access to rights and child-friendly procedures.

In this context the Office of the Special Representative on Migration and Refugees will prepare and publish a compilation of good practices on migration-related procedures that are child-friendly. Such procedures cover all stages of the migratory process within Europe, including identification and age assessment, registration, child protection and guardianship, best interests assessment and determination, first-instance examination of asylum applications, administrative and judicial appeals, returns procedures and appeals, other law-enforcement procedures, durable solutions and procedures for the support of victims of exploitation and abuse.

### **Aim of the compilation**

The aim of the compilation is to provide examples of good practices to state authorities and others working with refugee and migrant children looking for ways to make migration-related procedures more child-friendly. The examples will facilitate states' implementation of their obligations in respect of migration-related procedures involving children and will thus encourage the modification of procedures to make them more child-friendly. It could, in due course, also inform the content of the HELP training course on refugee and migrant children (module on child-friendly procedures), which is also part of the Action Plan and is due to be launched in summer 2018.

### **Approach and provisional timetable**

The compilation will be prepared by up to 4 experts, selected on the basis of their knowledge of children's rights, immigration and refugee law and child-friendly justice principles. The experts will work with a representative of the Office of the Special Representative on migration and refugees to develop the concept, methodology, structure and content of the compilation. The drafting work will be carried out by the experts, who will draft, issue and widely disseminate a call for good practice examples and compile the examples in the form of a publication. The bulk of the compilation will consist of the good practice examples. However, it is expected that the compilation will also include a policy dimension and will seek to identify overarching principles of child-friendly procedures in the migration context, derived from the good practice examples.

The experts will attend two working meetings in Strasbourg as part of the preparation of the compilation. Travel and per diems for these meetings will be covered by the Council of Europe.

The provisional timeline is as follows:

- 15 June 2018: deadline for submission of tenders.
- 22 June 2018: notification to successful candidates.

- 9 July 2018: first expert meeting in Strasbourg
- 23 July 2018: publication and dissemination by the experts of call for good practices with deadline of end-September 2018.
- 3 December 2018: submission by the experts of a first draft of the compilation.
- January/February 2019: second expert meeting in Strasbourg.
- 30 April 2019: submission by the experts of the final draft of the compilation.