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LANZAROTE COMMITTEE

Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe
Convention on the protection of children against sexual
exploitation and sexual abuse

**Follow-up given by Parties to the Special Report on “Protecting children
affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual
abuse”**

Compliance report concerning Recommendation 13

Adopted by the Lanzarote Committee on 10 March 2022

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Executive Summary

In March 2016, the Council of Europe's Secretary General called for a series of priority actions to protect children affected by the refugee crisis. In this context, the Lanzarote Committee mandated its Bureau to decide on the need to make urgent requests for information on the basis of Rule 28 (Special reports and urgent situations) of its Rules of Procedure.

On the 3rd of March 2017, the Lanzarote Committee adopted the Special report Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, as an outcome of the urgent monitoring round that had been launched for that purpose. The Special report focused on how Parties to the Lanzarote Convention were protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

To follow-up on the Special report and its recommendations, in 2018, the Committee requested Parties involved in the urgent monitoring round to provide information on the follow-up given to the 5 urge recommendations. The evaluation of the follow-up given to the 5 urge recommendations was adopted by the Lanzarote Committee on the 6th of June 2019.

Subsequently, the Committee asked the Parties involved in the urgent monitoring round to provide information on the follow-up to the 10 recommendations considering that Parties should act. This compiled information (hereafter Compilation information 2020) allowed for a first preliminary assessment of the Parties' practices and legislation with respect to the 10 "consider" recommendations, taking into account specific requirements. This first preliminary assessment was presented to the Parties at the 27th plenary meeting of the Lanzarote Committee in June 2020. The Parties were then given a second opportunity to provide information on the follow-up to the 10 recommendations considering that Parties should act (hereafter additional information).

The present draft compliance report was prepared on the basis of the Compilation of information 2020, the compiled additional information sent by the Parties.¹ It is important to note that the conclusions of compliance/partial compliance/non-compliance have been drawn without the possibility to verify the extent to which legislation and measures are being applied in practice, nor whether children affected by the refugee crisis are actually benefitting from existing services. It has also not been possible to assess the overall impact of the co-ordination and collaboration of the different actors who intervene in Parties for and with children affected by the refugee crisis concerning the prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

¹ The 41 Parties that are concerned by this report are: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine.

The report covers the situation in the 41 states, which were Parties to the Convention at the time the urgent monitoring round was launched. Parties, which have ratified the Lanzarote Committee at a later stage may take into consideration the recommendations, promising practices and other findings presented in this report for information and subsequent relevant action.

The majority of the Parties to the Convention have implemented one or more measures to address the requirements of Recommendation 13. Specifically, 23 Parties are in full compliance and 14 Parties are in partial compliance with the requirements. Some of these Parties have in place promising practices that could inform further developments and advances in other Parties.

Some of the measures implemented include national or international cooperation and collaboration between agencies responsible for the refugee response. Prevention measures include awareness raising of different groups of stakeholders; and implementing child-friendly measures and procedures.

In some Parties, authorities have gone beyond and implemented particularly promising practices, such as the *Barnahus* initiative.

Gaps remain in ensuring that all groups of children affected by the refugee crisis are protected against sexual exploitation and abuse, including those who are trafficked, accompanied or unaccompanied and living in different accommodation situations, such as reception centres, refugee camps or other; or in other particularly vulnerable situations.

4 Parties have been considered non-compliant with Recommendation 13, due to insufficient evidence.

Table 1. Comparative information on fulfilment of Recommendation 13

Country	Examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection	Examples of a coordinated approach and/or coordination mechanism
Albania	Yes*	Yes*
Andorra	Yes*	Yes
★ Austria	Yes	Yes
★ Belgium	Yes*	Yes*
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yes*	No
Bulgaria	Yes*	Yes*
★ Croatia	Yes	Yes
★ Cyprus	Yes	Yes
Czech Republic	No	Yes*
★ Denmark	Yes	Yes
★ Finland	Yes	Yes
France	Yes	Yes
★ Georgia	Yes	Yes
★ Germany	Yes	Yes
Greece	No	No
Hungary	Yes*	Yes
★ Iceland	Yes	Yes
★ Italy	Yes	Yes
★ Latvia	Yes	Yes
Liechtenstein	No	No
Lithuania	Yes*	No
Luxembourg	Yes*	No
Malta	Yes*	Yes
★ Republic of Moldova	Yes	Yes
Monaco	Yes	Yes
★ Montenegro	Yes	Yes
★ Netherlands	Yes	Yes
North Macedonia	No	No
★ Poland	Yes	Yes
Portugal	Yes*	Yes*
Romania	Yes	Yes
Russian Federation	Yes	Yes
San Marino	No	No
★ Serbia	Yes	Yes
Slovak Republic	Yes	Yes
Slovenia	Yes	Yes
Spain	No	Yes*
★ Sweden	Yes	Yes

Switzerland	Yes*	Yes*
Turkey	Yes	Yes
Ukraine	Yes*	Yes*

*Yes, to a limited extent.

Recommendation R13

The Lanzarote Committee:

considers that Parties should encourage the co-ordination and collaboration of the different actors who intervene for and with children affected by the refugee crisis to ensure that preventive measures in regards to protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse are in place and protective measures are taken as speedily as possible (R13).

Following the adoption of the Special Report and after the assessment of the 5 urge recommendations, the Committee asked Parties involved in the urgent monitoring round to provide follow-up information on the 10 recommendations considering that Parties should act. On a first phase, Parties provided relevant information to assess their compliance with recommendations, which was compiled in the Compilation information 2020. An individual assessment was carried out of the replies of each Party, taking into account specific requirements.

The requirements identified to assess Parties' compliance with Recommendation 13 are as follows:

- 1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.*
- 2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.*

Full compliance with Recommendation 13 was determined if the Party had in place: a) actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis; and b) a coordinated approach and/or coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response. Where countries have taken measures to adopt the coordinated and multisectoral approach followed by the 'Children's Houses' or where there were instances of cooperation between the competent state authorities, civil society and the private sector, in preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children affected by the refugee crisis, for e.g. through awareness-raising activities, these were considered as promising practices.

Based on this assessment, an analytical document was prepared and sent to the Parties. Subsequently, Parties were given the opportunity to submit additional information concerning other measures in place, which showed compliance with the requirements identified for the assessment of Recommendation 13.

The present report takes into account both the Compilation information 2020 and related analytical document, as well as the additional information submitted by Parties. The aim is to assess compliance, whilst providing a comprehensive picture of what national practices and legislation are in place.

For ease of reference, a comparative table summarising the findings of this report has also been prepared.² The table colours have been determined as follows:

- Full compliance (green) – the Party is in conformity with all the requirements of the Recommendation, corresponding to fulfilment of obligations under the Convention;
- Partial compliance (yellow) - the Party is in partial conformity with the requirements of the Recommendation, corresponding to fulfilment of obligations under the Convention;
- Non-compliance (red) – the Party does not address any of the requirements of the Recommendation, corresponding to fulfilment of obligations under the Convention.
- Promising practice country (star) – the Party fulfils one or more requirements of the Recommendation *or* has applied the approach of the ‘Children’s Houses’ (*Barnahus*) or cooperation with civil society and the private sector, in a manner that is considered a promising practice.

² This table can be found at the end of the Executive Summary.

Country results

ALBANIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Albania provided information from the General Directorate of State's Police. The co-operation and co-ordination of the work of the various actors on the identification, reporting, treatment, assistance and protection of children in need of protection (which may include children affected by the refugee crisis), is defined in a number of by-laws, and specifically:

- DCM no. 578, dated 03.10.2018, "On referral and case management procedures, drafting and content of the individual protection plan, financing of the costs of its implementation, and implementation of protection measures".
- DCM no. 353, dated 12.06.2018, "On the rules of operation of the inter-sectoral technical group for child protection at Municipalities and Administrative Units".
- DCM no. 499, dated 29.08.2018 in case of victims or potential victims of trafficking, the "Standard Operating Procedures for the Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking" apply.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Albania provided information from the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) is the basic document for identifying, referring, protecting and assisting potential victims / victims of trafficking. The purpose of adopting SOPs is to protect and identify in a timely and appropriate manner, potential victims/victims of trafficking, adult or minor, Albanian, alien or stateless, of all types of exploitation, internal or international trafficking, whether or not it is linked to organised crime. The procedures provide for specialized sectoral and cross-sectoral/multidisciplinary interventions. This document includes a large number of state and non-state institutions as part of the initial identification.

The institution responsible for the formal identification of minors is the group responsible for the formal identification at the borders and territory of the Republic of Albania. This is an *Ad-Hoc* group which conducts formal interviews of the persons identified as potential victims of trafficking and it is comprised of a state police officer from the fight against illicit trafficking sector and a child protection worker in the

municipality/administrative unit in the presence of a psychologist in case the potential victim/victim is a minor.

Responsible structures that cooperate and are responsible for implementing safeguards are the centres at the time the children are placed in its premises, the child protection unit, police structures and state social service workers, the multi-sectoral group that assesses and decides the intervention and measures to be taken on a case-by-case basis. The protection and enforcement of safeguards are very important for the decisions and future of the case, and in particular for the children. The Responsible Authority has made a major contribution to providing these services to potential victims/victims of trafficking, as well as the reception and reintegration centres for trafficking victims.

Based on the information received, Albania is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined by the following reasons: a) it is unclear whether there are actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis; and b) it is unclear whether there is a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response.

ANDORRA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information, Andorra provided information that the small number of families and children affected by the refugee crisis currently in the country is not sufficient to have specific programmes or events targeting them specifically. Nevertheless, this small number allows for very close monitoring and very rapid detection, as well as coordination with all the professionals who intervene with minors, to activate the existing protocols for cases of sexual exploitation and abuse, including children affected by the refugee crisis.

Andorra further referred to its reply to Recommendation 31, concerning child-friendly procedures.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Andorra provided information that cooperation involves public administrations, public and private services and specialised professionals in particular in the fields of health, education, social affairs, youth and sports, leisure, culture, police and justice, and must include the provision of protocols for action and collaboration. These protocols must provide for the procedure to be followed in the event of a justified suspicion that a criminal offense has been committed or that precautionary measures must be taken.

In the additional information, Andorra provided information that during the year 2020 the Refugee Assistance Service (SAPRE) identified a possible situation of risk towards children in the family environment, and this case was referred to the Service for Attention to Children and Adolescents (SEAIA) who carries out the psychosocial assessment to update the situation.

Based on the information received, Andorra is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined by the following reason: it is unclear whether there are sufficient measures in place addressing the prevention of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

AUSTRIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In both information rounds, Austria provided examples of measures in place to address the prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis. These include, among other, as part of the government support of supervised visits, which is also used to a large extent by families with a migration or refugee background, a training course has been launched to raise awareness of and deal with (suspected) cases of domestic violence, sexual abuse and other hardship cases, which will be offered for the fifth time in 2020. In the module "Child's Endangerment" special mention is made of the need for an exchange with cooperation partners.

In Bundesland Vienna, as a preventive measure, training courses are held for the staff at the first reception centre of the Eastern Federal Office for Immigration (Ost-Bundesamt für Fremdenwesen) together with the abovementioned cooperation partners. Target groups for this are: legal advisors, judges, social workers, police departments for the purpose of raising awareness of the issue of exploitation.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information, Austria provided different examples of a coordinated approach, as follows:

Bundesland Lower Austria

- Networking meeting: Participation of the Lower Austrian child and youth welfare service in regularly networking meetings in the facilities for unaccompanied children with the directly affected bodies and authorities (e.g. police, municipality);
- Help plan meeting by the Lower Austrian child and youth welfare services in unaccompanied minor facilities:
 - o Meetings of social work specialists with the facilities for unaccompanied children;
 - o Meetings with the minor refugees to ensure that they are supported according to their abilities and skills;
 - o Organisation of psychotherapeutic measures if there is a suspicion that minor refugees had traumatic experiences.

Bundesland Vorarlberg

Both educational and health facilities are obligated to inform the locally competent child and youth welfare agency (pursuant to Section 37, Federal Child and Youth Welfare Act 2013) or the local police (e.g. pursuant to Section 54, Medical Practitioners' Act 1998), if there is a suspicion that a child/juvenile has been sexually abused. The various system partners shall work closely together to take the necessary protective measures for preventing further abuses. There are regular case discussions in the child protection groups of hospitals in Vorarlberg, which are also attended by employees of the child and youth welfare agency.

Bundesland Vienna

The DREHTSCHEIBE - Crisis Centre for Unaccompanied Strangers, Ruckergasse 40/1, 1120 Vienna cooperates with the Department of Human Trafficking in the Federal Chancellery of Austria (BKA), IOM, LEFÖ (intervention centre for affected women and girls aged 15 years and older) and MEN VIA (for affected male children and adolescents).

Based on the information received, Austria is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place a number of promising practices contributing to prevention measures, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

BELGIUM

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Belgium provided different examples of initiatives carried out in the context of the fight against trafficking in human beings. In the French Community and the German-speaking Community, an information sheet on trafficking in human beings was added to the manual on school violence in 2017.

Training took place in 2017 on the issue of trafficking in minors (including sexual exploitation) targeting the competent services of the French Community in the assistance and protection of young people. In addition, two new training courses were organised for front-line workers in youth support and youth protection services. Training was delivered in May and September 2019, and another was planned in 2020 for magistrates. The objective is also to designate in each of these institutions reference persons in matters of trafficking in human beings. Educational material (indicators, etc.) is made available to participants. The trainings are based on the REACT project (Reinforcing Assistance to Child Victims of Trafficking) developed by ECPAT which works with situations drawn from concrete examples.

No additional information was submitted by Belgium.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Belgium described the multidisciplinary and coordination approach concerning victims of trafficking in human beings. Belgium also provided information on the addendum to the National Action Plan "Fight against

human trafficking 2015-2019" "Minor victims of human trafficking", approved in July 2018. While trafficking in human beings and issues affecting refugee children are often interconnected, trafficking may be for another purpose than sexual exploitation and abuse (for instance forced labour); in addition, sexual exploitation and abuse is multifold, may often occur outside instances of trafficking and thus requires a targeted and coordinated approach which is not reflected in the state's reply. Corresponding measures should therefore be considered in law, and in practice.

Discussions are currently underway between the Federation-level entities in order to revise Circular 05/2017 of 23 December 2016 relating to the implementation of multidisciplinary cooperation concerning victims of human trafficking and/or certain aggravated forms of trafficking of human beings (MB 10 March 2017) and provide more details on the monitoring of children in particular. In this context, the articulation between federal rules and community rules is being examined in order to promote clear guidance for children who are victims of trafficking. One of the points of the action plan is to adapt the multidisciplinary circular on trafficking and smuggling in this direction.

Based on the information received, Belgium is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13 and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined by the following reason: the information provided by the Party does not provide specific information about the prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis, other than those involved in child trafficking.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Bosnia and Herzegovina provided information on the Foundation Bosnia and Herzegovina Women's Initiative (BHWI), an NGO that provides services for asylum seekers and refugees, which conducts preventative activities through individual counselling, group workshops, occupational, educational and recreational activities, with the aim of raising awareness of users about the risks and ways of protecting and self-protecting against sexual violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse, and educating on others relevant topics in line with the needs of children and adults, and based expert staff assessments.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

No relevant information was submitted concerning this requirement.

Based on the information received, Bosnia and Herzegovina is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined by the following reasons: a) it is unclear what protection system is in place against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis; and b) it is unclear whether there is a coordinated approach and/or coordination mechanisms ensuring an adequate response to the needs of refugee children.

BULGARIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information, Bulgaria provided information concerning the protection of unaccompanied foreign children. Children - foreigners seeking or receiving international protection, who find themselves completely alone on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, are children at risk. Upon establishment of this category of children by the bodies of the Ministry of Interior, the Social Assistance Directorate shall be immediately notified of the undertaking of protection measures. One of them is the emergency measure "Police protection" for a period of 48 hours, based on Ordinance № I - 51/2001 on the terms and conditions for granting police protection to the child. Police protection is provided by specialized police officers for work with children in a special room in the Regional Office (RU) or in the Home for Temporary Accommodation of Minors of the Ministry of Interior. The child is provided with police protection at any time of the day.

In the draft Ordinance amending Ordinance № I – 51 of 12 March 2001 on the terms and conditions for granting police protection to a child, prepared in June 2017 at the Ministry of Interior, the category of unaccompanied foreign child was introduced.

The police body carrying out the protection of the child shall acquaint him/her and explain to him/her in a way understandable to him/her about the measures taken and the grounds for them. This is only possible if there is an interpreter who speaks rare languages to inform the child about the purposes of police protection in a language he or she understands.

With the latest amendments to the Regulations for implementation of the Law on Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria (promulgated with SG, issue 57 of 2018, in force from 10.07.2018) a new Chapter Two "b" "Proceedings against unaccompanied foreign children" was created, as in Art. 63k of the Implementing Ordinance on Foreigners in Republic of Bulgaria Act, which indicates the competent authorities/institutions and their responsibilities in identifying unaccompanied foreign children, as well as the interaction of the police authorities with the Social Assistance Directorates in identifying unaccompanied foreign children. The documents and their content accompanying the unaccompanied child foreigner upon his/her transfer to the Social Assistance Directorate for undertaking a protection measure under the Child Protection Act or to the National Agency for Refugees, respectively, upon application for international protection are explicitly indicated.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information, Bulgaria provided information about an inter-institutional coordination team, which has been functioning since 2016, for joint work on signals for trafficking in human beings. In order to provide assistance in cases of signals of trafficking in human beings and support the work of the team, all institutions and NGOs involved in the mechanism have certain contact points. Under the National Mechanism, the State Agency for Refugees (SAR) is responsible for informal identification of victims of trafficking among the asylum seekers and provides them with access to specialised assistance. Informal identification (first-level identification) includes a procedure beginning with identifying signs that may reveal a possible case of trafficking (behaviour and appearance, signs of violence or reporting of violence, limited personal freedom, dependence, etc.). For identifying cases of victims of trafficking, indicators for identification of victims of trafficking from the National Mechanism for Referral and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in Bulgaria are applied.

According to the current Standard Operating Procedure "Identification and Referral of Victims of Trafficking" within the framework of the National Mechanism for Referral and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in Bulgaria, SAR staff could identify victims of trafficking, make risk assessment, carry out an assessment of the urgent needs in the process of registration, accommodation, medical examination and status determination under the Law on Asylum and Refugees, as well as, refer foreigners identified as victims of trafficking to competent authorities and service providers involved in the process of assistance.

Based on the information received, Bulgaria is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined by the

following reason: it is unclear what prevention and protection measures are in place to protect children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, other than those targeting unaccompanied children and those affected by trafficking in human beings.

CROATIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Croatia provided information that since they are first-line responders with regard to migrants (at the border, in reception centres) and thus victims of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), border police officers attend workshops organised as part of the project “Preventing SGBV against migrants and strengthening support to victims” organised by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) with the support of the Ministry of Demographics, Family, Youth and Social Policy. Two workshops (in Zadar and Zagreb) have been organised as part of the project and were attended by border police officers from almost all police administrations.

In the additional information provided, Croatia provided information that in order to protect all applicants for international protection from sexual and gender-based violence with special emphasis on vulnerable groups, including children, the Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with international (UNHCR, IOM and Médecins du Monde-Belgique) and non-governmental organizations (Croatian Red Cross, Croatian Legal Centre, Jesuit Refugee Service Croatia and the Society for Psychological Assistance), developed the Standard Operating Procedure for Prevention and Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Shelters for International Protection Seekers in the Republic of Croatia. This Standard Operating Procedure contains the actions, roles and responsibilities of all participants involved in the prevention and protection against sexual and gender-based violence. It is applied in accordance with existing national protocols and represents the establishment of a clear and effective system of referring applicants for international protection, who have experienced sexual and gender-based violence, to a national mechanism. The Standard Operating Procedure also includes and provides for the treatment of children who have survived some form of sexual abuse, i.e. actual physical assault of sexual nature or threat of assault, including inappropriate touching, by use of force or under unequal or coercive conditions and / or sexual exploitation, i.e. abuse of vulnerability, status of power or trust for sexual purposes with the possible goal of human trafficking.

In the treatment of children exposed to such forms of violence, the principle of the best interests of the child is applied and respected, especially when deciding on the most appropriate course of action to prevent and / or respond in a timely manner to sexual abuse and / or exploitation.

Also, when determining personal circumstances and circumstances of illegal migration, police officers endeavour, among other things, to identify indicators that may speak in favour of a person being a victim or potential victim of human trafficking or any other criminal offense. In this regard, during 2019, in the organization of UNHCR training were conducted for police officers of the illegal migration line of work and employees of social welfare centres on the topic “Unaccompanied children and identification of child victims of trafficking” (Rabac, Vodice, Jastrebarsko, Zagreb). During trainings the participants were presented with topics related to the above issues, with special emphasis on the need to identify indicators that would speak in favour of the fact that it is possible that these are children who are victims of crime. In addition, in the case of children accompanied by their family and unaccompanied children, border police officers were instructed to report any suspicion of a possible criminal offense against the child immediately and without delay to the criminal police officer responsible for further proceedings. In such cases, border police officers will stop acting until the arrival of criminal police officers who will take further action.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Croatia provided information on the implementation of the Protocol on the Treatment of Unaccompanied Children, which in itself implies the efficient collaboration of interdepartmental bodies supported by coordination provided by the Interdepartmental Commission for Protection of Unaccompanied Children (*Međuresorno povjerenstvo za zaštitu djece bez pratnje*) (hereinafter: the Interdepartmental Commission). The Interdepartmental Commission comprises representatives of the ministry competent for social welfare affairs, Ministry of the Interior, ministry competent for education, ministry competent for health, Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, and international organisations working to protect children and refugee rights, as well as representatives of civil society organisations working to protect children rights, if needed.

In the additional information, Croatia provided further information that the Protocol on the Treatment of Unaccompanied Children has been implemented in a way that state administration bodies, local and regional self-governments, public authorities, public institutions, foreign diplomatic missions and consular offices, international organisations and civil society organisations are involved, where needed, in the treatment of unaccompanied children. This includes law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector etc, notably the Ministry of the Interior, social welfare institutions and other social service providers, health care institutions of primary and specialist-consultative health care, educational institutions, state administration offices, city general administration office, international organisations dealing with the protection of the rights of children, refugees and migrants, civil society organisations dealing with the protection of the rights of children,

refugees and migrants, and others, who can be directly involved in working with unaccompanied children.

As regards the examples of a coordinated approach and of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level, one of the examples is the standard procedure in practice when it is determined that the child in question is unaccompanied, the police officer takes further actions to proceed with the identification process. The identification process is conducted by a police officer with the participation of an interpreter, a Centre for Social Care expert and/or a special guardian, including other agencies in charge of the child refugee response when needed. In case that the unaccompanied child is in a state of extreme psycho-physical exhaustion, injured, in a state of uncontrolled reactions and behaviours that endanger oneself or the environment or a child, due to other circumstances requires immediate medical intervention, he/she will be taken immediately to the nearest health facility to provide emergency medical care and to conduct an initial health examination.

Further, a Centre for Social Care expert conducts an initial assessment of the needs of the unaccompanied child, which is carried out by filling in a form "Initial assessment of the needs of an unaccompanied child" (Annex 1 of the Protocol on the Treatment of Unaccompanied Children). Consequently, a Centre for Social Care expert submits a report on the initial assessment to the competent Centre for Social Care and to the accommodation service provider. Also, as an example of a coordinated approach, a standard procedure is followed as regards the coordination of relevant services for inclusion of a child in question in the educational system (Ministry of the Interior - Centre for Social Care - City Office in charge of education affairs - Ministry of Science and Education).

As regards the initial assessment of the needs of the unaccompanied child, it should be noted that it implies the collection of necessary information about the child (information about the family), as well as all the relevant information in order to exclude any doubt of sexual exploitation. The provisions of the Protocol on the Treatment of Unaccompanied Children, as well as the activities of the Interdepartmental Commission for Protection of Unaccompanied Children, are specifically focused on protecting all children affected by the migrant crisis, including human trafficking and every other form of inappropriate and inhumane treatment of those children.

It should be especially emphasised that any treatment of an unaccompanied child affected by the migrant crisis is guided by the principle of the best interests of the child, which includes and implies immediate treatment in the case of identification of victims or potential victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. In this case, such treatments include experts from Centres for Social Care, trained and educated to work with children and familiar with further procedures in case of identification of victims or potential victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Therefore, it can be confirmed that the measures provided for in a Protocol and implemented by a coordination mechanism include sexual exploitation and abuse of children and not just trafficking.

Additionally, the Standard Operating Procedure abovementioned also envisages the activities of the Coordination Group for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, which evaluates and plans activities aimed at prevention and capacity building in order to ensure quality and effective prevention and protection from this form of violence. Recognizing the particular importance of preventive measures, information materials are produced and published in order to strengthen awareness of the recognition of all forms of violence with the aim of timely reactions and further actions.

Based on the information received, Croatia is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place a number of promising practices contributing to prevention and protection measures, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

CYPRUS

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Cyprus provided information that due to the refugee crisis and the increasing number of people in need of protection arriving in the Republic of Cyprus, a national action plan has been developed and is being implemented since 2014, by the Ministry of Interior in cooperation with all the relevant Ministries/Departments to address the situation caused by a massive influx of persons in need of protection, arriving in the territory of the Republic of Cyprus. This National Action Plan determines the procedures on how to prepare, equip and provide training to professionals, and on the interagency cooperation (government departments, services and international organisations and NGOs).

Through this Action Plan early detection of vulnerable groups of people, including unaccompanied minors, and families and children at risk, is possible since all the relevant actors (i.e. Social Welfare Services, Asylum Services, Immigration Office, Health Services, Civil Defence, Red Cross, etc.) come together from the time of their entry to the Republic of Cyprus. At the point of entry, persons in need of protection are provided with the essentials, a registration takes place and an initial screening is undertaken, aiming towards the identification of persons that possibly belong to such vulnerable groups, so that any special needs are taken into consideration during later procedures.

Unaccompanied minors are taken in care of the Director of Social Welfare Services, who acts as a guardian safeguarding access to their rights (i.e. education, health, activities, asylum application, etc.) based on the best interest of the child. Unaccompanied minors are placed in foster or residential care.

The Social Welfare Services continue their cooperation with families and children that might have been detected as being at risk in order to further examine the cases and provide support and counselling services. Also, they are in close cooperation with the Asylum Service and the Kofinou Reception Centre.

All Officers who come into contact with children (including unaccompanied children), receive training on issues concerning children in migration, children at risk, etc. Specifically, the Republic of Cyprus participates in European Asylum Support Office (EASO) Support Plan, which includes training of professionals on issues of migration.

Cases of sexual abuse and/or sexual exploitation of children are handled based on the best interest of the child and according to the specific needs of the child. The Social Welfare Services, based on article 31(2) of the Prevention and Combating of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Pornography Law of 2014 (L.91(I)/2014), ensure that assistance, support and protection are provided to a child as soon as they or any other service involved have good reason to believe that a sexual offense has been committed against the child.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Cyprus provided information that a National Strategy on the Prevention and Combating of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Pornography, which was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 21st March 2016. Within the framework of the National Strategy, the Children's House has been established, since September 2017 by the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance and operates as a unique entity of four governmental services (the Social Welfare Services, the Police, the Mental Health Services, the Ministry of Education and Culture) and an NGO. Child friendly services are provided to children victims, based on a multidisciplinary/interagency approach.

In the additional information, Cyprus provided further information on the Children's House established in Cyprus, on the basis of the successful Barnahus model, which considers well-being, prevention and protection as priority keys in relation to children victims of sexual abuse and/or exploitation. The Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance, through the Social Welfare Services is responsible for the monitoring and funding of the Children's House and has appointed "Hope for Children" CRC Policy Centre to undertake its operation in close collaboration with the SWS, Cyprus Police, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education.

The environment of the CH is child friendly and safe to ensure the best interest of the child as well as the right to be heard enshrined both in the UNCRC as principles while bringing all the relevant services under the same roof. This multidisciplinary and

interagency approach avoids undue delays and secondary or repeated victimisation of the child. The services provided are the following: forensic interviews, medical examinations, social support and rehabilitation, psychological evaluation, psychological support and therapy, family therapy and parents counselling.

Based on the information received, Cyprus is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place a number of promising practices contributing to prevention and protection measures, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

CZECH REPUBLIC

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

No information was submitted concerning this requirement.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, the Czech Republic provided information that Law enforcement authorities (police, public prosecutors and courts) are required to cooperate and to assist each other in the exercise of their tasks under the Criminal Procedure Code. These authorities are obliged to provide each other with information and assistance. Under the Act on Social and Legal Protection of Children, social and legal protection authorities are required to report to law enforcement authorities, information indicating that a crime has been committed. In the provision of assistance to victims of these crimes, law enforcement authorities cooperate with subjects providing assistance to victims of crimes under the Victims of Crime Act.

The Social and Legal Child Protection Act emphasizes the provision of timely assistance to families with children through social work and the provision of necessary follow-up services. Authorities for social and legal protection of children assess the situation of the child and its family at risk and on its basis create an individual child protection plan to resolve the situation. They organise case conferences to share information about the child, coordinate the procedures of all involved subjects, and evaluate progress in meeting the plan. In addition to social workers, health care professionals, educators, psychologists, police officers and other professionals, the conference also directly involves the child with his/her family in solving their situation. Workers of authorities for social and legal protection of children also specialise in and are continually educated about the protection of tormented and abused children.

Based on the information received, the Czech Republic is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined by the following reason: a) it is unclear what prevention and protection measures are in place to protect children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

DENMARK

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Denmark provided information from the Ministry of Immigration and Integration. In cases where a child applies for asylum in Denmark and there are indications during the asylum case that the child has been/is subject to human trafficking the Danish Immigration Service will either based on their own information or based on information gathered by the Centre against Human Trafficking assess whether or not there can be made a decision as to whether the minor has been or is a victim of human trafficking, since this entails access to e.g. legal and social rights and possibly protective accommodation.

When a caseworker comes in contact with a child that has potentially been or is a victim of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse, there will always be paid attention to such circumstances. The caseworker is trained in talking to children and an interpreter is always present that speaks the language of the child. Should the child disclose information regarding sexual abuse and/or imminent risk of such during the stay in Denmark, the Danish Immigration Service – as representative of the authorities – has an obligation to notify relevant authorities in order to protect the child.

In the case that there are indications of human trafficking, the caseworker in the Danish Immigration Service can also refer the child to talk to the Centre against Human Trafficking, if the child consents to.

Furthermore, it should be noted, that there in general exists a close collaboration between the Asylum Division of the Danish Immigration Service, Centre against Human Trafficking and the Red Cross when it comes to potential victims of human trafficking.

Measures to prevent abuse of asylum seeking and migrant children are not limited to cases of sexual exploitation or abuse. Rather, Danish legislation requires that measures are taken to address the needs of all children in vulnerable situations. Thus, in accordance with section 154 of the Social Services Act any person who learns or becomes aware that a person under the age of 18 is being neglected or abused by his/her parents or other persons involved in his/her upbringing, or is living under conditions endangering his/her health or development, is obligated to notify the municipal authorities. In addition, public service providers such as asylum centre staff

and professionals associated with asylum centre operators e.g. teachers, health care professionals, social workers etc. are subject to stricter obligations to notify the municipal authorities if they become aware of circumstances that give rise to the presumption that a person under the age of 18 may need special support or may have been exposed to abuse. Public service providers are generally trained in detecting and responding to children in need of special support.

In cases where asylum seeking and migrant children under the Danish Immigration Service's provision are in need of special support – e.g. in case of sexual exploitation or abuse – the asylum centre operator is obligated to notify the municipal authorities immediately and in cooperation with the municipal authorities to initiate the appropriate response.

In the additional information, Denmark provided further information from the Ministry. The asylum staff of the Danish Immigration Service (DIS) performs an initial screening of potential victims of trafficking of human beings (THB) during the asylum interview with asylum seekers, in accordance with the DIS THB interview guide, during which an interpreter is present. If the asylum seeker is an unaccompanied child, a personal representative or an assessor is present. If during an interview with an asylum seeker there are indications of the applicant being a victim of THB, the DIS asylum staff notifies the DIS asylum THB-Unit, which is responsible for further coordination with the Danish Centre against Human Trafficking (CMM). It might be the case that a formal identification can be made on the basis of the information provided during the asylum interview. However, often it is necessary to receive further information. Therefore, the asylum seeker will be asked to sign a declaration of consent to share information from the asylum case with CMM, after which CMM will be notified and conduct one or more interviews with the applicant. CMM will then forward their initial evaluation of whether the asylum seeker is or is not a victim of THB. On the basis hereof, along with the other information in the case, the DIS asylum THB-Unit will make a formal decision.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

As above, Denmark provided several examples of collaboration between the Asylum Division of the Danish Immigration Service, the Centre against Human Trafficking and the Red Cross; as well as collaboration between multidisciplinary public service providers and municipal authorities, especially concerning the obligation to notify (suspected) cases of sexual exploitation and abuse.

In the context of Recommendation 37, Denmark provided information that all persons staying lawfully in Denmark are entitled to assistance pursuant to the Danish Act on Social Services. This includes refugees and asylum seekers. Persons, who are not staying lawfully in Denmark, are not directly covered by the Act, but assistance may in special

circumstances be provided according to the principles of the Act when Denmark's obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child or other international conventions so warrant.

If the municipal council has reason to assume that a child or young person is in need of special support, the municipal council must conduct a child protection examination in order to clarify the needs of the child or young person. In case of violence or sexual abuse towards a child or young person, the examination must, as a rule, be carried out in a special Children's House. In the Children's Houses, a coordinated effort between social services, police, therapeutic services and health services are offered with the purpose of providing the abused child with coordinated and professional help in a child friendly environment.

Based on the information received, Denmark is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place a number of promising practices contributing to prevention and protection measures, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

FINLAND

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, complemented by the additional information, Finland provided a number of relevant examples of actions, projects, initiatives and procedures in place for the prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

Different actors within the asylum process cooperate closely. Different actors, such as the Immigration Service and reception units, share a mutual database to which different actors have access and the possibility to add information on an applicant's case, which enhances co-operation and sharing of information.

The Finnish Immigration Service and the reception centre keep timely contact on matters regarding the well-being of children in the asylum process, especially in cases where indicators of (sexual) abuse or exploitation have risen. The Immigration Service may in these cases also contact the reception centre through a specifically designed tool for officials in cases where there is worry of the child's well-being, called the "Worry"-form. If abuse has been detected, other national processes' will be activated by the officials, most importantly informing the social services and the police.

A key player in both identifying sexual abuse but also informing it to authorities is a good representative. Finland aims to improve the role and knowledge of representatives through training; a "Skilled Representative"- project aims for not only improving the

know-how of representatives, but also to improve the communication and collaboration between representatives and especially the Finnish Immigration Service.

The Finnish Immigration Service requests a statement on the best interests of the child from the social worker of the reception centre. This will be given due value on the asylum process. If needed, the statement can also be requested from a child welfare social worker, also if needed in cases of accompanied minors. The co-operation, communication and collaboration between The Immigration Service and the reception centres is made easier for example with a low threshold form, “the Worry-form”. This can be used in any cases where concern on the child’s welfare has risen.

Information between the Immigration Service and the reception centres can also be shared upon request.

An electronic service channel has been built for the legal advisers and representatives of the unaccompanied minors. Though the usage is quite slight still, this channel offers a secure way to deliver additional information for the case and view electronically the dossier of the case.

Based on Finland’s new Government Programme, a Parliamentary Committee will be appointed to prepare a national strategy for children based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Its task will be to formulate a vision for a child and family-friendly Finland that spans Government terms and crosses administrative boundaries. Common goals will be reached through cross-sectoral measures promoting child rights-based governance and decision-making and fostering a child and family-friendly society. The Government will assess the impacts of its decisions on children, improve child budgeting, strengthen knowledge about child wellbeing and foster the inclusion of children and young people.

The national “Psykyke”- project (“Psyche”) aims to enhance the knowledge of reception centres, the Assistance System for Victims of Human trafficking and detention units through training and information material.

The aim of the TERTTU-project implemented by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) in 2017-2019 was to develop the current health examination protocol for assessing the health, wellbeing and need for health care services of asylum seekers (including children and youth). Information was gathered in 2018 and the research included 67 youth (between 13-17) and 96 children. As part of the project information was gathered, among other, on violence, sexual violence and Female Genital Mutilation experienced by children and youth prior to arrival in Finland. Personal consent as well as consent by their guardian was required when interviewing children and questions took into account the age and the level of development of the child. Questions related to sexual violence were replied by guardians as regards children under 13.

In November 2019, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), in cooperation with national organisations and authorities published a National Action Plan aiming to prevent sexual abuse and violence against children. Non-violent Childhoods, the new

action plan for the prevention of violence against children, contains 93 measures for preventing violence against 0–17 year-old children and youth. It will be implemented in Finland during 2020–2025. In preparation of the Action Plan a specific focus has been given to the obligations emerging from the legislation and international conventions (including the Lanzarote convention). A steering group, coordinated by THL, will monitor implementation of the targets.

The plan covers the prevention of physical and mental violence, sexual violence and online harassment in different growth and operating environments. The action plan is a manual for specialists and students working among children and youth in the social and healthcare services, the police, the education and youth services, the judicial system and organisations.

The measures listed in the plan are based on research results and needs that have arisen in the specialists' work. The manual contains, among other things, checklists and practical measures to prevent and reduce violence.

In the prevention of violence, children or youth in especially vulnerable positions are particularly taken into account. Those include, for example, children with disabilities, ethnic or language minorities, asylum seekers, children and youth in substitute care outside home as well as sexual and gender minorities.

Finally, THL has also established a web-based education portal called Luo luottamusta, suojele lasta (unofficial translation "Create trust, Protect a child"). The aim of the portal is to strengthen different authorities' skills to work with the children and families as well as to enhance the collaboration and coordination between officials.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

There are no specific measures or services particularly and distinctively directed to the children affected by the refugee crises in the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health's (MSAH) administrative field, but these children are entitled to and provided with the same services and measures as children who have permanent residence in Finland. These measures and services include, *inter alia*, the right to health care and child welfare services. Legal bases are found, for example, in Act on the Reception of Persons Applying for International Protection and on the Identification of and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings (746/2011), Health Care Act (1326/2010), and in Child Welfare Act (417/2007). These legal acts include also provisions on coordination and collaboration of different authorities.

In addition to legislation, THL has launched a project (so-called *Barnahus*-project) in June 2019. Barnahus model aims to ensure assistance, support and treatment for all children and youth who are suspected of being subjected to abuse or sexual violence and to build up interprofessional cooperation including police, prosecutor, forensic psychology units, child welfare, somatic and psychiatric medical care, schools, early childhood education and care, child health clinics. The project is funded by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

The objective of the *Barnahus* project is to mainstream practices compliant with the Barnahus standards in investigation processes of suspected cases of violence against children as well as in support and treatment provided for children who have encountered violence by:

- Developing the coordination and content of support and treatment needed by children and families who have experienced violence;
- Ensuring child-friendly encounters and facilities for all children heard in a legal context;
- Building up interprofessional cooperation (police, prosecutor, forensic psychology units, child welfare, somatic and psychiatric medical care, schools, early childhood education and care, child health clinics) and implementing models in practice;
- Influencing the delay between making a report of an offence and sentencing by means of inter-authority cooperation;
- Creating free, evidence-based e-learning programmes and making them available for professionals who come across suspicions of violence against children.

The models for interprofessional cooperation and information sharing between authorities already developed at the National Institute for Health and Welfare (the LASTA model and form) will be introduced nationwide as well as regionally in university hospitals' forensic psychology/psychiatry units in cooperation with other actors. A free e-learning programme will be created to promote early recognition and support with such target groups as early childhood education and care, schools, social services and health care. The numbers and geographic coverage of those who complete the training will be monitored systematically.

Based on the information received, Finland is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place a number of promising practices contributing to prevention and protection measures, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

FRANCE

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, complemented by the additional information, France provided information about the work of the Central Office for the Suppression of Violence against Persons (OCRVP), which is a member of the VIDTF (Victim Identification Task Force) that brings together specialised investigators from several countries and members of the Analysis Projects teams within the Europol Analysis System (AP-TWINS). They analyse unknown content from Interpol's international image database (International Child Sexual Exploitation database - ICSE) in order to help identify victims and their abusers.

The work of the VIDTF has notably enabled the OCRVP to identify several French victims and to arrest their attackers. In addition, the OCRVP occasionally calls on the AP-TWINS in order to benefit from operational and logistical support in the context of operations requiring expertise and the use of specific equipment. Operational and technical support is systematically offered by the Agency to investigators. The Central Office for the Suppression of Trafficking in Human Beings (OCRTEH) also supplies the AP PHOENIX (trafficking in human beings and prostitution networks), in order to identify perpetrators and victims. It should be noted that OCRTEH has so far not detected an active criminal organisation in France specialising in the sexual exploitation of children. However, the office remains particularly vigilant.

The OCRVP participates in the Task Force in charge of identifying victims of sexual abuse, whether they may or may not be linked to issues of trafficking in human beings.

Information submitted by FRA reports that “in France, the Ministry of the Interior published an [action plan](#) to enhance support to vulnerable persons among asylum seekers and refugees. The actions aim to better identify and protect persons with vulnerabilities related to physical and mental health and disability, as well as victims of trafficking in human beings, victims of sexual and gender-based violence, and unaccompanied children. It is planned, among other targets, to expand their specialised housing by creating 200 new housing places for LGBTQI asylum applicants and refugees by 2022.”³

³ FRA (2021) [Migration: Key fundamental rights concerns- bulletin 2 - 2021](#), published 24.09.2021. Page 21

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information, France provided information about the Interministerial Plan to Combat Violence against Children, adopted in November 2019, which aims to improve the coordination of the various actors in the field of child protection. For example, work is underway to:

- Set up a unique reporting framework for situations of children in danger for national education professionals, as part of the worrying information transmitted to the judicial authority;
- Generalise the paediatric reception units for children at risk (there are 64, in addition to 26 planned, with a target of at least one per region by 2022, i.e. a total of 136 units), which will ensure the full care of children victims of violence, in particular sexual violence, within a paediatric hospital department where the necessary care is carried out, as well as, the investigative acts (hearings in a specially equipped room by trained investigators, in charge of parents by a caregiver, presence of a psychologist, a child psychiatrist, carrying out medical-legal, psychiatric and psychological examinations and possible reception via an emergency judicial protection measure).

In addition, as part of continuing education initiatives, the National School of Magistrates offers specific training on child abuse by emphasizing the connection of professional practices (session on "maltreated children: jurisdictional issues" or "child in danger: issues and professional practices ", and a session dedicated to sexual violence) with a large multidisciplinary audience (magistrates, lawyers, civil administrators, doctors, educators of the judicial protection of young people, executives of the network of schools of the public service, gendarmes, members of the national education system, managers of social assistance to children, assessors of children's courts).

In addition, a second National Action Plan against Trafficking in Human Beings (2019/2021) focuses on six areas of work, including:

- (5) "Coordinating public action in the fight against trafficking in human beings". This line of work provides that the public policy against trafficking in human beings will be rolled out at the local level within the framework of the local committees for assistance to victims (Clav), created by decree on August 3, 2016 for victims of acts of terrorism and extended to all victims of criminal offenses by decree of April 25, 2017. The Clavs, co-chaired by the Public Prosecutor and the Prefect, oversee the structuring, coordination, implementation and 'improvement of local support mechanisms for victims of criminal offenses'. A specific measure entitled "Establishment of departmental management" provides that departmental coordination bodies will be set up in pilot sites in areas particularly affected by trafficking in human beings. Agreements will be

concluded between all the actors to organize the work in partnership at the local level, which will facilitate the identification of victims of trafficking through an exchange of information and will make it possible to organize their protection and care. These agreements will be part of the Clavs and more generally in the departmental plan for victim assistance, as one of the priorities of public action.

- The second area of work is entitled "carrying out targeted prevention actions" and provides for the implementation of three measures: informing the business world; introduce the subject of human trafficking and its various forms of exploitation into school curricula; and raise awareness among migrant populations of the risks of exploitation.

The action plan adopted by the Ministry of Interior mentioned above is part of the National Strategy for the reception and integration of refugees (2018-2021) and has been drafted in coordination with the Directorate General for Migration (DGEF), the Office for the Protection of Refugees (OFPRA), the French Office of Immigration and Integration (OFII) and the Inter-ministries Delegation for the reception and protection of refugees (DIAIR).

Within the Sub-Directorate of the Judicial Protection and Education Task Forces (SDMPJE) of the Directorate of Judicial Youth Protection (DPJJ) of the Ministry of Justice, the Unaccompanied Minors Task Force (MMNA) co-ordinates the national shelter, assessment and referral mechanism for unaccompanied minors.

In particular, the MMNA monitors and advises its different counterparts on the issue of trafficking in human beings and invites them to pay particular attention to the problem. Through its regular meetings and contacts with department councils and other stakeholders (courts, prefectures, healthcare services, associations, etc.), the MMNA is an efficient bridge between the regions and the Ministry of Justice. It raises awareness of the challenges and the need to quickly provide shelter, to identify and make suitable provision for victims of trafficking in human beings, and to ensure referral to the judicial authority (the Public Prosecutor's Office).

In this context, in partnership with the National School for the Judicial Protection of Youth (ENPJJ) and the National Centre for Territorial Public Service (CNFPT), it contributes in particular to the functioning of the network of assessment stakeholders by taking part in training the departments tasked with providing emergency shelter to persons claiming to be unaccompanied minors. One of the aims of the training is to raise awareness among assessors of the problem of trafficking in human beings and to assist them in identifying potential victims.

On 18 October 2019, European Anti-Trafficking Day, the second national action plan against trafficking in human beings (2019-2021) was launched.

The fight against trafficking in minors, including unaccompanied minors, was one of the objectives of the first national plan and it is among the enhanced goals of the second plan.

One of the priorities of the latter is identifying victims as a key step, by improving the training of professionals and strengthening partnerships. There is specific focus on training child welfare services and juvenile protection services to enable efficient detection. In this connection, the MMNA participates in the working group on drafting an inter-ministerial guidebook for the identification, care and referral of victims of trafficking in human beings.

Having also supported the drafting and implementation of the agreement on the introduction of an experimental scheme to protect minors who are victims of trafficking in human beings, signed on 1 June 2016, the MMNA and the players concerned have been considering its extension. This scheme, which has been operational since 1 September 2015, has made it possible to support 91 minors (as at 1 July 2019), mainly Nigerian girls who are minors and victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation.

Taking note of the very satisfactory results of the scheme, which enabled some 100 minor victims in the Paris region to be removed and provided with shelter, in a clean break from their previous circumstances, a working group jointly led by the Directorate of Judicial Youth Protection (DPJJ) and the Directorate of Criminal Matters and Pardons (DACG) was set up in November 2018 and met again on 9 October 2019 to consider ways in which the scheme could be extended to eight partner regions which are particularly severely affected by the problem.

In a dispatch of 8 February 2021 on provision for minors who are victims of trafficking in human beings, the Ministry of Justice encouraged the public prosecutor's offices to agree protocols modelled on the agreement concluded by the Paris Prosecutor's Office on 1 June 2016 aimed at protecting minors in a context specifically alert to problems related to trafficking and in accordance with a policy of moving minors to a different area to physically distance them from the network or person that was exploiting them.

The above information shows that the co-ordination measures undertaken by France are not only focused on the issue of trafficking in human beings in a broad sense, but that they also focus specifically on the issue of unaccompanied minors, which encompasses the issue of refugees who are minors. Combining the measures taken both in the field of trafficking in human beings and concerning unaccompanied minors **necessarily** entails covering the issue of protecting minors in the context of **children affected by the refugee crisis to ensure that measures for preventing sexual exploitation and abuse are indeed in place.**

Furthermore, the national action plan for combating trafficking in human beings explicitly involves the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA) in several measures and, in particular, in the following:

- Measure No. 7: Raising migrants' awareness of the risks of exploitation;
- Measure No. 14: Developing a training and awareness-raising plan.

In addition, as indicated in the introduction to the action plan, this plan is consistent with other government initiatives currently underway such as the national refugee reception and integration strategy (2018-2021).”

Based on the information received, France is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

GEORGIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Georgia provided information that combating Trafficking in Human Beings, including sexual exploitation remains one of the key priorities of the Government of Georgia. In this regard Georgian Anti-Trafficking policy is entirely focused on the so called 4 Ps and the country is committed to adopt efficient measures in order to enhance Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnership. Every two years the Inter-Agency Council elaborates and approves the National Action Plans (NAP) on Combatting Trafficking in human beings. On 24 December 2018 the Inter-Agency Council Approved the current NAP for 2019-2020 with a main focus on prevention of human trafficking, including sexual exploitation of children, protection of children victims. The NAP also includes the commitment of the Government to conduct awareness raising activities among asylum seekers and refugees on THB-related risks and the available services for presumed victims, as well as for (statutory) victims of exploitation.

In the context of Recommendation 37, Georgia provided information that the International Protection Issues Division (DIPI) of the Migration Department at the Ministry of Internal Affairs is responsible for international protection issues. At DIPI there are designated specialised officials who work on the cases of persons with specific needs, such as children, unaccompanied children, children who are victims of post-traumatic stress disorder or consequences of torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence. The specialised officials are trained regularly on topics such as: psychological, emotional, physical development and behaviour of children.

Additionally, in case of need and upon referral by DIPI, the local NGO is capable to provide psychological assistance/rehabilitation to the asylum-seekers.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Georgia provided information that for the protection, the Government has a Special referral mechanism for officials on Identification and Protection of (statutory) victims of THB, including sexual exploitation. In particular, the Basic Structure of the Referral Mechanism is as follows:

1. Identification of the Victims of Trafficking: preliminary identification; special social worker who has right to conduct identification questioning; identification questionnaire; organ taking final decision as to the persons status as a victim;
2. Protection of the Victim of Trafficking: legal aid; medical aid; social aid; protective measures;
3. Rehabilitation of the Victim of Trafficking: social programs; Reintegration process.

Apart from the special A-TIP Referral Mechanism, the revised Child Protection Referral Mechanism was adopted on September 12, 2016. It is noteworthy that unlike the previous referral instrument which was adopted by the heads of three-line ministries (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Healthcare, Ministry of Education) back in 2010, the new one is upgraded to a higher level and has been approved by the Government of Georgia. The Child Protection Referral Mechanism expanded the responsible entities for referring child violence cases to the relevant agencies. In particular, all governmental institutions and their structural units, legal entities of public law (LEPLs), medical institutions and local municipalities have become obliged to refer the possible cases of child violence, including sexual exploitation and sexual abuse to the Social Service Agency and the police. The failure to report such cases to the relevant state bodies by persons involved in the child referral mechanism will invoke administrative liability.

Based on the information received, Georgia is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

GERMANY

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Germany provided information on the National Initiative for the protection of refugees and migrants living in refugee accommodation centres, in particular, the [Minimum Standards for the Protection of Refugees and](#)

[Migrants in Refugee Accommodation Centres](#). This is a joint Germany/UNICEF initiative involving a variety of relevant governmental and non-governmental child protection actors; and it addresses children affected by the refugee crisis, sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and coordination.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Germany referred to Minimum Standard 3, of the abovementioned initiative, on “Internal structures and external cooperation”, namely:

- **“External cooperation Involving cooperation partners:** In order to introduce and ensure individual and needs-based support, affected persons must be supported in finding and contacting competent contact persons and entities. Accommodation centres must - based on an analysis of the resources of the local municipality - have a database and list of addresses of suitable local contact persons, counselling services and institutions that are available to provide further support. This includes, e.g., women’s shelters, women’s counselling services, women’s emergency hotlines, specialised counselling services (such as for those affected by human trafficking), organisations of refugees, organisations of migrants, organisations of persons with disabilities, organisations of LGBTI* persons, refugee counselling services, administrative police and crime investigation departments, centres that work with perpetrators, justice, legal advice, assistance for persons with disabilities, youth welfare office, youth welfare centres, health care (including HIV/Aids and counselling offices for addicts), psycho-social or psycho-therapeutic counselling offices, in this regard experienced specialists (child protection workers), religious and belief societies/communities (e.g., mosque communities), language and culture mediators etc. If necessary, specially trained staff will accompany affected persons to appointments and advise them on the choices of support available.”
- **“Cooperation with schools and day-care centres:** Cooperation with nurseries and child day-care centres and schools (including educators, teachers, social workers) is also essential in order to facilitate rapid enrolment and good integration in early childhood care as well as in day-to-day school life. Within this framework, it can also be determined, where applicable, whether there is a particular need for assistance or support, which the social workers at accommodation centres could apply for. In addition, nursery staff, teachers and social workers are important contact partners whenever the welfare of a child appears threatened.”

Based on the information received, Germany is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

GREECE

1. *The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.*

Greece provided no information in the context of the compliance procedure. Based on information submitted by FRA, it should be noted that “shortcomings in the national child-protection system, leading to the social exclusion and sexual and labour exploitation of children.”⁴ The full report by the NGO Rosa Luxembourg Stiftung, referenced by FRA, reports that the “child protection in Greece can be characterised as fragmentary, occasional and random.”⁵ The same report emphasises that “sexual exploitation of unaccompanied minors is a well-acknowledged phenomenon (and there are) various types of sexual exploitation networks for both boys and girls in Greece.”⁶ As recalled by FRA, this situation had already been reported by ECPAT in the context of the Lanzarote Committee’s Special Report.

Additional information submitted by FRA reports that “in Greece, a report by ECPAT, the international network against the sexual abuse of children, highlights how political and socioeconomic factors in Greece have increased children’s vulnerability to sexual abuse. Overburdened state services and insufficient accommodation for children put children at risk. In November 2019, among some 5,162 unaccompanied children, 1,246 were living in precarious conditions, being homeless or on the move. Unaccompanied children, especially boys, offer sex services to obtain food, shelter or money to continue their journey. The report also highlights some improvements in Greece’s system of care. For example, the Foster Care Law passed in 2018 will enable the development of family-based forms of care for children who cannot live with their families, including unaccompanied children.”⁷

In relation to the issue of accommodation, Article 35 of the recent Law No. 4825 of 4th of September 2021 on Solidarity Fund arrangements of article 196 of law. 4662/2020 (Replacement of paragraph 2, amendment of paragraphs 3, 4 of Article 196 of Law no. 4662/2020) establishes the “Solidarity Fund” which is managed by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum with a view to finance projects, supplies and studies to support local communities affected by the migratory flows and the operation of accommodation units for third-country nationals. If the establishment of the Solidarity Fund will serve, among other, the purpose of operationalizing accommodation units for children affected by the refugee crisis, especially those who have been victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, this could reinforce prevention and protection of children and address some of the issues highlighted above.

⁴ FRA (2019) *Children in Migration 2019. Annual Review*. published 20/03/2020. Page 16

⁵ Sarantou, Elina and Theodoropoulou, Aggeliki (2019) *Children cast adrift: the exclusion and exploitation of unaccompanied minors in Greece, Spain and Italy. Comparative Report*. Page 16

⁶ *Ibid.* Pages 53-54

⁷ FRA (2020) Migration: Key fundamental rights concerns- bulletin 1- 2020, published 18.02.2020. Page 20

However, the following issues of concern related to Law No. 4825 of 4th of September 2021 have been brought to the attention of the Committee as regards compliance with Recommendation 13. For example, Article 7 on Extension of the deadline for voluntary departure (Replacement of par. 1 and 2 of Article 36 of Law No. 3907/2011) provides that third-Party nationals during that period, have no right to access to social integration programmes, except when Law No. 3838/2010 (A' 49) on access to Greek citizenship applies (Article 7 para 1). Lack of access to social integration programmes during the examination of children's and/or their families' request of extension of voluntary departure may expose them to greater risks of sexual exploitation and abuse, especially if the examination process is significantly delayed.

The same law also provides specific reference to unaccompanied children, which is of relevance. In particular, Article 19 on Arrangements for the Temporary Number of Insurance and Health Care of Aliens (P.A.A.Y.P.A.) (Replacement of paragraph 2 of Article 55 of Law No. 4636/2019) establishes that "applicants for international protection shall be assigned a Temporary Foreigner's Insurance and Health Care Number" which give them access to health care, the labour market and social security. In case of rejection of the application for international protection, the Health Care Number is automatically deactivated and the holder ceases to have access to the above services. Differently from Article 55 of the IPA, Article 19 makes specific reference to unaccompanied children, establishing that "by way of exception, where the decision rejecting the application for international protection concerns an unaccompanied minor, the IACS remains active until the enforcement of the return decision or the unaccompanied minor has reached the age of majority and continues to have access to the above services." While this exception is important, it may nevertheless leave out other vulnerable groups of children affected by the refugee crisis, namely those who have been victims of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse.

This law has also been addressed by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Dunja Mijatović, with concerns expressed over the fact that "Article 40 of the Deportations and Return Bill (which) would introduce restrictions and conditions on the activities of civil society organisation in areas of competence of the Greek Coast Guard, and non-observance of these will be subject to heavy sanctions and fines." The Commissioner also took note of the fact that the Bill "raised serious concerns among the human rights community as regards its impact on, for example, the right to asylum, the prevention of refoulement, remedies, safeguards in return procedures, and the prevention of automatic, large-scale detention."⁸

⁸ Statement available at: [Greece's Parliament should align the deportations and return bill with human rights standards - View \(coe.int\)](https://www.coe.int/en/web/human-rights-standards/greece-parliament-should-align-the-deportations-and-return-bill-with-human-rights-standards)

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

No additional information has been submitted.

Based on the information submitted by FRA, recent legal provisions and the lack of information submitted by Greece, Greece is considered non-compliant with the requirements of Recommendation 13.

HUNGARY

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Hungary provided information on the work of the refugee authority, which co-operates with governmental and non-governmental organisations in the protection of children. If the person seeking asylum is an unaccompanied child, the refugee authority shall appoint a guardian appointed to act on his/her behalf (Act LXXX. of 2007 on Asylum, Section 35). As necessary, discussions are ongoing with the Ministry of Human Capacities providing the professional conditions for education, as well as with the regionally competent school districts and educators. Furthermore, there is a strong professional relationship among social workers in the transit zone and medical staff (included the psychiatrist providing psycho-social assistance). The rules and conditions for *ad hoc* guardians appointed and available for unaccompanied minors over the age of 14 years, placed in the transit zones were reviewed by the designated guardianship authorities after extensive professional preparation and limited the appointments to persons who have experience in victim protection, child protection and guardianship issues. The Ministry of Human Capacities has facilitated this review and preparation of appropriate and experienced *ad hoc* guardians by organising professional meetings where the knowledge and experience of these guardians could be shared, and the cooperation of the relevant professionals could be strengthened.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information submitted, Hungary provided information that according to Article 4 Paragraph (1) of the Act CXXXV of 2005 on Crime Victim Support and State Compensation (hereinafter referred to as 'Victim Support Act'), the act aims to support the victims in general, so its provisions also apply to child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse. In the system of the Victim Support Act, the benefits are provided in accordance with the needs of the victims, in each case, after the assessment of the needs of the victims. So the unique circumstances of these child victims are also assessed individually during the whole procedure. These particular circumstances are also taken into account by the organisations during the cooperation under the Article 43 Paragraph (1) and (2) of the Victim Support Act. According to the Victim Support Act, the victim support service shall cooperate and liaise with the victim protection network of the police, the court, the prosecution, the investigating authority, the asylum authority, the aliens' registration authority, the consular service, local and national self-governments, health care institutions, youth protection organisations, child welfare and child protection institutions providing personal care, family support services, social services and institutions providing primary and specialised care, public education institutions, vocational training institutions, civil protection, civil society organisations and religious communities.

Based on the information received, Hungary is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined by the following reason: it is unclear how other groups of children affected by the refugee crisis are protected, other than those who are unaccompanied.

ICELAND

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Iceland provided information that all relevant agencies have agreed upon collective work procedures with the aim of ensuring the appropriate response to cases of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. The Act on Foreigners in force from 2017 underlines cooperation between immigration authorities and the Government Agency for Child Protection.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Iceland provided information that the Government Agency is responsible for the Barnahus, the multi-agency response to cases of violence against children. Iceland is currently working on a bill to strengthen even further co-ordination and cooperation of all welfare services for children in a broad sense.

Based on the information received, Iceland is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

ITALY

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Italy provided detailed information of the existence of different strategies and coordination mechanisms relevant to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

Concerning the specific issue of trafficking for sexual exploitation, with Legislative Decree no. 24 of March 4, 2014, which transposes the EU Directive no. 36 of 2011, on the prevention and repression of trafficking in human beings and the protection of victims, the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers was identified as the body responsible for coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the outcomes of policies for prevention, law enforcement and social protection of victims with particular reference to the activities of guidance and coordination of social prevention of the phenomenon and assistance to victims, as well as planning of financial resources for interventions of assistance and social integration of victims.

The main innovations included in the decree were the:

- Adoption of the First National Plan to combat trafficking, across the various levels of government, particularly that of the Regions and Local Authorities;
- Unification of the two project typologies in a single programme of emergence, assistance and social integration;
- Obligation of training for all the operators involved;
- Setting up a system of compensation for the victims.

In 2016, the Council of Ministers adopted the first National Action Plan against trafficking and serious exploitation of human beings for the years 2016-2018. The National Action Plan also contains in an annex the “Guidelines for the definition of a mechanism for rapid identification of victims of trafficking and serious exploitation”. These guidelines describe the situations in which possible victims of trafficking could be found and the professionals who may be involved in the identification process (e.g. immigration officials, social workers, prosecutors, judges, asylum officers, staff working in detention centres, prison staff, labour inspectors, trade unions, international organisations, law enforcement officers, diplomatic and consular staff). All professionals who come into contact with a presumed victim of trafficking must inform the responsible person in the institution they belong to, following the instructions provided, so that further steps can be implemented.

The Department of Equal Opportunities also coordinated a number of awareness raising activities including the website entitled Observatory intervention trafficking (“Osservatorio interventi tratta”), which includes the information materials and relevant reports.

Moreover, the recently approved law on the system of protection and reception of unaccompanied foreign children Law no. 47 of 2017 at Article 17, provides for a specific assistance programme for trafficked minors.

To be mentioned also United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) ITALY Strategy on sexual and gender-based violence 2017-2019 for the promotion of equal and effective access to mechanisms of prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence and the widening of safe integration perspectives for asylum seekers, refugees and other persons covered by the UNHCR mandate at risk in Italy. The overall aim of the strategy is to reduce the risks and mitigate the consequences of sexual and gender-based violence suffered by women, men, boys and girls through a coordinated response mechanism, based on a multi-sectoral approach focusing on the survivor of the violence, and on equal and non-discriminatory access to services available to citizens. All areas of action aim to: include men who have survived sexual and gender-based violence, involving men and boys in prevention activities; mitigate the specific risks of sexual and gender-based violence to which people are exposed even when they move further across the territory (minors, in particular); address the risks arising from sexual and gender-based violence and ensure safe environments; and protect people with special needs who are exposed to a higher risk of sexual and gender-based violence and discrimination.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In addition to what has been described above, Italy provided information that coordination of prevention and protection measures in relation to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse is ensured by the National Observatory for the fight against paedophilia and child pornography set up by law 38/2006. This law specifies that the main task of the Observatory is to acquire and monitor data and information relating to the activities carried out by all public administrations, for the prevention and fight of the phenomenon of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children.

The Observatory is chaired by the Head of the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and consists of five members appointed by the Minister for Equal Opportunities, including a technical-scientific Coordinator, a representative respectively of the Department for Family Policies, the State Police, the Carabinieri, the Guardia di Finanza, representatives of the Ministry of Justice, as well as four members of the most representative national associations in the fight against the phenomenon of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children in addition to trade unions.

The internal Regulation assigns the Centre several tasks, including:

- Promotion of studies and research on the phenomenon;
- Drafting of an annual technical-scientific report summarising the activities carried out, also for the purpose of preparing the Annual Report to the Parliament;
- Preparation of the National Plan to prevent and combat sexual abuse and exploitation of children;
- Acquisition of data concerning monitoring and verification of the results, coordinating the methods and types of acquisition and ensuring their homogeneity;
- Reporting of the activities carried out, also through its institutional website and the dissemination of targeted publications.

The Observatory is also responsible for implementing the National Plan to Prevent and Combat Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children, approved by the National Observatory for Children and Adolescents in accordance with the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children from Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation. During the last period, particular attention has been devoted to the monitoring of actions relating to the promotion and primary prevention in the socioeducational and health field; the accompaniment of family vulnerability; training of professionals and networking.

Based on the information received, Italy is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

LATVIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Latvia provided information that regulatory enactments stipulate that the children affected by the refugee crisis (regardless of whether they are asylum seekers or persons holding the status of international protection) and children residing in Latvia hold equal rights and possibilities to receive assistance in relation to violence of any kind, as well as are equally protected against sexual exploitation and sexual violence.

Preventive work aimed at prevention of insufficient supervision of children, obtaining of information on their delinquencies, as well as unlawful actions aimed at them or other persons, as well as to prevent further unlawful actions, is constantly in progress at the State Police in relation to every child regardless of his/her country of origin. In order to improve safety of children, education of children and their parents are equally important, and, in this process, general preventive work of the State Police plays significant role. During the period from January to September 2019, the State Police officers, who perform their duties in the area of juvenile crime prevention, gave 641 lectures on violence, including sexual violence.

The State refers to a co-operation project with the Children at Risk Unit of the Council of the Baltic Sea States Secretariat and the Nordic Council of Ministers resulting in a series of trainings of various Latvian stakeholders (justice, welfare, police, municipalities, NGOs) on sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children on the move, with the development and translation of corresponding training material.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, complemented by the additional information, Latvia provided information on the Integrated Information System of the Interior, in which the information necessary for the protection of the rights of the child is included, integrating information of state and local government institutions, as well as of medical practitioners regarding minors who need support and cases when preventive measures

should be taken for the protection of the rights of children. The purpose of the information system for the support of minors is to promote the protection of the rights and interests of children, ensuring processing of the necessary information and promoting inter-institutional cooperation. However, the State reports no identified case of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children affected by the refugee crisis. The information on asylum seekers is collected by the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs in a specialised information system – The Asylum Seekers’ Register – from which statistical selections based on target group of children affected by the refugee crisis who are victims or presumed victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse is possible, indicating that no obstacles of collecting such data have been found.

Based on the information received, Latvia is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

LIECHTENSTEIN

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Liechtenstein provided information that in recent years the coordination and collaboration of the different actors who intervene for and with children affected by the refugee crisis was strengthened. The free legal advice for asylum applicants has been strengthened in a revision of the Asylum Act of Liechtenstein in December 2018. There is a close cooperation between the NGO Flüchtlingshilfe Liechtenstein that is responsible for the accommodation and care of the asylum applicants and the person of confidence of the Office of Social Services that is appointed to unaccompanied minors.

No reference has been made to the prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

No additional information has been provided.

Based on the information received, Liechtenstein is non-compliant with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Non-compliance has been determined, as there is insufficient information to determine compliance.

LITHUANIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Lithuania provided information that the children in the Refugee centre are attending school, where they have a curriculum about sexual abuse and protection. In the Refugee Centre the psychologist has the group activities adapted to their needs (age, language, etc.) about protection from sexual abuse for the children.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

No additional information has been provided.

Based on the information received, Lithuania is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined, for the following reasons: a) it is unclear whether the activities mentioned are sufficient to address the needs of all groups of children affected by the refugee crisis; and b) it is unclear if there is a coordinated approach and/or relevant coordination mechanisms.

LUXEMBOURG

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information provided, Luxembourg provided information that following on from the coalition agreement for 2018-2023, the Monitoring Committee to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, chaired by the Ministry of Justice, seeks to address all forms of trafficking in human beings (prostitution, forced labour, forced begging, etc.) and step up national and international efforts to combat it.

A long-term information campaign on trafficking in human beings was launched in December 2016 with a universal message and dual objective: raising awareness among the general public and informing them about the different forms which trafficking in human beings can take (including forced begging) so as to change their attitudes and increase awareness of trafficking in people's daily lives.

In October 2019, Luxembourg decided to join the EUCPN (European Crime Prevention Network) initiative to launch a campaign to prevent trafficking in human beings, the aim of which is to inform victims or potential victims about their rights at European level and where to obtain assistance, protection and information.

The campaign targets victims and potential victims. Trafficking victims very often are not aware that they are victims of an offence and do not come forward. Vulnerable groups are therefore reached out to directly through a poster and social media campaign in several languages and in very specific locations (stations, bus stops, assistance services and shelters, etc.).

It should be noted here that information is also disseminated via Facebook and the "stoptraite.lu" website launched several years ago as part of the first public awareness-raising campaign. This ensures that the campaign is also carried forward.

A brochure for potential victims has been produced and widely distributed. It includes information in various languages (including Arabic, Chinese, Croatian, French, Portuguese, Tigrigna, Russian, Romanian, Spanish and Albanian, etc.) and is also available in pictogram form.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

No additional information has been submitted.

Based on the information received, Luxembourg is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined, for the following reasons: a) it is unclear whether the activities mentioned are sufficient to address the needs of all groups of children affected by the refugee crisis; and b) it is unclear if there is a coordinated approach and/or coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response.

MALTA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Malta provided information that with regards to prevention, Kiko and the Hand is distributed among all early years school children, that is state/public, private and church schools. The Office of the Commissioner for Children aims to embark on a project to produce a child-friendly information leaflet for children affected by the refugee crisis, to inform them about their rights in general and prevention from sexual abuse and exploitation, in multiple languages.

No additional information has been submitted.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Malta provided information that the National Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers (AWAS) acts as a facilitator between public entities responsible for providing services to ensure that national obligations to beneficiaries of international protection and asylum seekers are accessible and encourages networking between relevant local voluntary organisations in Malta.

In the case of alleged or actual sexual abuse the Director (Protection of Minors) would ensure that the child is protected, and a care order may be issued, and receives all the necessary services required. The assistance of the Executive Police may also be obtained, in the exercise of his functions.

Based on the information received, Malta is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined, for the following reason: it is unclear whether the activities mentioned are sufficient to address the needs of all groups of children affected by the refugee crisis.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, the Republic of Moldova provided information that although no cases of sexual abuse of migrant children were registered by the Bureau for Migration and Asylum (BMA), cooperation plans between BMA and four NGOs specialised in the field were signed, in order to provide a wide range of services, to realise measures and activities for refugee children. Some activities are partially covered by UNHCR.

Migrant children have access to the system of social protection, education, medical services, and representation. The legislation on asylum since 2016 expressively provides to asylum seeking children equal rights for assistance as of those of citizens of the Republic of Moldova when it comes to access to medical services.

In the Accommodation Centre (shelter) under the management of BMA there is a playground for children, NGOs organise activities for recreation, children receive education (kindergarten and gymnasium within the Accommodation Centre), which are located next to the Centre. The Accommodation Centre offers psychological services and activities, based on contracts with social workers and psychologists.

In the context of Recommendation 37, Moldova provided information on the coordinated approach between the different agencies in charge in order to facilitate the prevention and protection of any children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, as provided by Law no. 140/2013 on special protection of children at risk and children separated from parents and Government Decision no. 270/2014 for its implementation.

The Government Decision no. 1101/2018 “On approval of the National strategy for integrated management of state border for the period 2018-2023 and of the Action plan for years 2018-2020” includes action no. 29 “Strengthening the capacities to provide assistance to persons seeking international protection from the Republic of Moldova” and its sub-action 29.1: Elaboration of the mechanism for periodic identification and verification of the personnel who are in contact with asylum seekers if they have been involved in acts of violence, sexual exploitation or abuse of children. Deadline for the mentioned action is the fourth quarter 2020.

According to the action plan, joint activities are planned to be carried out by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Bureau of Migration and Asylum, General Inspectorate of Border Police, General Inspectorate of Police) together with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, the Republic of Moldova provided information that separate living conditions for families with children are provided in the Centre for the temporary placement of aliens. A mechanism for referral of children in custody is established and implemented through cooperation agreements with institutions of general education.

At the same time, the BMA signed in 2016 a Collaboration agreement with the Municipal Directorate for the Protection of the Rights of the Child of the Chisinau municipality, to establish a mechanism for identifying, reporting and managing the cases concerning:

1. Unaccompanied foreign minors who arrived in Chisinau municipality not accompanied by parents or a legal representative;
2. Unaccompanied foreign minors who are not in the care of other persons provided by law;
3. Foreign minors who remained unaccompanied after entering the territory of the Republic of Moldova and are located in the municipality of Chisinau;
4. Unaccompanied foreign minors who have been released from the public custody of the Centre for the temporary placement of aliens of the BMA.

The main general objective of the Agreement is to provide assistance services for unaccompanied foreign minors.

During the last 5 years of activity of the BMA, there have been no cases concerning children (including unaccompanied minors/ sexually abused minors) addressed by other institutions or received from other institutions. Only in one case a foreigner who was in public custody declared himself a minor and applied for asylum (no signs of sexual abuse in this case) invoking instability in the country of origin. After 6 months, the person was transferred to custody of local administration, until he reached the age of 18. The Chisinau City Hall appointed a guardian and the child was located in a specialised Centre for children, with all the necessary services: medical, social, psychological etc.), under the management of the City Hall.

Based on the information received, the Republic of Moldova is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

MONACO

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Monaco provided information on vetting procedures in place, as a preventive measure. Specifically, professionals who may come into contact with children affected by the refugee crisis must have not been previously convicted. Civil servants and officials, including educators working in the Children's Home and professionals from the public hospital are the subject of an administrative inquiry and must be of "good character" to be recruited⁹. For this purpose, the database launched by the INTERPOL channel and the French police files are made available.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Monaco provided information that any unaccompanied minor found on Monegasque territory is taken in by the police services, which ensure their state of health and attempt to establish their identity. In parallel, the judicial authority, duly informed, decides whether or not the minor is placed in the Children's Home, unless the child's state of health requires immediate hospitalisation. Then, on the instruction of the Public Prosecutor's Office, the minor is handed over by Public Security officers to the only childcare facility in the Principality: the Foyer de l'Enfance (Princesse Charlene).

In this context, comprehensive care (educational / health / psychological) of the child is provided. A medical examination is carried out by the medical inspector of the Direction de l'Action et de l'Aide Sociales within 24 hours of the arrival of the child who, in the event of a major wound or doubt of a contagious pathology, addresses the minor in the Emergency Department of the Public Hospital (Centre Hospitalier Princesse Grace).

Based on the information received, Monaco is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

⁹ Law n° 975 of July 12, 1975 relating to the statute of State officials, art. 18; ministerial decree n° 2016-622 of October 17, 2016 implementing article 3 of law n° 1.430 of July 13, 2016, art. 1, 2°; Ordinance n° 13.839 of December 29, 1998 relating to the status of hospital practitioners at the Princess Grace Hospital Centre.

MONTENEGRO

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Montenegro provided information that preventive measures are of paramount importance when it comes to protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation or abuse. In this regard, various measures are being taken to proceed with the continued provision of child protection to foreigners seeking international protection.

All children foreigners seeking international protection who have requested admission in Montenegro are provided with appropriate accommodation by the Reception Centre, providing adequate material, legal and psychological assistance from the moment of admission, the right to health care, right to education and right to social protection. When accommodating in the Reception Centre for foreigners seeking international protection, particular attention is paid to gender, age, position of vulnerable groups, health and disability, as well as to family unification. In the event of the placement of unaccompanied minors, their specific needs and their best interests are taken into account. Unaccompanied minor migrants, as well as accompanied minors (by relatives or parents), are always placed separately. The expert staff of the reception Centre conducts an initial assessment of the situation and needs of the child from the first contact. Given the fact that the process of assessing the best interests of the child should take place in a safe and friendly atmosphere, at the Reception Centre, it is carried out by a social worker, a psychologist, an educator, a healthcare professional.

Safety and security at the accommodation, especially for children, is of great importance. Gender-separated toilets, adequate facility lighting, and child-friendly facilities at the Reception Centre not only make a huge difference to the well-being of children, but can also eliminate the risk of abuse. The Reception Centre is covered 24 hours by security - video surveillance, presence of security of the Centre and police officers in civilian clothes. Separate accommodation for families with children and unaccompanied and minors, given their vulnerability, also provides additional security.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In addition to the multidisciplinary work described above, coordinated cooperation also includes the professional teams of the Red Cross of Montenegro, which provide support through the UNHCR Project, as well as the International Organisation for Migration. The Centres for Social Work and guardians of unaccompanied minors are also involved in the collaboration. In this regard, protection of children from sexual exploitation or neglect

is continuously implemented through the cooperation of the various actors. If necessary, the Centre for the Reception of foreigners seeking international protection would immediately contact the relevant institutions, which are under an obligation to provide support and protection to children.

In the additional information, Montenegro further provided that there is State cooperation with the Police Directorate (in case there are cooperation agreements, for example), as well as where there are projects implemented together with the civil sector (related to raising awareness, for example), in combating and preventing sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children affected by the refugee crisis.

Based on the information received, Montenegro is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

NETHERLANDS

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, the Netherlands provided information that it tackles the situation of sexual exploitation of children affected by the refugee crisis within the context of existing action plans, frameworks etc, like the project Ravot. The [Ravot Project](#) aimed at developing a transnational referral mechanism among Hungary, Belgium and the Netherlands, for referral, assistance and safe return of victims trafficked for the purpose of sexual and labour exploitation. An online platform is created that can be used for professional and academic purposes. The project also aimed at developing a better understanding and trust between non-governmental organisations and the relevant authorities in the field of human trafficking. As part of this project a manual has been developed that describes what kind of support for victims of human trafficking exists in the three countries. A website has been built where the different national referral mechanisms of the three countries are shown in a flowchart. You can also find an interactive map on the website in which the relevant organisations are represented in the three countries.

Another example of successful cooperation is the development of the Benelux brochure. The Benelux brochure is a brochure in which the referral mechanisms of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands are explained. In this brochure practical examples illustrate the scope of cross-border cooperation. The brochure also contains contact details of organisations that have a role in tackling human trafficking and in supporting victims. This brochure is outdated and currently it is being discussed whether the brochure will be updated shortly.

Two other EU projects that can be mentioned are the EU AMIF SAFE! Project and the EU AMIF STEP-project. The [EU AMIF SAFE! Project](#) (Safe and Adequate Return, Fair Treatment and Early identification of Victims of Trafficking project) has been executed by a cooperation of the Dutch Police, various specialised NGOs and IOM The Netherlands, Hungary and Bulgaria, and expertise from Macedonia. HVO-Querido, a Dutch NGO, had the lead in this international project. Other NGOs were IOM the Netherlands, LaStrada International, Fairwork, Humanitas and CoMensha. In the context of this project, the manual [‘Safe Future Methodology Concerning Children: The interests of the child should be the first priority!’](#) was published. The manual offers a child-centred approach and deals with children of foreign victims of trafficking or domestic violence; children of undocumented foreign nationals; or of asylum seekers whose applications for residency have been rejected. It contains different references to sexual abuse.

The [EU AMIF STEP-project](#) (Sustainable integration of Trafficked human beings through proactive identification and Enhanced Protection) is focused on the sustainable integration of Trafficked human beings through proactive identification and Enhanced Protection (STEP). A toolkit was developed in a collaboration project between the Netherlands Red Cross, the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA), VluchtelingenWerk Nederland (Dutch Refugee Council), CoMensha and Nidos. European partners include the British Red Cross, the Croatian Red Cross and France Terre d'Asile.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In addition to the information above, the organisations involved in the asylum seekers' Centre in Ter Apel have developed a protocol that describes how to act when a potential victim of human trafficking/abuse is identified. It involves work arrangements, like (the way and conditions for) the exchange of information between organisations in the immigration chain.

The Netherlands further mentioned the close cooperation between COA, Safe at Home, the Police and (youth) health care organisations. Within the organisations that together form the migration chain the subject of sexual abuse is addressed in meetings that take place on a regular basis. For example, there is the chain meeting on protective shelter by COA, Nidos, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), police, Comensha, the Expertise Centre for Human Trafficking and Human Smuggling (EMM), lawyers and the Legal Aid Board (the organisation that is responsible for granting by the government subsidised legal aid).

Based on the information received, the Netherlands is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

NORTH MACEDONIA

In Compilation information 2020, North Macedonia provided information that in December 2017, the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia took the decision to establish a National Coordinative Body for Protection of Children from Abuse and Neglect, the objective of which is to monitor and coordinate the implementation of the activities for protection of children from Abuse and Neglect. The National Coordinative Body for Protection of Children from Abuse and Neglect is composed of representatives of all relevant ministries, civil society organisations and international organisations. However, there is no specific reference to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse nor to children affected by the refugee crisis.

No additional information has been provided.

Based on the information received, North Macedonia is non-compliant with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Non-compliance has been determined, as there is insufficient information to determine compliance.

POLAND

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Poland provided detailed information on prevention and protection policies and initiatives against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

The Agreement on standard procedures in identifying, preventing and responding to the cases of sexual violence or gender-based violence against foreigners staying in facilities for asylum seekers was entered into force by and between the following parties: UNHCR, Police Commander in Chief, La Strada Foundation and Halina Nieć Legal Aid Centre. Local Cooperation Teams consist, by law, of the following members:

- an employee of the Office for Foreigners responsible for a specific facility;
- a police officer of the local police unit; and
- a representative of the non-governmental organisation that is a party to the agreement or another organisation invited to cooperate.

Additionally, having regard that foreign children have a right to special protection and help, and in reference to the rights enjoyed by any child under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular the right to protection against any form of harm under Article 19 of the Convention, the *Policy of protecting children against harm in centres for foreigners* was established and implemented in cooperation with 'Dajemy Dzieciom Siłę' Foundation. The Policy was created as part of the project entitled 'Chronimy dzieci

w ośrodkach dla uchodźców – kompleksowy system ochrony dzieci przed przemocą i wykorzystywaniem’ (We protect children in refugee centres – comprehensive system of protecting children against violence and exploitation), co-funded by the Programme of the National Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the State’s budget. Under the Policy introduced in November 2016, all employees of the Office for Foreigners and the employers of companies and organisations committed by the Head of the Office to act within the premises of the centres or carrying out projects targeted at their residents are required to take steps aimed at ensuring safety to all foreign children.

The document specifies the standards and procedures of conduct aiming to:

- increase the awareness of the importance of protecting children against any form of harm;
- provide guidelines and specify the procedure and scope of responsibility in any actions related to children’s safety;
- ensure safety to children by prevention efforts aimed at education in the field of the protection of the rights of the child and minimising the risk of harm, as well as intervention efforts aimed at taking appropriate steps if harm to a child is suspected or identified.

An integral part of the Policy is a handbook entitled „Chronimy dzieci w ośrodkach dla cudzoziemców” (We protect children in the centres for foreigners) addressed to the employees of the Department of Welfare in the Office for Foreigners who work in the centres. The manual consists of two parts. The first part focuses on the analysis of standards. Guidelines, ideas, specific tools and information about solutions offered have been developed for each standard to support its implementation. The second part is supposed to support the dissemination of knowledge on the identification of violence, legal aspects of protecting children against harm, as well as legal and psychological support, among people involved in the programme.

The Policy of protecting children against harm in the centres for foreigners also provides for regular monitoring and evaluation, as well as consultations with centre staff and residents. A few months after the adoption of the Policy, its implementation in the centres was subject to evaluation. In May 2017, a study report on the *Policy of protecting children against harm in the centres for foreigners* was drafted. The evaluation showed that it is important to improve and consolidate knowledge about the issues covered by the Policy among the employees of the centres, to react to the risks to children’s safety, in particular by following appropriate procedures, and to identify the symptoms of harm caused to a child, as well as to consult difficult and problematic scenarios with experts.

Another important element of the Policy is the obligation to verify persons who perform duties requiring contact with minors within the premises of the centres in the child sex offender register. The Office requires this type of verification from, among others, entities that compete for a public contract to conduct education activities or organise trips for children.

Steps taken by the Office to ensure the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse have also been focused on the transfer of adequate knowledge to parents. As already mentioned, apart from the activities organised, the Office arranges, within the Policy of protecting children against harm in the centres for foreigners, induction courses for each newly admitted person to provide accessible information on the rules of life in Poland (including proper care for children). Additionally, in accordance with the procedure envisaged for the cases of marriage entered into by a minor person, parents and the 'spouse' of the minor person receive necessary information in this regard, including information on their liability.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Poland provided information that as part of performing, among others, the above-mentioned tasks, the Border Guard cooperates with a number of institutions, in particular: the Ministry of the Interior and Administration, the Police, the Prosecutor's Office, International Organisation for Migration and non-governmental organisations that provide support to the child as a victim. The cooperation is based on the institutional launching of support, in particular in the form of safe accommodation, medical care, psychological care, interpreting and translation services, legal services, food, etc., provided by the National Consulting and Intervention Centre (*Krajowe Centrum Interwencyjno-Kryzysowe*), supervised by the Ministry of the Interior and Administration, and implemented, as a task committed by the Ministry, by non-governmental organisation selected in a competitive procedure (at this moment by the La Strada Foundation against Trafficking in Persons and Slavery and Stowarzyszenie Pomoc im. Marii Niepokalanej z Katowic).

Based on the information received, Poland is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

PORTUGAL

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Portugal provided information on the System for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of the Child (Approved by Law No. 147/99 of September 1 and updated by Law No. 142/2015 of September 8), which includes collaboration and coordination guiding principle (article 4). The structures and services,

as entities with competence in matters of childhood and youth, have first level intervention responsibilities in accordance with article 7 of the abovementioned Law:

- promoting primary and secondary prevention actions, in particular by defining local action plans for children and youth, with a view to promote, defend and implement the rights of children and youth;
- promoting and integrating partnerships and drawing on partnerships where, under the circumstances of the case, their isolated intervention is not appropriate for the effective promotion of the rights and protection of the child or youth.

Children's Health Action at Risk (ASCJR), through its national network of Centres, in collaboration and partnership with other community entities, develops and promotes actions and measures to promote and protect the rights of all children, including refugee children.

The translation of the Council of Europe manual "How to convey child-friendly information to children in migration: A handbook for frontline professionals" is currently under way for further publication of guidelines for various sectors, including health professionals in this field (including issues of sexual exploitation and abuse).

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

Considering the quota established by the Portuguese Government, the Resettlement National Programme expected to welcome in Portugal 1,010 refugees between 2018 and 2019, 404 of whom from Egypt and 606 from Turkey. The refugees are under the protection of UNHCR. To reach them, the High Commissioner for Migration (ACM) together with the Immigration and Border Service (SEF) implemented selection missions in the settlement locations.

In these missions, ACM develops a plenary meeting regarding the presentation of the welcoming programme and the support services for migrants' integration available in Portugal, as well as the country culture, demography, human rights, citizen's rights and duties. Complementary topics such as domestic violence and gender equality are also addressed. In addition, and through interviews, in these missions the ACM is also committed to:

- Assess the real expectations and motivations of applicants through the filling of a specific form;
- Social profiling the applicant/household through social information collected;
- Match the applicant/household with the available Portuguese local institutions hosting refugees, considering the characteristics and needs both of the

applicant/household and of the destination place/location to achieve a better integration as possible;

- Explain the support and integration plan model.

During these interviews, or even after, if any suspicions of a child being at risk occurs, ACM would immediately report the case to the competent entities.

The Security Services and Forces cooperate closely with other national authorities, state bodies and non-governmental organisations working on the national referral mechanism for human trafficking and the national mechanism for the protection of children and youth, including the Portuguese Observatory for Human Trafficking (OTSH) and the Commission for the Protection of Children and Youth (CPCJ), among others.

Based on the information received, Portugal is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined, for the following reasons: a) it is unclear whether the preventive measures carried out within the regular System for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of the Child would be sufficient to address the prevention and protection needs of children affected by the refugee crisis against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse; and b) it is unclear if there is relevant coordination across relevant sectors, including social services, health and the education sector.

ROMANIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Romania provided information that according to Law no. 122/2006 regarding the asylum in Romania, in the category of vulnerable persons or persons with special needs are included minors, unaccompanied minors, disabled persons, pregnant women, single parents accompanied by their minor children, victims of trafficking persons with mental illness, persons who have been subject to torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, psychological or sexual violence, or in other special situations similar to those mentioned above.

After identifying individuals as belonging to one of the vulnerable categories mentioned (the identification must take place, according to – art. 51 of the law mentioned above, as soon as possible after the submission of an asylum application), the General Inspectorate for Immigration, through the responsible specialists, collaborate with the relevant institutions and NGO partners in order to provide the appropriate assistance. This assistance is not limited in time, continuing throughout the asylum procedure and later on after obtaining the form of protection, as long as the state of vulnerability persists.

In order to carry out the individual evaluation and to take appropriate measures to ensure the rights and guarantees provided by this law, the competent authorities must grant specialised support, at the request of the General Inspectorate for Immigration. The law also provides the obligation for the General Inspectorate for Immigration to monitor the situation of applicants with special reception needs and, together with the competent authorities, to ensure that the assistance offered to them is provided.

Also, in order to manage the situations of sexual violence, the personnel of the regional centres of procedures and accommodation of the asylum seekers inform the refugees about the acts of sexual or gender violence, as well as about the consequences of these facts (according to art. 60, lit. a) of the OMAI no. 130/2016 for the approval of the Regulation of internal order of the regional centres of procedures and accommodation of the asylum seekers' asylum procedure).

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In case of sexual violence occurs, the personnel of the regional centres of accommodation and asylum procedures notifies the competent public authorities and institutions and collaborates with national and international non-governmental organisations and bodies, as well as with public authorities and institutions with responsibilities on this line, to assist the victims in an adequate manner (according to art. 60, letter b) and c) of the OMAI no. 130/2016).

Foreign diplomatic and consular missions have the obligation to notify the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and the General Inspectorate for Immigration about all the situations in which they know of foreign national children who are on the territory of Romania, who, for whatever reasons, are not accompanied. In this situation the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, until the legal measures falling within the competence of the General Inspectorate for Immigration, will request the Bucharest Court to establish the placement of the child in a special protection service proposed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection.

Also, regarding unaccompanied minors, in order to provide the legal protection guaranties for them, the General Inspectorate for Immigration collaborates with the structures of the local public administration authorities with responsibilities in the field of protection and promotion of the rights of the child, as well as with the competent judicial authorities, as the case may be, in order to clarify the legal situation of the minor or if a special protection measure was instituted (art. 16 of the abovementioned law).

For each child affected by refugee crisis who is unaccompanied on Romanian territory, the General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection (GDSACP) nominates a professional who will protect his/her rights and accompany he/she during the whole process in obtaining refugee statute or seeking asylum in other country.

The General Inspectorate for Immigration and the National Authority for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Children and Adoptions (NARPDCA), together with other relevant institutions and NGOs are in process of elaboration a methodology for these nominated persons. The actions taken by this person should be understood as preventive measures in regard to protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

The procedure provided by the Government decision 49/2011 - *on the approval of the Framework Methodology on multidisciplinary and networking prevention and intervention in child violence and family violence, and the Multidisciplinary and inter-institutional intervention methodology on children exploited and at risk of exploitation by work, child victims of trafficking in human beings as well as Romanian migrant children victims of other forms of violence on the territory of other states*, summarised in answer for R37, is also relevant for this recommendation.

Based on the information received, Romania is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In compilation information 2020, complemented by the additional information, the Russian Federation provided information that work with refugee children in the country belongs to the field of work with children in difficult life situations, provided by [Federal Law of 24 July, 1998, N 124-FZ](#) (as amended on July 31, 2020) "On basic guarantees of the rights of the child in the Russian Federation". This law establishes the basic guarantees of the rights and legitimate interests of the child, provided for by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, in order to create legal, socio-economic conditions for the realisation of the rights and legitimate interests of the child. Art. 14 of this law states that the state authorities of the Russian Federation, state authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, local authorities, in accordance with their competence, undertake measures to provide the necessary pedagogical, psychological, medical, legal assistance to victims of child trafficking and (or) exploitation children.

Additionally, in terms of preventive measures the Law "On Refugees» and the Law "On Basic Guarantees of the Rights of the Child in the Russian Federation" are applicable. According to this legislation, refugee children are among the vulnerable category of

children who need special attention and care. The Law "On Refugees" defines informational, organisational, financial, administrative, logistic assistance that is provided to refugees, including refugee children. These measures are considered, among other things, as preventive measures in relation to the protection of refugee children from sexual violence and exploitation, in particular. Governmental and non-governmental organisations also promote preventive measures to protect all children from sexual abuse and exploitation. Special recommendations have also been created for psychologists and teachers who work with this category of children (see, for example, recommendations on [information, psychological and corrective activities](#)). The Ministry of Education has developed [special recommendations](#) for the headmasters, educators of preschool organisations working with children, and their parents. Thus, legislative measures at the federal level are implemented through municipal institutions. Local bodies of the system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation conduct regular direct lines on the protection of the rights of minors and on protection against cybercrime. Within the framework of such conversations, the issue of protecting children, including refugee children, from sexual violence, including violence on the Internet, is also raised.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, the Russian Federation provided information on the work of two institutions, namely:

- 1) The [Fund for Support of Children in a difficult life situation](#): The Fund was established by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation, March 26, 2008 No. 404. The founder of the fund on behalf of the Russian Federation is the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection; the Board of 11 Trustees of the Foundation includes representatives of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the President of the Russian Federation, the Government of the Russian Federation, the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation, religious and commercial organizations, and the media. The composition of the Foundation's Board of Trustees is approved by the Government of the Russian Federation.
- 2) Social rehabilitation centre for minors "Altufevo", established by the Department of Labour and Social Protection of Population of Moscow, in partnership with UNHCR, Russian Red Cross, Charity Foundation "Kind Heart", Moscow University of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Russian Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, etc.

In the additional information, the Russian Federation provided information on the interagency coordination concerning comprehensive multi sectoral work with children, as subject to regulation by the [Federal Law N. 120-FZ On the Foundations of the System for the Prevention of Neglect and Juvenile Delinquency](#) of 24 June 1999. In accordance with Art.4 of the above federal law, the system for the prevention of neglect and juvenile delinquency includes:

- commissions on minors' affairs and protection of their rights;
- federal bodies of state power and bodies of state power of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation that exercise state administration in the field of education, and local self-government bodies that exercise control in the field of education;
- bodies for guardianship and trusteeship;
- bodies for youth affairs;
- bodies for healthcare administration;
- bodies for employment service;
- bodies for internal affairs;
- institutions of the penitentiary system (pre-trial detention centres, correctional educational facilities and criminal -penitentiary inspectorates).

Examples of coordination of interagency cooperation at the regional level include the following: Regional departments of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation cooperate with Ombudsmen for Children's Rights in the regions. Thus, the agreement between the Investigative Department of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation for the Oryol Region and the Ombudsman for the Rights of the Child in the Oryol Region V.V. Polyakov can be set as an example. The agreement defines the framework, areas, and tools for the interaction in the field of combating criminal offenses against children and adolescents, and preventing juvenile delinquency.

Regional governments issue special legislative acts, taking into account the infrastructure of the region, the procedure for interagency assistance to child victims of violence. To cite an example, the Amur Region has adopted Decree of the Government N 404 (of 3 September, 2013, as amended on September 28, 2015) [On the approval of the procedure for providing emergency assistance to minors who have suffered from cruel treatment, including sexual abuse](#). The document specifies in detail the procedure for acceptance of a statement of the fact of ill-treatment, the provision of urgent medical care, the collection of necessary facts, the placement of a child in an institution for minors' temporary stay, etc.

Other interagency cooperation and coordination includes that, which is carried out by the child support centres. As an example, the Khabarovsk Centre for Psychological, Pedagogical, Social and Medical Assistance works to ensure guarantees of state protection of the rights and legitimate interests of children, provides rehabilitation, psychological and pedagogical assistance to minors in a socially dangerous situation, as well as victims of sexual violence. The Centre has been implementing comprehensive

cooperation with the regional ministries and departments (that of internal affairs, health care, education, social welfare and protection of the population, penitentiary system, the Investigative Committee and the Bar Chamber).

Finally, it is important to mention the Order of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation of July 31, 2020, No. 378 "On Approval of the Regulation on the Department for Children's Rights Protection State Policy of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation". Clause 5.25 states that the department coordinates the activities of federal 9 executive authorities in the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (previously effective Order No. 22 of August 30, 2018). In accordance with the objectives of the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention, the Department regularly coordinates the work of ministries and departments at the federal and local levels to protect all categories of children from sexual abuse and exploitation. The next interagency meeting will take place on November 29, 2021.

Based on the information received, the Russian Federation is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

SAN MARINO

San Marino provided no information on either rounds of assessment. Non-compliance has been determined, as there is insufficient information to determine compliance.

SERBIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Serbia provided information on the significance of the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence, which lies both in the enhancement of the multi-sector cooperation between all the authorities obliged to provide help and assistance to minor victims – a child; and in its preventive character, which is in line with the main goal and the provision of Article 4 of the Lanzarote Convention, in introducing an obligation for the countries to introduce preventive measures for all the forms of violence against children. The abovementioned criminal acts in terms of the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence imply that, as a first step, liaison officers shall be appointed (Article 24 of the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence) in every basic and higher public prosecutor's office, at police administration, basic and higher court and the centre for social work.

Pursuant to the Law on prevention of domestic violence, which is implemented for criminal offences against sexual freedoms, marriage and family, the Group for Coordination and Cooperation is established for territorial jurisdiction of each Basic Public Prosecutor's Office (58 groups in total). The Group for Coordination and Cooperation consists of representatives of basic public prosecution's offices, police administrations and Social work centres, situated in the area for which the group is established. Upon receipt of an assessment establishing a direct risk of violence, the Group for Coordination and Cooperation drafts an individual victim protection and support plan, which contains comprehensive and effective measures for the protection and support of the victim, and also for other members of the family in need of support.

In the context of Recommendation 37, Serbia further provided that there is joint and coordinated action between the Commissariat for Refugees and UNICEF to introduce measures for prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse for the third parties entering reception centres (different service providers, humanitarian organisations, media, etc.). Joint risk assessment was performed, code of conducts for researchers and media were developed. It is planned to incorporate a module on the prevention of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in appropriate training curricula (i.e. general training on protection, training on children protection, training on identification of persons with special needs).

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Serbia provided information on different coordination mechanisms established both at central and at the level of reception centres, in order to provide adequate response to the protection and reception needs of migrants. The Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, the state authority responsible for the reception of migrants, regularly organises coordination at the central level with all relevant stakeholders: health authorities, social service, school administration, police, local authorities and NGOs active in the centre. The meetings are a platform for assessing current protection challenges, needs and action needed to be done by the specific centre.

At the national level, there are three groups relevant for the coordination in this field: Protection working group in cooperation with UNHCR, Child protection working group in cooperation with UNICEF and Working group for the prevention of gender-based violence with special Sub-group for the protection of the “boys in the move” in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

In order to have efficient referral mechanisms, cooperation between Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Commissariat and local centres for social welfare and health institutions is established at operational level.

Based on the information received, Serbia is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, the Slovak Republic provided information that the coordination and cooperation of individual actors in the field of protecting children against violence works broadly and without closer specifying the victims, i.e. it also applies to children affected by the refugee crisis. The system of protection of children against violence in the Slovak Republic is conceived generally for any child who is a victim of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse.

With effect from 1 January 2019, the legal conditions for the provision of professional assistance to a child who is a victim of trafficking in human beings, a child abused or sexually abused and conditions for verifying the risk of child abuse, sexual abuse or other acts endangering his life, health, favourable psychological, physical or social development (e.g. §46, § 46, etc.) have been made accurate and clarified. The new conditions of assistance are part of a broader concept of fundamental changes in the conditions of assistance to children and families in Slovakia. Centres for Children and Family have been created from various types of facilities, in which the conditions of performance have been redesigned according to the purpose of the aid they specialize in and the forms of assistance they provide (residential, outpatient, in field), including specification of professional, personnel, spatial standards and system changes financing. On the basis of any notice that a child is neglected, abused, bullied or their rights are violated otherwise, the authority of social and legal protection of the child and the social guardianship assesses the life situation of the child and his family and determines the level of threat to the child in the family (non-threatened, low, medium and high threat); depending on seriousness of the child situation, they perform measures to improve life situation of the child in cooperation with the family, the municipality or an accredited entity, while following a jointly developed plan of social work with the family. Considering the fact that professional assistance in crisis situations of a child who is a victim of the crime of trafficking in human beings, of a child abused or sexually abused physical (or the verifying the risk of child by sexual abuse or other acts threatening child's life, health, favourable mental, physical or social development) has its specifics - the performance of aid is regulated separately in the form of a specialised program. Since the essence of such specialisation is to provide professional assistance to a child

in a crisis situation (crime) or to verify whether the child is at risk, e.g. by sexual abuse (the diagnosis is essential, in addition to focusing on professional assistance in existing situations, confirmation or rebuttal of whether or not a child is at risk of e.g. sexual abuse), the focus is placed on the timeliness of such measures. In addition to the possibility of placing a child in the Centre for Children and Family on the basis of an agreement with a parent / person who is responsible for care of the child (on the recommendation of the authority of social and legal protection of children and social guardianship) and upon the request of the child (§ 46 paragraph 2), the child could be placed at the Centre also on the basis of a court decision ordering an urgent measure or imposing an educational measure. The Centre for Children and Family, the purpose of which is a specialised program, is obliged to carry out measures according to the Centre's specialised program, but it is not obliged (unlike the programs of other centres) to publish the program on its website.

In the context of Recommendation 15, the Slovak Republic provided further information on the overall care of unaccompanied children, which is of the responsibility of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic in accordance with Act no 305/2005 on Social and Legal Protection of Children and Social Guardianship. In the Centre for Children and Family Medzilaborce, unaccompanied children are provided with social and psychological counselling and support in a language they understand and if necessary, legal aid is provided. The unaccompanied child is given a telephone contact to child help lines, when needed the advice is translated into a language they understand. The Centre also has Wi-Fi connections that all unaccompanied children have access to and can search for the necessary information in different languages.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, the Slovak Republic provided information concerning legislation and, in particular, the establishment of a coordination mechanisms on violence against children. With effect from 1 November 2019, the Act no. 300/2019 Coll. which amends and supplements Act no. 453/2003 on State Administration Bodies in the Area of Social Affairs, Family and Employment Services and on Amendments and Supplements to Some Acts, as amended, was adopted. This Act establishes the competence of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic as the central body of state administration for the coordination of state policy in the area of protection of children against violence and coordination of tasks in this area. Pursuant to the amendment in question, within the coordination of state policy in the field of child protection against violence in order to ensure fulfilment of tasks in this area, the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic- through its organisational unit, the National Coordination Centre for Resolving the Issues of Violence against Children - creates conditions for mutual cooperation and exchange of information between state administration authorities, the Police Force, schools, school

facilities, municipalities, higher territorial units, health care providers and other entities involved in the field of protection of children against violence.

Within the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic there are departments dealing with the protection of children affected by the refugee crisis and within their competence they support cooperation and coordination of various actors. If the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic is invited to cooperate and coordinate with another entity, it will be involved in these activities within its competence. The Bureau of Border and Alien Police Office of the Presidium of the Police Force is also prepared to cooperate in this area, in particular by implementing preventive measures consisting in providing sufficient information and in the manner specified in Recommendation 15.

In the context of Recommendation 37, the Slovak Republic further specified that the Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Presidium of the Police Force supports, within its competences, the implementation of specific recommendations concerning the strengthening or introduction of a coordinated approach between the different institutions responsible to facilitate the prevention and protection of children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. The foreign police detention unit also cooperates in this area if necessary.

Outpatient and institutional care provider in cooperation with responsible institutions providing preventive and protective measures for children has a legal obligation to inform the executive branch of state-guaranteed protection and assistance to persons and social assistance to the child when the sexual exploitation or sexual abuse is suspected. Since 1st January 2018, under § 9 par. 2, letter h) of Act no. 351/2018 amending and supplementing Act no. 581/2004 Coll. on Health Insurance Companies, the Supervision of Health Care and on Amendments and Supplements to Some Acts, as amended, extends the obligation of the health insurance company to cover the provision of health care to a person included in the program of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic to support and protect victims of human trafficking.

Based on the information received, the Slovak Republic is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

SLOVENIA

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information, Slovenia provided information that when performing psychosocial support and during talks and workshops the social workers and NGO volunteers provide the children the information about different forms of violence and self-protection in a child-friendly manner. The ongoing PATS project involves children

over 15 years of age who are educated about dangers of human trafficking and sexual abuse. NGOs organise different workshops in the Asylum Centre.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Slovenia provided information that various actors dealing with the refugee crisis collaborate and coordinate between themselves, thus ensuring that preventive measures in regard to protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse are in place and protective measures are taken as speedily as possible. Their collaboration is formalised *with Rules on cooperation between the police and other authorities in the detection and prevention of domestic violence* (Pravilnik o sodelovanju policije z drugimi organi in organizacijami pri odkrivanju in preprečevanju nasilja v družini).

In the case of an unaccompanied minor, Slovenia hosts the said minor in accordance with the provisions of *Protocol on the Cooperation between the Centres for Social Work and Police* (based on Article 82 of the Foreigners Act). Under this Protocol, the Centre for Social Work in Postojna is competent for further procedures. The Centre first designates a guardian for the unaccompanied minor, who is a designated expert. Migrant unaccompanied minors and migrant families with unaccompanied minors are placed in suitable facilities for the accommodation of minors where his or her rights will be guaranteed. If this is not possible, an unaccompanied minor and a family with an unaccompanied minor may be accommodated at the Aliens Centre. Possible transport of a minor (unaccompanied legal alien) to the Aliens Centre of Postojna is carried out by Centre for Social Work, with police cooperation. If a police officer is involved, this task must be carried out, as a rule, in civil clothing and with an unmarked car.

Furthermore, Coordination between interdisciplinary experts is provided in *Standard Operating Procedures for Prevention and Action in cases of Sexual Violence and Gender Violence*. An expert Commission is convened within 48 hours if there is a suspicion of the abuse. The Commission shall seek solutions in the best interests of the child. The Commission is composed of representatives of various institutions and non-governmental organisations. In addition to these members, representatives of other assistance providers (Centre for Social Work, Police, Healthcare, Schools) are invited, based on the circumstances of the concrete case. If an unaccompanied minor is involved, the legal representative also participates in the Commission meetings.

When considering a specific case, an assistance and a treatment plan is prepared that includes the following interdisciplinary measures: assessment of the threat of abuse, security plan, search for a safe accommodation, advocacy plan, legal aid and other forms of assistance such as: psychotherapeutic assistance, professional psychosocial counselling, as well as personal growth and empowerment workshops, companionship,

leisure activities and individual assistance. If needed, the aid recipient is referred also to other relevant aid and support institutions. Protective measures are taken speedily in all cases involving children victims of sexual abuse, as per, for instance Art. 6 of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and Art. 15 of the International Protection Act.

Based on the information received, Slovenia is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

SPAIN

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Spain provided information on the draft Organic Law on the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents against Violence, which was being prepared, and among other measures, it provides for the elaboration of a Strategy for the Eradication of Violence against children and adolescents and incorporates awareness-raising, prevention, detection and intervention measures in different areas. This draft Organic Law, which amends 11 laws, establishes a very broad concept of violence covering all forms of physical, psychological or emotional harm or abuse, including sexual assault or abuse, corporal punishment, simple neglect or negligent treatment.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation 2020, Spain provided information that the Framework Protocol on certain actions in relation to Unaccompanied Foreign Minors (2014) is intended to coordinate the intervention of all institutions and administrations involved, from the location of the minor or alleged minor until their identification, determination of their age, and placement in the public entity for the protection of minors. The Protocol seeks to achieve the proper functioning of the Registry of Unaccompanied Foreign Minors (RMENA). Furthermore, in September 2018, the Ministry of Health proposed to the Autonomous Communities the revision of the Framework Protocol in order to provide greater guarantees for minors placed in child protection systems. In relation to this particular group of children, information submitted by FRA reports “shortcomings in the national child-protection system, leading to the social exclusion and sexual and labour exploitation of children.”¹⁰ The full report by the NGO Rosa Luxembourg Stiftung, referenced by FRA, reports that “a series of irregularities, mostly regarding age

¹⁰ FRA (2019) [Children in Migration 2019. Annual Review](#). published 20/03/2020. Page 16

assessment, the concept of legal “helplessness” and the assumption of wardship, that directly and practically impact the life of minors, subject them to constant instability and force them to search for survival tools and self-respect outside the system designed to protect them are underlined in the national report. These irregularities recreate the border logic for children even after they have entered the territory. Too often, partial and instrumentalised interpretations of the law by the responsible authorities result in children who, having passed through the system, still do not have a legal guardian or papers upon coming of age. In effect, it is as if they had never been protected and were treated as adult migrants from the beginning.”¹¹

No additional information has been submitted by Spain.

Based on the information received, Spain is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined, for the following reasons: a) it is unclear if there are any actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis; and b) it is unclear of the Framework Protocol on certain actions in relation to Unaccompanied Foreign Minors addresses specifically the issues of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against unaccompanied minors.

SWEDEN

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation 2020, Sweden provided information on the work carried out in the context of trafficking in human beings. In 2009, the Government commissioned the County Administrative Board of Stockholm to coordinate and strengthen the work against human trafficking for all purposes. The National Task Force against prostitution and human trafficking (NMT) was then established. On 1 January 2018, the coordination task was transferred from the County Administrative Board of Stockholm to the Swedish Gender Equality Agency. The transfer included the responsibility for the work carried out within the framework of NMT. The Gender Equality Agency cooperates with a range of actors within the NMT, which consists of government agencies that work against prostitution and human trafficking and serves as a strategic and operative resource for the development of the coordination of government agencies and NGOs. The goal is to prevent prostitution and trafficking for sexual and other purposes in Sweden. An important part of the work is to improve the protection of victims and increase the prosecution of perpetrators. A special support structure designed to assist government agencies in their work against prostitution and trafficking has been developed within the framework of NMT. The support structure includes a telephone helpline, a re-migration

¹¹ Sarantou, Elina and Theodoropoulou, Aggeliki (2019) *Children cast adrift: the exclusion and exploitation of unaccompanied minors in Greece, Spain and Italy. Comparative Report*. Page 15

programme (operated in cooperation with IOM) and regional coordinators against prostitution and trafficking who, among other things, offer victim support (there is at least one regional coordinator in each Swedish Police Authority region). NMT also offers support and training for municipalities, government agencies and NGOs.

The Swedish Gender Equality Agency has been tasked with strengthening the work to prevent and combat children and young people being used in prostitution and trafficking in human beings. The Agency is developing training for professionals regarding trafficking in human beings for all purposes. The training has been offered online during the pandemic. A specific online training tool on child sexual exploitation, prostitution and trafficking was released in June 2021. The Agency was given a mapping assignment regarding prostitution in Sweden and this was reported on 1 October 2021. The report shows, among other things, that children are at greater risk than before of being exploited in prostitution and trafficking in human beings for sexual purposes when perpetrators find new ways and arenas to reach them online via various websites, dating sites, social media and even gaming apps.

The Migration Agency works closely together with the regional coordinators against prostitution and trafficking in human beings. The regional coordinators are a helping hand between the different agencies with, for instance, communication between the Agency and the Police regarding cases that the Agency has reported. The Agency is now able to ask possible victims if they wish to have counselling and support from a regional coordinator. In regard to the victim's safety and rights, the Agency has noted positive effects by this cooperation.

The social services play a central role when it comes to supporting and protecting children who are victims or potential victims of trafficking in human beings or exploitation. To support the social services and to increase their knowledge about and awareness of trafficking in human beings and exploitation of children, the National Board of Health and Welfare has published a guidance for the social services that provides personnel with practical support in the handling of cases and clarifies the responsibilities of the social services in accordance with Swedish and international law.

In 2017 the National Board of Health and Welfare was assigned by the Government to establish a Knowledge Centre for unaccompanied minors and young persons. The premise for the work of the Centre is that the National Board of Health and Welfare is responsible for the areas of activity relating to social services and health care, and the Board has special responsibility for coordinating government measures in the areas of activity relating to children and young persons. The work of the Centre aims at ensuring that professionals who receive and assist unaccompanied minors and young persons have the right prerequisites for providing them with good quality care based on the individual needs and rights of the child or young person. Highlighted measures are those promoting greater cooperation between municipal authorities and county councils so that professionals working in schools, including pupil health professionals, and those working in health care and the social services, seek to ensure that children and young persons attend to school. The assignment lasts until the end of 2020.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information, Sweden provided information on the Children's Advocacy Centres (Barnahus), which are a cooperation amongst different authorities as police, social services, public prosecutor, forensic medicine, paediatrics and child psychiatry in case of suspicion of sexual or physical abuse against children. The use of Barnahus is to ensure the children legal security, good treatment and support, and if necessary, crisis and treatment efforts. Furthermore, the aim is to improve the quality of investigations, improve society's continued efforts and that the legal process should be facilitated and rendered more effective. The best interests of the child should be in focus during the process.

Based on the information received, Sweden is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

SWITZERLAND

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, Switzerland provided information that the legal representative of unaccompanied children applying for asylum (RMNA), in his/her capacity as a trusted person, defends the specific interests of the RMNA. The person of trust supports the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM), in particular for the following points: clarification of origin, family (including clarification of the possibilities of accommodation with relatives), social environment, health, risks (human trafficking, crime, etc.) and possible networking with specialised services. If the person of trust considers it necessary to take measures to ensure the well-being of the child, he or she involves the SEM and the competent services (cantonal child protection offices and other cantonal institutions). The support person also works closely with the staff involved in the supervision of the Centre for Asylum Seekers (CFA).

As mentioned in the response to Recommendation 7, SEM employees, like other employees of the Confederation, are required to report all crimes and offenses committed to the prosecution authorities, their superiors or the Federal Audit Office, of which they have become aware or which have been notified to them in the exercise of their function (art. 22a para. 1 of the Federal Staff Act [LPers; RS 172.220.1]). In this context, agreements are planned between the competent authorities and processes are

established internally to define the flow of information and coordinate the various actors involved.

In the asylum procedure, the themes of minors, trafficking in human beings and gender-related persecution are overseen by three groups of specialists based at the SEM headquarters, called *Policies*, which ensure a practice in accordance with the law in force and coordinate the efforts undertaken by the SEM in favour of child asylum seekers and/or victims of exploitation. To support them in the performance of their tasks, each CFA appoints a specialist employee for child affairs and another for that of trafficking in human beings. These specialists, called Focal Points, in particular, inform the relevant policy-maker on trends emerging in Switzerland, on specific cases or on any training needs.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

Further to the information provided above, in Compilation information 2020, Switzerland also provided information on the strategic coordination of the fight against trafficking in human beings in Switzerland, which is the responsibility of fedpol, with the support of its specialised units (Service against trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants - SETT). This coordination also includes measures against trafficking in children. In the context of the migration crisis, children were however regularly exploited or mistreated abroad before entering Switzerland. Switzerland considers that the countries where these exploitations took place are primarily responsible for prevention.

Based on the information received, Switzerland is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined, for the following reasons: a) it is unclear if there are any actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis; and b) it is unclear whether the strategic coordination in the context of trafficking in human beings also addresses sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, in particular concerning children affected by the refugee crisis.

TURKEY

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In Compilation information 2020, complemented by the additional information, Turkey provided various examples of initiatives and procedures for the prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

According to Article 11 titled "Activities to reduce the demand of Law on Combatting Human Trafficking and Protection of Victims"; the Directorate General of Migration Management is assigned to conduct educational information and awareness raising activities in social and cultural areas to prevent the demand that causes human trafficking and all forms of abuse of the persons, including mainly women and children. Within this scope, information and awareness raising activities have been conducted for around 8.000 employees of public institutions and organisations, employees of non-governmental organisations, media representatives and private sector employees in the last 5 years. In addition to this, two public service ads one of which focuses on child exploitation and the other focuses on women exploitation, were prepared and a documentary was broadcasted. Over 10 thousand written and visual materials were distributed to relevant authorities.

Child Monitoring Centres (ÇİM) were established under the Ministry of Health, where forensic interviews and forensic and psychiatric examinations were conducted in order to prevent secondary abuse of the children who were sexually abused or thought to have been abused. Personnel of our Ministry have been assigned in all ÇİMs, as well.

Expert Response Teams have been established in 81 provinces to intervene in cases of neglect, sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and violence against children. These teams provide services for victims and their families.

The Social Cohesion Programme aims to minimise children's social adaptation problems, increase their awareness of the existing risks and resources in society, ensure that they live in line with their rights, and at the same time develop mutual understanding and tolerance among cultures. The programme is conducted through trainings with peer-teaching technique and sociocultural activities by Turkish children and Syrian children affected by the refugee crisis registered in Provincial Children Committees on the Rights of the Child. There is a Social Cohesion Training Module prepared by trainers and on the basis of empowerment approach, which contains issues and trainings in Turkish and Arabic such as:

- Convention on the Rights of Children,
- Society We Live in,
- Safety, Prevention of Violence-Abuse, Discrimination, Child Labour and Early Marriage,

- Culture-Tolerance-Cooperation,
- Understanding Each Other and Expressing,
- Crucial Institutions Servicing.

In all of the Child Support Centres operating under the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services which provide services to child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse affected by the refugee crisis and to unaccompanied asylum seeker children, as well as child victims, children pushed to crime, and children who live on streets, the Psycho-Social Support Programme is implemented which is standardised in line with the needs of children. The purpose of the programme in question is to minimise the trauma caused by the negative experiences and to create a change of positive attitudes and behaviours by taking into consideration the personal differences of children and their needs. The necessary professional intervention concerning the negative experiences of each child is carried out by advisors who are assigned for this task, and if necessary, judicial processes are commenced by cooperating with the relevant Public Prosecutor's Office in relation to the victimisation of the child and the process is followed up meticulously.

The Child Support Training and Development Programme was prepared for children under protection and care. Trainings have been set up in order to extend the programme to all around Turkey.

In 2017, the Social Media Working Group was established under the Ministry to detect the risks that children may face through digital environments and to carry out preventive activities. The Social Media Working Group intervenes in the content determined in cooperation with the Information and Communication Technologies Authority and the Department of Combating Cybercrime. Social and psychological support is also provided to the children and their families through Provincial Directorates.

In addition, children affected by the refugee crisis who are identified by the law enforcement units or who are brought before the law enforcement units in relation to a judicial case are given to the authorities of relevant Provincial Directorate of Family, Labour and Social Services after the procedures before the law enforcement units are completed. Within the scope of Child Protection Law No. 5395, it is ensured that protective and supportive measures, covering cases of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, (e.g. consultancy, education, care, health care, and accommodation measures) are taken in coordination with the judicial authorities and the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services.

Pursuant to Article 236 of Criminal Procedure Code No. 5271, the statements of child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse are not taken by the law enforcement units. The child victims are taken to the nearest Child Monitoring Centre operating under the Ministry of Health so that their statements can be taken in Legal Interview Rooms established under the Ministry of Justice.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

Same as above.

Based on the information received, Turkey is in full compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, and has in place promising practices, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report.

UKRAINE

1. The State Party provides examples of actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis.

In the additional information, Ukraine provided information that the social protection of children separated from the family who are not Ukrainian citizens is ensured in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (No. 832 dated November 16, 2016). Cases of risks that a child may be abused or sexually exploited as a result of family reunification is considered in accordance with current legislation. The Joint Order of the Ministry of Social Policy, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Health (No. 564/836/945/577 dated August 19, 2014) determines the Procedure for consideration of appeals and communications concerning the ill-treatment or threat of child abuse. Every child is guaranteed the right to liberty, personal integrity, protection of dignity and the best interests of her.

The state protects the child from all forms of physical, sexual, economic and psychological violence, ill-treatment, neglect and ill-treatment, involvement in the worst forms of child labour, including from the parents or persons who replace them, and also takes the necessary measures to ensure the rights of children who witnessed a criminal proceeding. The Service for Children is the coordinator of measures to protect children against abuse or threats of their commission. In case of necessity, the entities organise the provision of emergency medical aid (emergency aid), psychological and other types of assistance to a child who has suffered from ill-treatment. Subjects of social work send messages to the Service for Children in the form established by the Ministry of Social Policy, in particular the families in which physical, psychological, sexual, economic violence against children, physical abuse or ill-treatment of children was committed or there is a real threat of any harm against children. Consideration of reports of families in relation to the abovementioned situations, is carried out in accordance with the Order of the Ministry of Social Policy, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Health.

In case of receiving from the subjects of social work a notice concerning these situations, the Service for Children within three working days involves a centre for social services for the family, children and youth, and, if necessary, other social work subjects for verifying the information indicated in the notification and ensuring, in case of rebounds of social support of the family, protection of the rights of children in such a family. For the organization of social protection of a child who is in difficult circumstances, giving her and her parents (or persons replacing them) a complex of social services based on materials prepared by the Centre for Social Services for Family, Children and Youth and other entities social work, the Service for children, if necessary, sends the child to the institution of social protection of children. If an immediate threat to the life or health of the child has arisen, the guardianship and guardianship authority, who became aware of this, shall decide on the immediate removal of the child from the parents or persons who replace them.

2. The State Party provides examples of a coordinated approach and/or of coordination mechanisms ensuring the effective collaboration at the national or local level between different agencies in charge of the child refugee response, notably law-enforcement and judicial authorities, social services, health sector, education sector, etc - in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children affected by the refugee crisis.

The issue of providing a wide range of assistance to a child victim of sexual violence and sexual exploitation affected by a refugee crisis is resolved in accordance with national legislation: the Laws of Ukraine "About refugees and persons requiring additional or temporary protection", "About the protection of childhood", "About legal conditions for social protection of orphans and children deprived of parental care", "About bodies and services for children and special institutions for children" and "About social services".

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the Procedure for the interaction of state bodies and local self-government bodies in identifying children who are separated from their families and who are not Ukrainian citizens. The Procedure determines the mechanism of interaction between state bodies and local governments when working with children who are separated from their families and who are foreigners or stateless persons and have expressed the desire to personally or through other persons to acquire refugee status or a person who needs additional protection in accordance with the Law Ukraine "About refugees and persons in need of additional or temporary protection". The work of the state bodies and bodies of local self-government in the context of a child separated from the family is conducted in compliance with the following principles:

1. protection of the rights and interests of the child;
2. prevention of discrimination against children;
3. taking into account the opinion of the child in solving issues relating to her life;
4. ensuring the confidentiality of information about the child.

A clear algorithm for action is foreseen:

- Identification of children separated from the family;
- Temporary placement of a child separated from a family;
- Determined powers of legal representatives and authorised bodies for the social protection of a child separated from the family.

Based on the information received, Ukraine is in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13, as per the obligations of the Convention and the issues highlighted in the Special Report. Partial compliance has been determined, for the following reasons: a) it is unclear if there are any actions, projects, initiatives or procedures of prevention against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse targeting specifically, or involving explicitly, children affected by the refugee crisis; and b) it is unclear whether the coordination work described addresses all groups of children affected by the refugee crisis, other than those separated from their families.

Concluding remarks

This report covered the situation of 41 Parties, which were concerned by the Special Report Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Out of the 41 Parties, 23 are in full compliance and 14 are in partial compliance with the requirements of Recommendation 13 on coordination and collaboration of the different actors who intervene for and with children affected by the refugee crisis to ensure preventive measures in regards to protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. 4 Parties have been considered non-compliant with the requirements of Recommendation 13 due to insufficient evidence to determine otherwise.

The information contained in this report provides many examples of how Parties have implemented Recommendation 13, putting in place different prevention and protection measures and addressing several groups of children, including those affected by trafficking, unaccompanied children and other particularly vulnerable groups. For example, in the Netherlands, in the context of the EU AMIF SAFE! Project, a child-centred methodology has been developed dealing with children of foreign victims of trafficking or domestic violence; children of undocumented foreign nationals; and of asylum seekers whose applications for residency have been rejected.

At least 19 Parties address trafficking specifically, namely Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.

In relation to cooperation and collaboration, preventive and protection measures concerning between responsible actors vary. In some Parties, measures have been adopted in the context of international cooperation or intervention projects; whilst others have set up internal protocols or referral systems. For example, the Netherlands is cooperating with the governments of Belgium and Hungary for referral, assistance and safe return of victims trafficked for the purpose of sexual and labour exploitation.

Some Parties have also carried out training of particular stakeholders working with and for children affected by the refugee crisis. In Austria, Bundesland Vienna holds training courses at the first reception centre targeting legal advisors, judges, social workers and police departments, for the purpose of raising awareness on exploitation. In Finland, child representatives have a key role in identifying and reporting sexual abuse. For this reason, there is particular attention to enhance the knowledge of this particular group of stakeholders and improving communication. This is done through the project “Skilled Representative”. In Poland, awareness raising activities have targeted, among other, adults who have married children and adults whose children were married, prior to entering the country. The Party has also developed a manual entitled “We protect children in the centres for foreigners”, which included identification of violence, legal and child protection issues.

At least four Parties have adopted vetting or similar procedures for the protection of children affected by the refugee crisis, namely the Republic of Moldova, Monaco Poland and Serbia.

There are some cases where Parties are promoting truly promising practices, such as the *Barnahus* initiative, which has been implemented at least in four Parties, namely Cyprus, Denmark, Finland and Sweden. Montenegro has also carried out measures to address safety, child protection and the provision of child-friendly spaces in Reception Centres and other accommodation facilities, including separation of child and adult facilities; gender-separated toilet facilities; lightning and other. In Turkey, Expert Response Teams, which intervene in cases of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children, among other forms of violence, have been established in 81 provinces. In Denmark, the asylum staff of the Danish Immigration Service performs an initial screening of potential victims of trafficking in human beings during the asylum interview with asylum seekers. In Finland, the TERTTU project promoted the participation of asylum seekers, including children and gathered information on their experiences concerning sexual abuse and Female Genital Mutilation, among other issues.

Improvements to be implemented by Parties include:

- √ Promoting both *prevention* and *protection* measures to protect *all* groups of children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse;
- √ Ensuring that clear coordination and collaboration referral and protection systems are in place, between the different agencies responsible for the refugee response;
- √ Review the response by refugee agencies, to ensure they are effectively addressing the different challenges and needs of children affected by the refugee crisis, concerning the prevention and protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.