



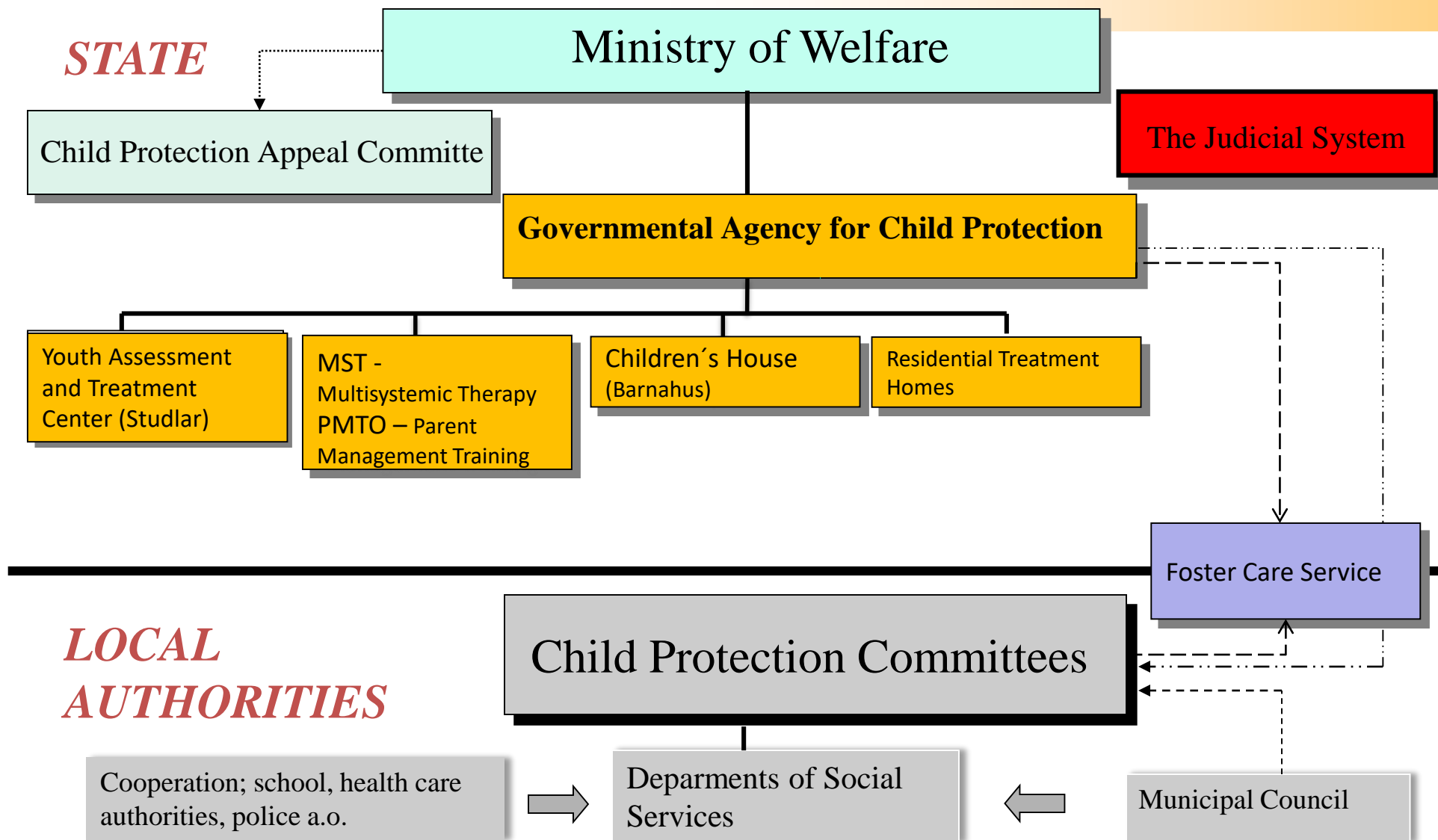
BARNAVERNDARSTOFA

Child Protection Services Administrative proceedings

CoE and CBSS Conference, Tallinn, Feb. 2015

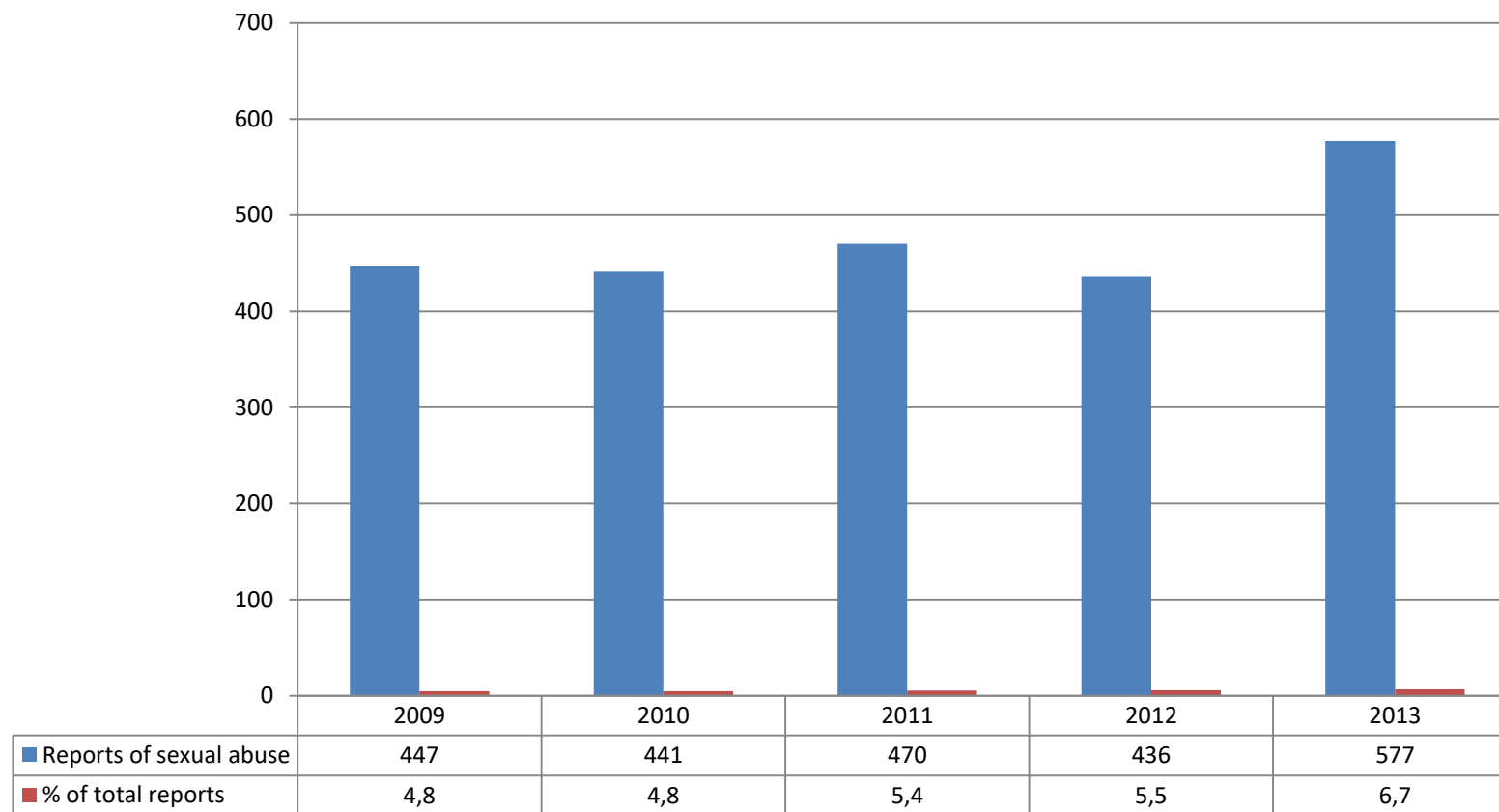
Bragi Guðbrandsson

The Organization of Child Protection Services in Iceland



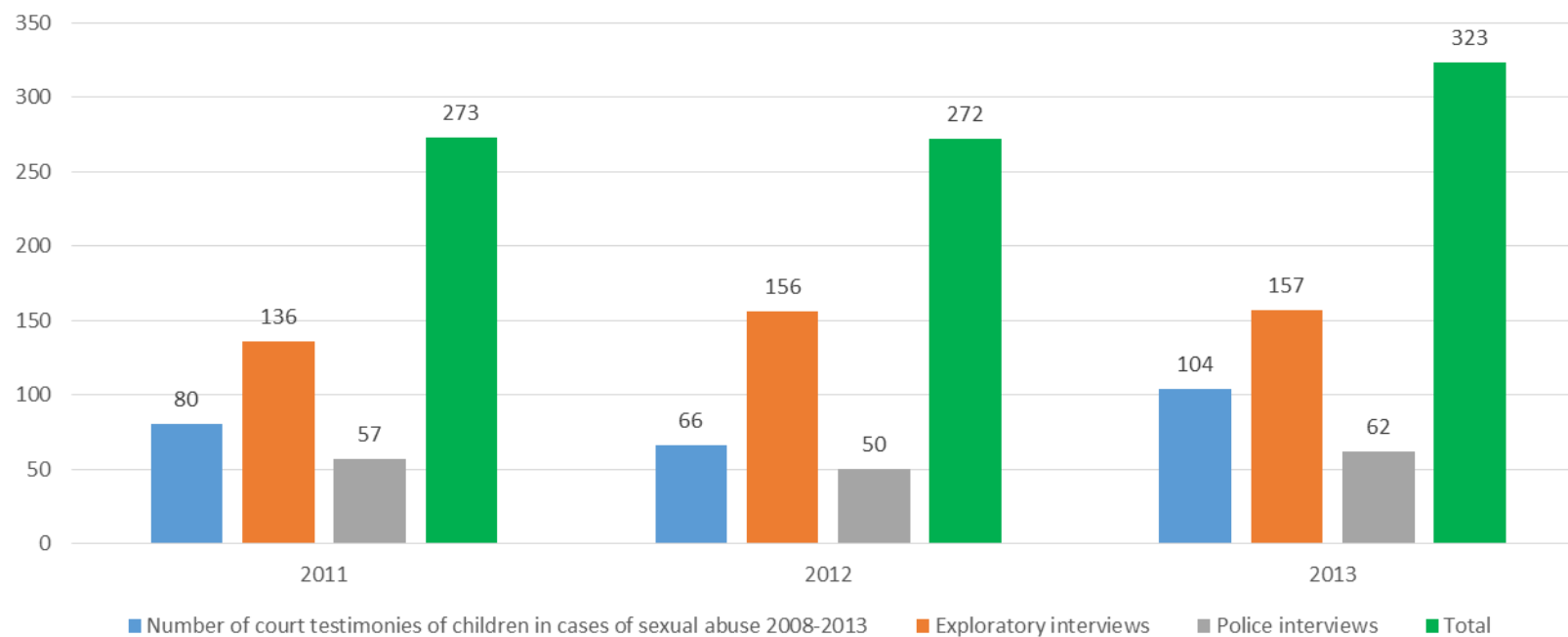


Number of reports of suspected child victims of sexual abuse to the CPS 2009 -2013



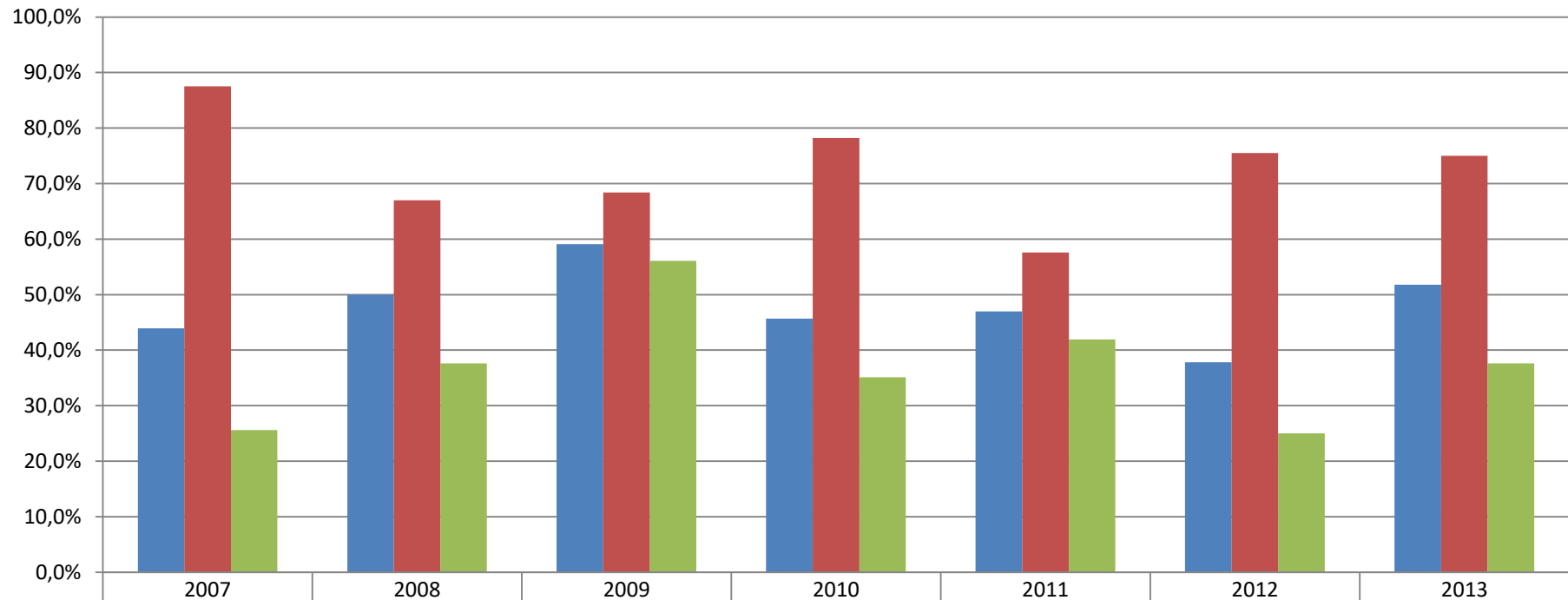


Investigative interviews/Court statements





Barnahus: Children disclosing sexual abuse during investigative interviews



| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| ■ Investigative interviews | 43,9% | 50,0% | 59,1% | 45,7% | 47,0% | 37,8% | 51,8% |
| ■ Testimonies for Court Judges | 87,5% | 67,0% | 68,4% | 78,2% | 57,6% | 75,5% | 75,0% |
| ■ Exploratory interviews | 25,6% | 37,6% | 56,1% | 35,1% | 41,9% | 25,0% | 37,6% |

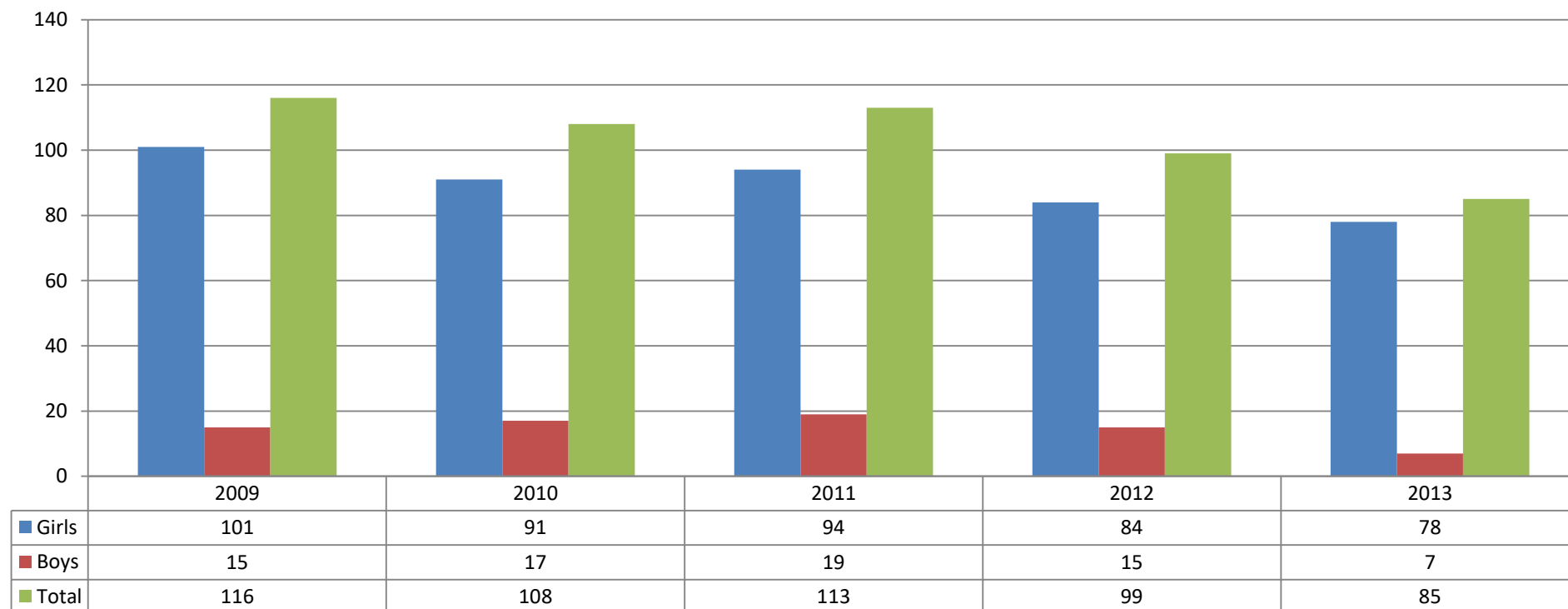


Before and after: investigations, indictments and convictions of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation





Barnahus: Number of girls and boys receiving therapy 2009 -2013





Statistics doesn't lie – or does it?

Breakdown of cases

- ✓ Number of reports to the CPS 500 - 550
 - ✓ Appr. 200 - 220 unsubstantiated
- ✓ Number of investigative interviews 280 - 325
 - ✓ Appr. 140 - 170 disclosures
- ✓ Criminal investigations to Prosecution 90 -100
- ✓ Number of indictments 50 -55
 - ✓ Convictions 30 - 35
- ✓ Number of children receiving therapy 90 - 100



Child protection intervention

- ✓ The Goals of the CPS vis-á-vis the Justice systems are very different
- ✓ Children in conflict with the law have no less rights than child witnesses
- ✓ “The burden of proof” is replaced by “The assesement” for the determination of the “best interest of the Child“
- ✓ Coercive decisions vis-á-vis partnership with parents
- ✓ Child participation in the decision making process



Development of Convergence

towards a unified approach

- ✓ The impact of the UN CR
- ✓ Other international human right law:
 - ✓ European Convention on Human Rights,
 - ✓ The Social Charter
 - ✓ Lanzarote Convention
- ✓ European Court of Human Rights (the Court)
- ✓ CoE Recommendations and Guidelines



CoE Achievements

Standard Setting for Enhancing the Rights of Children

- ✓ Translating/Operationalizing the CRC into the different context in the life of children such as
 - ✓ Institutions Rec (2005)5
 - ✓ Family environment Rec (2006)19
 - ✓ Judicial system the Guidelines 2010
 - ✓ Social services Rec (2011)12
 - ✓ Health Care Guidelines 2011
 - ✓ Participation in Society Rec (2012)2



Principles of Convergence

Priorities include

- ✓ Prevention
- ✓ Detection
- ✓ Early intervention
- ✓ Avoiding re-victimisation
- ✓ Assessment of needs
- ✓ Protecting/Risk factors
- ✓ Comprehensive services

Strategies include

- ✓ Right based - participation
- ✓ Child focused
- ✓ Child-friendly
- ✓ Partnership with parents
- ✓ Interdisciplinary
- ✓ Multiagency