



18 NOVEMBER

Day for the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse

2025 Edition

**Strengthening the protection of
children against sexual exploitation
and sexual abuse through
evidence-based policy making**

The 2025 edition of the Day for the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (#EndChildSexualAbuseDay) focuses on the importance of data collection for evidence-based policy making. This will be an opportunity to advocate for the systematic use of data in shaping policies to prevent and combat child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

State Parties to the Lanzarote Convention are required to set up or designate mechanisms for data collection or focal points for the purpose of observing and evaluating the phenomenon of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children. Collecting data is not an end in itself, but a means to identify effective preventive and responsive actions.

**What data should be collected and how should it be collected to enable the best outcome?
Check the other side to find out!**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Multisectoral data collection and focal points





■ A large proportion of sexual offences against children are never reported to the police: data other than criminal statistics can improve our understanding of what is required to better prevent them and protect victims. Therefore, data should be collected in different sectors: not just law enforcement and the judicial sector, but also education, health and social services. Civil society organisations also collect data related to issues of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Collaborating with them can greatly improve and enhance data outputs.

 The **United Kingdom** Government Home Office's Tackling Child Sexual Abuse Unit works across government and with relevant partners to ensure that data is brought together and considered in policy and legislative development and delivery. The data originates from **frontline and local services**, which encompass local and national police forces, other law enforcement bodies, victim and survivor organisations, and programmatic partners, as well as **wider sources, including civil society organisations**.

■ While data can be collected by different agencies and government structures, the establishment of a focal point can help to co-ordinate data collection, systemisation and analysis. The focal point can also interact with policy makers to ensure the uptake of the data collected to inform policy choices and measures.

Child participation

■ Children can provide valuable input as the ultimate beneficiaries of all policies and measures related to the fight against child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Surveying their experience and opinions is an effective way to collect data that can be used for evidence-based policy making.

 **Finland**,  **Iceland**,  **Norway** and  **Sweden** all incorporate **child participation** in their national data collection systems through **surveys and self-assessments** of children and young people that capture their experiences, perceptions, and exposure to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. By collecting data directly from children, these countries enhance the relevance, accuracy, and effectiveness of their strategies, enabling the development of evidence-based policies.

Contact: EndChildSexualAbuseDay@coe.int

Websites: www.coe.int/EndChildSexualAbuseDay
www.coe.int/children

X: [@coe_children](https://twitter.com/coe_children)

Facebook: [Council of Europe Children Rights](https://www.facebook.com/CouncilofEuropeChildrenRights)

LinkedIn: [Children's Rights at the Council of Europe](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Children'sRightsattheCouncilofEurope)

Hashtag: [#EndChildSexualAbuseDay](https://twitter.com/EndChildSexualAbuseDay)

