



Engaging Children as Stakeholders in Anti-Poverty Work

Mieke Schuurman

<u>Eurochild</u> Director of

Children's Rights & Capacity Building



Mid-Term Review Conference of the Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027)

3 April 2025 Strasbourg

How does Eurochild engage with children addressing poverty?

Key Principle: Children have the right to participate in all decisions affecting them.

- **Eurochild involves children** in advocacy, projects, and governance through the <u>Eurochild Children's Council (ECC)</u>.
- Involving children living in vulnerable circumstances in the <u>National Eurochild</u> <u>Forums</u> and via projects such as the <u>Reaching-In project</u> and the Democratic Activation of Youth DAY-project in Naples.







Reaching In - Inclusive Child Participation

Objective of the project (2021-2024): increasing the impact that marginalized children have on public decision-making

Goal: connect at grassroots level with marginalised children including Roma children, children living in alternative care and migrant children

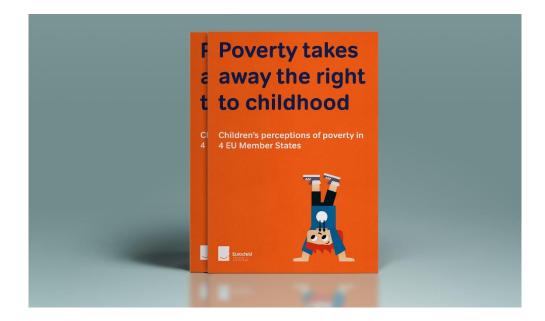
Connecting with thematic areas of the European Child Guarantee and its child participation component – children discussed free access to education and health care, healthy nutrition and adequate housing



Poverty takes away the right to childhood

Children's Perceptions of poverty in 4 EU Member States

- Process 200 children in focus group consultations and a survey
- Focus Areas: impact of poverty on children, at school, at home, in their community and how it can lead to being bullied
- Outcomes Children's Recommendations on what needs to change





Involve children in everyday decision-making

Naples Case study - DAY (Democratic Activation of Youth) project

How 2,000 children and young people from nine schools in three districts of Naples with poor social and economic indicators got together to ask for changes in their Municipalities

Trailer: Changing the City (Documentary)

https://youtu.be/iEOFfmP7FG0



