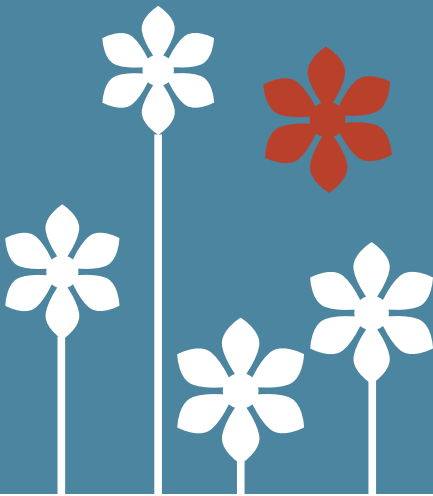




LANZAROTE COMMITTEE

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



Adopted by
the Lanzarote Committee
on 2 February 2023

7th activity report of the Lanzarote Committee

(covering the period
1st July 2021-2 February 2023)

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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French edition:
*7^e rapport d'activités
du Comité de Lanzarote*

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Foreword

Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee

On 7 December 2022, I had the honour of taking over as Chairperson of the Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Committee) from my friend and colleague Christel De Craim. I would like to thank her, as well as the preceding and newly elected Bureaus, and the former and current members of the Committee for their commitment and tireless work to give effect to the Lanzarote Convention at the national and international level. I would also like to express my warmest welcome to the new observers of the Committee, the Brave Movement and the End Violence Against Children Fund (EVAC).

■ Now, it is my pleasure to introduce the Committee's 7th activity report, covering the period between 1 July 2021 and 2 February 2023.

■ Several major achievements were made in the period covered by this report. First and foremost, the Committee concluded its 2nd monitoring round by adopting the Implementation Report on “The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs): Addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos”. The report assesses the situation in the 43 States which were Parties to the Convention at the time the monitoring round was launched. The novelty of this report is the inclusion of children’s views and recommendations on some specific issues related to its subject matter. The report examines Parties’ legal frameworks, their handling of the investigations into and prosecution of the relevant crimes, their jurisdiction rules, engagement in international cooperation, victim assistance, involvement of and cooperation with civil society, and other areas such as education or research. The report also contains recommendations by the Committee on steps to improve or reinforce the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies in the areas covered. Its key findings are highlighted in general or country-specific factsheets that will be made available online in the first trimester of 2023.

■ The Committee also examined the follow-up given by Parties to 10 specific Recommendations of the Special report on “Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse” adopted in 2017. As a result of this examination, 10 compliance reports were adopted covering the 41 States which were Parties to the Convention at the time the monitoring round was launched. These reports highlight both the promising practices identified and the gaps that still need to be filled. The findings of the Special report were also used to develop, in the reference period, several practical tools, including a Handbook for practitioners and policymakers, now available in several languages.

■ It is impossible to highlight the activities of the Lanzarote Committee in this period without mentioning the war in Ukraine, which broke out in February 2022. The Committee responded immediately by calling upon the States Parties to the Lanzarote Convention to “uphold the rights and best interests of the child at all times” and to “take measures to address the specific risk of exposure to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of migrant and refugee children” in a statement made on 10 March 2022. In this context, Mr George Nikolaidis (former Lanzarote Committee Chairperson), accompanied the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Migration and Refugees on her visit with a fact-finding mission to Poland in 2022. A direct result of this war was also the decision of the Lanzarote Committee to restrict the modalities of participation of the Russian Federation in its work as agreed upon in December 2022.

■ A novelty of this activity report is its in-depth focus section dedicated to Barnahus, the leading child-friendly multidisciplinary and interagency response model for child sexual abuse that the Lanzarote Committee had identified as promising practice in its first monitoring report in 2015. Barnahus brings together under one roof services responsible for criminal and child welfare investigations for the purposes of providing a coordinated and effective response and preventing re-traumatisation during investigation and court proceedings. Barnahus was the theme of the 2022 edition of the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (18 November). It is also the subject matter of several joint European Union/ Council of Europe cooperation projects, which the Committee has continued to follow closely. I hope that one day there will be a Barnahus in each of the States Parties to the Convention.

■ I would like to conclude by saying that I look forward to the continuation of our work in 2023 and beyond, which will see, among other things, the resuming of monitoring work on the protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust.

■ I am confident that the representatives of the Parties in the Committee, as well as its participants and observers, will do their utmost to improve the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention. I hope that our work will one day see us living in societies free from sexual abuse and exploitation of children.

7th activity report of the Lanzarote Committee¹

(covering the period 1 July 2021-2 February 2023)

Adopted by the Lanzarote Committee on 2 February 2023

Main highlights

- ▶ Adoption of the Implementation Report of the 2nd monitoring round “The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by Information and Communications Technologies – Addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos”
- ▶ Adoption of compliance reports concerning the follow-up given by Parties to the “consider” Recommendations of the Special report on “Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse”
- ▶ Adoption of amendments to the Committee’s Rules of Procedure aimed at strengthening in particular the efficiency of its monitoring procedure and the smooth running of meetings
- ▶ Adoption of measures to restrict the modalities of participation of the Russian Federation after it ceased to be a member of the Council of Europe following its aggression against Ukraine
- ▶ Celebration of the 7th and 8th editions of the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse

1. This activity report covers the period from the 33rd meeting of the Lanzarote Committee (21-22 September 2021) to its 37th meeting (31 January-2 February 2022) (see Appendix I – List of the meetings of the Lanzarote Committee).²

2. The 33rd to the 36th meetings were held remotely on the KUDO platform due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. An extraordinary meeting and the 37th meeting were held in the hybrid format.

1. Article 39 of the Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (the “[Lanzarote Convention](#)”) provides for the creation of a Committee of Parties to the Convention (the “Lanzarote Committee”).

2. It follows on from the Committee’s first six activity reports, adopted on 11 September 2014, 17 March 2016, 12 May 2017, 22 June 2018, 18 October 2019, and 30 June 2021, respectively.



I. Composition of the Lanzarote Committee

3. The Committee is composed of of:³
 - ▶ members (the Parties to the Lanzarote Convention)⁴



■ States Parties to the Lanzarote Convention

3. According to Rule 2 (“Composition”) of the [Rules of Procedure](#) of the Lanzarote Committee. The Committee’s Rules of Procedure were adopted by the Committee at its 2nd meeting on 29-30 March 2012 and amended at its 14th meeting on 15-17 March 2016 and during an extraordinary meeting of the Parties to the Convention held on 6-7 December 2022.
4. The Committee is composed of 48 members at the date of adoption of this report (the [mapping out of the Lanzarote Convention](#) in the image above shows the countries which have ratified/acceded to the Convention. Under Article 46 of the Convention, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has invited Morocco to accede to the Convention. The relevant accession instruments of this state, however, have not been deposited at the date of adoption of this activity report.

- ▶ participants (in particular observer states to the Council of Europe which are not yet Parties to the Convention, the United Nations, the European Union and other intergovernmental organisations, together with the Council of Europe institutions and bodies)
- ▶ observers, particularly representatives of civil society

4. At the date of adoption of this report, the Lanzarote Committee is composed of 48 members (46 Council of Europe member states, the Russian Federation⁵ and Tunisia).

5. The Lanzarote Convention is open for accession to states that are not members of the Council of Europe (Article 46 of the Convention).⁶ Parties to the Convention benefit from the assessment, during the monitoring rounds, of their legislation and policies made by experts in the area. They can learn from each other by exchanging information to find solutions to problems existing in their own country. The Convention can also be used as a legal basis for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters or extradition in respect of offences falling within its scope, thus avoiding having to sign a host of bilateral agreements.

6. The current composition of the Lanzarote Committee appears in Appendix II.

7. Ms Christel DE CRAIM (Belgium) chaired the Committee until the 35th meeting included (30 November-3 December 2021). In 2022, the Chairperson was unable to attend, and the meetings were chaired by the Vice-Chairperson, Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, as provided for in Rule 3.3. of the Committee's Rules of Procedure. On 7 December 2022, the Committee elected Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO as a new Chairperson. It also elected a new Vice-Chairperson and other Bureau members. The composition of the Bureau of the Lanzarote Committee and the list of the representatives of the Committee to other bodies appear in Appendix III.

8. At the Committee's 37th meeting (31 January-2 February 2023), the [Brave Movement](#) and the [End Violence Against Children Fund \(EVAC\)](#) were granted observer status.

5. The Russian Federation was a member of the Council of Europe until 16 March 2022 when the Committee of Ministers decided on the cessation of its membership following its aggression against Ukraine.

6. Non-member States which have participated in the elaboration of the Lanzarote Convention (i.e. Canada, Holy See, Japan, Mexico and the United States) can also sign and ratify the Lanzarote Convention (see Article 45§1 of the Convention).

brave movement | End Childhood Sexual Violence

The BRAVE Movement is a survivor-led global advocacy movement, fighting for the right of all children and adolescents to live a life in safety and with dignity free from sexual violence. Launched on 3 March 2022, BRAVE are mobilising a global gathering of survivors and allies and have already secured historic commitments from the G7 world leaders to address online and offline childhood sexual violence. Founded by 'The SAGE' (Survivor Advocates Globally Empowered) fifteen survivor activists from across the world who received seed-funding from the Oak Foundation to create a global movement that will bring an end to childhood sexual violence, BRAVE's tireless focus is fixed on Prevention, Healing and Justice, as they recognize that childhood sexual violence is unacceptable, preventable, criminal – and solvable..

© *Brave Movement*



The Global Partnership and Fund to End Violence Against Children were launched in July 2016 by the UN Secretary-General. The Partnership is the only global entity focused solely on Sustainable Development Goal 16.2: ending all forms of violence against children by 2030.

The End Violence Partnership is a platform for collective, evidence-based advocacy and action. Working with a unique coalition of more than 700 organisations including governments, UN agencies, research institutions, international NGOs, foundations, local CSOs, private sector groups and faith networks, it connects and convenes partners to raise awareness, catalyse leadership commitments, mobilise new resources, promote evidence-based solutions, and support those working to end all forms of violence, abuse and neglect of children.

© *End Violence against Children*



II. Functions of the Lanzarote Committee

9. The functions of the Lanzarote Committee are twofold:⁷
- ▶ monitoring the implementation of the Convention by the States Parties and
 - ▶ facilitating the collection, analysis and exchange of information, experiences and good practices in order to build capacity to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children.

A. Monitoring of the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention

10. As outlined in the previous [activity reports](#), the Lanzarote Committee has so far decided that the monitoring of the implementation of the Convention by the Parties is carried out on a thematic basis and that all the parties are monitored at the same time, rather than on a country-by-country basis.

7. See Article 41 of the Lanzarote Convention.



1. The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies (ICTs) – Addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos

11. At its 36th meeting (7-10 March 2022), the Lanzarote Committee adopted the implementation report on [“The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies \(ICTs\) – Addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos”](#). The report assesses the situation in the 43 States which were Parties to the Convention at the time the monitoring round was launched.⁸

8. Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine.

12. The report addresses the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos⁹ (CSGSIV). It contains a first chapter dedicated to children's views on some specific issues of its monitoring work, and 10 thematic chapters, each providing a comparative overview of the situation in the monitored Parties. The report more specifically examines Parties' legal frameworks (Chapter II), investigations and prosecution (Chapter III), jurisdiction rules (Chapter IV), and their engagement in international cooperation (Chapter V). It also assesses the processes in place to assist victims (Chapter VI), involve and cooperate with civil society (Chapter VII), raise awareness (Chapter VIII), and educate children (Chapter IX). Finally, the report analyses the measures taken by Parties with regard to higher education curriculum and continuous training of persons working in contact with children (Chapter X); and the research conducted on sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs (Chapter XI).

13. The contribution of children to the report¹⁰ provides a concrete insight into their understanding of the challenges raised by the increase in child self-generated sexual images and/or videos including awareness-raising or educational activities, tools, materials and measures; the national curriculum; and the assistance to victims. Children's key messages in the monitoring are reflected throughout the whole report and several recommendations by the Lanzarote Committee to Parties are based on their specific input. For instance:

- ▶ children recommended video formats and social media as ways of raising awareness on the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse that they may face online, in particular when generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves. On this basis, in recommendation VIII-3, the Committee invites Parties to develop new awareness-raising tools, materials and activities if necessary, concentrating on videos and distribution through social media;
- ▶ children recommended involving parents in the prevention of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children. Accordingly, in Recommendation IX-8, the Committee invites Parties to ensure that parents, caregivers and educators are involved, where appropriate, in the provision of information to children on these issues.

9. This term refers to a) images and/or videos depicting a child in a sexually suggestive way (e.g. naked or semi naked posing in order to provoke sexual arousal) made or apparently made by the child him-/herself on his/her own initiative and b) sexually explicit images and/or videos, which is any material that visually depicts a child engaged in real or simulated sexually explicit conduct or any depiction of a child's sexual organs made or apparently made by the child him-/herself on his/her own initiative.

10. Contributions were received from 306 children from 10 Parties to the Convention.

14. Only 11 Parties refer explicitly in their legal frameworks to child self-generated sexual material. Given the particular considerations concerning whether children are subject to criminal liability in relation to their own self-generated materials, the Committee underlines the importance for Parties to introduce explicit references to conduct involving child self-generated sexual images and/or videos in their legal frameworks. A significant minority of Parties has rules allowing for the criminalisation of the production and/or the possession of sexually explicit images by children themselves, and the Committee highlights that children should not be prosecuted for possessing their own self-generated sexual images and/or videos, the CSGSIV of another child (when the depicted child provided his/her informed consent) and the CSGSIV of another child as a result of receiving such material without actively asking for it. The Committee notes that in the vast majority of Parties, children are potentially criminally liable for the distribution or transmission of their own self-generated sexually explicit images/videos and asks Parties not to prosecute children for sharing their CSGSIV with another child when the sharing is voluntary, consensual and intended solely for their own private use. Parties are also recommended to create a specific incrimination to address sexual extortion of children or prosecute both the initial possession of the child-self generated material and the act of extortion. The Committee regrets that only one Party provides that using force or threat as well as deception, exceeding or abusing powers to obtain sexual materials from a minor constitutes a distinct criminal offence.

Main recommendations on legal frameworks

The Committee asks Parties:

- ▶ not to prosecute children for possessing their own self-generated sexual images and/or videos, the CSGSIV of another child (when the depicted child provided his/her informed consent) and the SGSIV of another child as a result of receiving such material without actively asking for it.
- ▶ not to prosecute children for sharing their CSGSIV with another child when the sharing is voluntary, consensual and intended solely for their own private use.
- ▶ to prosecute as a last resort the distribution or transmission by children of sexual material generated by other children when such material qualifies as “child pornography” in accordance with Article 20(2) of the Lanzarote Convention.
- ▶ to ensure that if exemptions from criminal liability exist for adults’ possession of child self-generated sexual images and/or videos, all the following safeguards are in place:

- the child depicted has reached the legal age for sexual activities and has given consent for the adult's possession of his/her CSGSIV
- the person possessing the CSGSIV and the child depicted on the images and/or videos are of similar ages and maturity (e.g., by setting a maximum age difference among them)
- the production and possession of the CSGSIV did not involve any abuse

The Committee encourages Parties:

- ▶ to use the term “child sexual abuse material” (CSAM) instead of “child pornography” for material depicting acts of sexual abuse of children and/or focusing on the genitalia of the child.
- ▶ to introduce explicit references to conduct involving child self-generated sexual images and/or videos in their legal frameworks.
- ▶ to consider criminalising the offence of “grooming” (solicitation of children for sexual purposes), even when it does not lead to either a face-to-face meeting or to producing CSAM.
- ▶ to create a specific incrimination to address sexual extortion of children, or to prosecute both the initial detention of the child-self generated material and the act of extortion when such material is used by the offender to force, coerce or threaten the child to provide additional material, other sexual favours, a financial gain or other gain to the offenders.

15. A majority of Parties have **specialised units** dealing with ICT-facilitated offences against children within law enforcement and have training modules in place for law enforcement agents, prosecutors and judges related to aspects of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse but encourages them to do more in order to ensure that investigations and prosecution are effective, through the provision of resources and training to the responsible authorities. Parties are thus encouraged to ensure that training on ICT-facilitated sexual offences against children, including when such offences involve CSGSIV and ICT-facilitated coercion or extortion of children, is available to agents working in law enforcement, prosecution and within courts who are likely to encounter such cases and/or specialised in dealing with such offences. The Committee acknowledges the difficulties experienced by Parties in identifying perpetrators who use ICTs for the purpose of committing sexual offences against children but asks 27 Parties that are not already doing so to take the necessary measures to ensure an effective investigation and prosecution, allowing, where appropriate, for the possibility of covert operations.

Main recommendations on investigations and prosecution

On the specialisation and training of authorities, the Committee encourages Parties to ensure that:

- ▶ the capacities of any investigative unit specialised in ICT facilitated sexual offences against children take into account evolving technologies and online behaviours, and that they reflect current practices used by perpetrators.
- ▶ training on ICT facilitated sexual offences against children, including when such offences involve CSGSIV and ICT facilitated coercion or extortion of children, is available to agents working in law enforcement, prosecution and within courts who are likely to come into contact with such cases, and/or that they are specialised in dealing with such offences.

On the identification of victims and perpetrators, the Committee:

- ▶ asks 27 Parties to take the necessary measures to ensure an effective investigation and prosecution of ICT facilitated sexual offences against children, allowing, where appropriate, for the possibility of covert operations.
- ▶ encourages Parties to ensure that measures, services and technology available to those in charge of identifying child victims of ICT-facilitated sexual offences are up to date, reflect current practices across Parties, include the establishment and use of national child abuse material databases, and that resources are sufficiently allocated.
- ▶ encourages Parties to engage in and strengthen inter-Party cooperation for the purpose of identifying child victims and perpetrators of ICT facilitated sexual offences, including, where appropriate, by providing access to each other's databases or shared databases.

16. Given the transnational character of ICT-facilitated sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, **international cooperation** may frequently be necessary in order to identify victims and pursue investigations and other proceedings. Parties are encouraged to engage in and strengthen inter-Party cooperation for the purpose of identifying child victims and perpetrators of ICT facilitated sexual offences, by providing access to each other's databases or shared databases, as appropriate. Sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs are likely to be linked to more than one jurisdiction because of their online component and, given the nature of offences related to child self-generated sexual images and/or videos, it is not always evident to determine one single jurisdiction where the offence was committed. To address this, Parties should take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over transnational cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs,

when one of the constituent elements of the offence has taken place in their territory. International cooperation and coordination between all stakeholders are also stressed as being essential. While it acknowledges efforts already being made, it calls on Parties to do more to cooperate with other States, including other Parties of the Lanzarote Convention, but also countries which are not Parties to the Lanzarote Convention and relevant intergovernmental bodies on preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, in particular in matters related to child self-generated sexual images and/or videos, on protection and assistance to victims, and on investigation and proceedings.

Main recommendations on jurisdiction rules and international cooperation

On jurisdiction rules, the Committee asks:

- ▶ 23 Parties to remove the requirement that prosecution can only be initiated following a report from the victim or a denunciation from the State of the place where the offence was committed for offences related to conduct involving material generated by children, when committed by one of their nationals or by a person having habitual residence in its territory.
- ▶ 12 Parties to remove the requirement for dual criminality for offences of sexual abuse (Article 18), offences concerning child prostitution (Article 19), the production of child pornography (Article 20(1)(a)) and offences concerning the participation of a child in pornographic performances (Article 21), when committed by one of their nationals.
- ▶ Parties in general to take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over transnational cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs, when one of the constituent elements of the offence has taken place in their territory.

On international cooperation, the Committee encourages Parties:

- ▶ to assess, strengthen and develop international cooperation between the Parties of the Lanzarote Convention for the purpose of preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children in matters related to child self-generated sexual images and/or videos.
- ▶ to strengthen cooperation with relevant intergovernmental bodies, and with transnational networks and other international organisations and initiatives due to their capacity to mobilisation, their world-wide scope, and their flexibility to work, for the purpose of preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children in matters related to child self-generated sexual images and/or videos.

17. The Committee reiterates that **assisting child victims** is essential. While it notes that all Parties have reporting mechanisms in place to assist child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse and have adopted legislative or other measures to provide support, assistance and psychological help to child victims, only a few Parties have support services specifically designed for child victims of online sexual abuse. Only one Party has a specific law addressing the issue of child self-generated sexual images and/or videos, and only five Parties have legislation addressing the problem of child abuse facilitated by ICTs. Therefore, the Committee calls for the availability of measures to assist child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs, including offences related to child self-generated sexual images and/or videos, in their short and long-term physical and psycho-social recovery.

Main recommendations on assistance to child victims

The Lanzarote Committee encourages Parties:

- ▶ to promote awareness raising or specialised training for professionals who provide advice to children through telephone or internet helplines on ICT-facilitated sexual exploitation and abuse of children – including the risks associated with child self-generated sexual images and/or videos – and on how to provide appropriate support to these victims and to those who wish to help them.
- ▶ to ensure that measures to assist child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, in the short and long term, in their physical and psycho-social recovery are available to child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs, including offences due to the production, possession, distribution or transmission of child self-generated sexual images and/or videos.

18. The Committee stresses that **civil society involvement** in the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children facilitated by ICTs is paramount. Most Parties support civil society stakeholders as partners in the prevention of child sexual abuse and exploitation and victim assistance activities, and civil society prevention projects on combating sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs are being implemented in almost all of them. Nonetheless, the Committee underlines that Parties should expand cooperation with civil society particularly as regards the challenges raised by the exploitation of child self-generated sexual images and/or videos.

19. Parties have generally taken measures to **raise awareness**, but the Committee finds that the concept of the risks that children face when they generate and/or share sexual material of themselves is only seldom addressed directly. The lack of public awareness programmes and the little co-ordination

of awareness-raising activities locally or nationally within the Parties is noted. It is therefore vital to make children aware of the risks that they face when generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves. It is also essential to promote awareness of these risks among parents and adults with parental responsibilities as well as the general public. Lastly, the Committee recognises the importance of ensuring co-ordination between the bodies responsible for carrying out awareness-raising activities. The report highlights many awareness-raising initiatives and promising practices in order to invite Parties to use or adapt them or, if necessary, to develop new ones.

20. As regards **education of children**, information on the prevention of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children is part of the national curriculum of a majority of Parties, but only a minority of them explicitly address the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual materials. Two Parties indicated that information given to children as part of national curriculum or in other, non-formal, educational settings is provided in an age-appropriate manner. National authorities need to ensure that education and awareness-raising on topics such as prevention of sexual violence against children is appropriate for their age and maturity. The Committee also notes the need to involve parents, caregivers and educators in the prevention of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children. It underlines that it is of crucial importance that persons who have regular contact with children in the education, health, social protection, judicial and law-enforcement sectors and in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities be well informed about the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, both during their education and continuously during their careers, to enable them to adapt to emerging trends and risks in the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including when facilitated by ICTs and with specific reference to child self-generated sexual images and/or videos. It appears from the replies of the Parties that even when some of the persons working in contact with children receive training or education on the matter, only a minority of the entire workforce actually benefits from them. Parties should thus ensure that all professionals who have regular contacts with children, as well as those working on a voluntary basis, receive such education and/or training.

Main recommendations on prevention

The Lanzarote Committee encourages Parties:

- ▶ to expand cooperation with civil society in order to better prevent sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including when facilitated by ICTs and as regards the challenges raised by the exploitation of child self-generated sexual images and/or videos.

- ▶ to ensure that explanations of the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse faced by children generating and/or sharing sexual images and/or videos of themselves, with or without coercion, are included in the awareness-raising campaigns that they promote or conduct, whatever the target audience.
- ▶ to collect data and undertake research at the national and local level, for the purpose of observing and evaluating the phenomenon of child self-generated sexual images and/or videos.
- ▶ to address in educational contexts the issue of the risks of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs, including as regards child self-generated sexual images and videos.
- ▶ to provide information to children on the risks of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs, including as regards child self-generated sexual images and/or videos, within a more general context of sexuality education.
- ▶ to ensure that the persons who have regular contacts with children (i.e. in the education, health and social protection, sectors and in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities), have an adequate knowledge of the risks associated with child self-generated sexual images and videos, for example through education or continuous training.

21. The report provides an overview of the existing **research** on sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs in Parties, specifically on issues arising from child self-generated sexual images and/or videos and on the psychological effects on persons whose child self-generated materials have been shared online. Recalling that effective prevention mechanisms and responses to tackle sexual exploitation and abuse of children require an understanding of the characteristics and the prevalence of the phenomenon, the Committee stresses that Parties should collect data and undertake research at the national and local levels, in collaboration with civil society, for the purpose of observing and evaluating the phenomenon of child self-generated sexual images and/or videos.

22. The recommendations by the Committee on steps to improve or reinforce the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies in the areas covered by this report can be found at the end of each chapter. Some recommendations are general in nature, while others are addressed to specific Parties. All chapters also highlight a number of promising practices identified by the Committee that may be of inspiration to those Parties that may not have such measures in place yet.

23. The main legal reasoning and findings of each chapter of the implementation report are presented in a “Key monitoring findings” factsheet. Thematic factsheets – which will be made available on the [webpage dedicated to the 2nd monitoring round](#) – will present further details with respect to each chapter without referring to specific country situations as these will instead be covered by Country factsheets which will present the specific findings concerning each monitored Party.



2. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Special report “Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse”

24. A [Special report](#) on “Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse” was adopted, as a result of an urgent monitoring round, on 3 March 2017. This report contains specific recommendations drawn up by the Lanzarote Committee on measures to be taken to improve or reinforce the protection of children affected by the refugee crisis against sexual abuse.

25. Following the adoption of the [evaluation of the follow-up given by Parties to the 5 recommendations of the Special report “urging” them to act](#) in June 2019, the Committee decided to assess the follow-up by the Parties to the 10 “consider” recommendations of the Special report, as these also correspond to situations that need further improvements in law or in practice to fully comply with the Lanzarote Convention. The information submitted by the 41 Parties was preliminarily reviewed by independent experts assisted by the Secretariat, which presented observations to the Committee in June 2020. The Parties were then asked to provide complementary updated information. This invitation was also extended to the international organisations having participatory or observer status. The Committee adopted 10 compliance reports concerning the “consider” recommendations between October 2021 and February 2022. Their key findings are summarised below.

26. Significant efforts have been made by the Parties concerning the exchange of information on awareness raising. A wide range of activities on information and advice to children and support services, such as helplines to child victims, can be found in the majority of Member States. Promising practices include providing information and advice to different groups of refugee children, the availability of materials in relevant languages and the adoption of different methodologies, such as peer-to-peer training and *ad hoc* workshops. Concerning helplines and other support services, some Parties have set up specific services for children affected by the refugee crisis. For example, in Sweden the NGO Save the Children set up a project entitled “*Listen to me!*”. France designed an online platform for the reception and integration of refugees, which is available in seven languages. In Iceland, there is a helpline just for asylum seekers. In Denmark, the NGO ‘Danish Refugee Council’ offers interpretation in more than 80 languages and dialects. In Italy, the 114 Childhood Emergency Helpline (Telefono Azzurro) has a simultaneous interpretation service in 20 languages. 30 Parties or more provide free services to those calling in.

27. The issue of cross-border missing children is also covered by the Committee’s findings. The most widely used tool, identified as a promising practice, is the 116 000 hotline for Missing Children, which is used by 29 Parties. Another promising practice in this area is the implementation of identification, documentation, tracing and reunification (IDTR) protocols, as is the case in Austria, Turkey and the Netherlands.

28. The compliance reports also shed light on some of the gaps that should be addressed to provide effective and quality legislation, programmes and services for prevention and protection of children affected by the refugee crisis against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. On mechanisms for data collection, Parties need to improve the efficacy of already available data collection mechanisms and establish new ones, where they do not yet exist; to adopt different methods for collecting data, both of a quantitative nature (i.e. statistics) and of a qualitative nature (i.e. focused research studies) and to ensure that there are no related obstacles for data collection. On the prosecution of offenders, among other important measures, Parties need to enhance international cooperation for the purpose of exchange of information; to support relevant investigations and prosecution of crimes, which occurred outside of the Party’s territory; and to guarantee for the proceedings to be initiated without the victim having to file a complaint and to continue the proceedings even if the child victim has withdrawn his or her complaint and/or statement.

29. All the compliance reports are [available online](#).

30. The findings of the Special Report were used to develop a [Checklist](#) of States' main obligations under the Convention as regards the protection of children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. The Checklist is a practical tool with concrete examples of measures that may be put in place to prevent sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, identify and report child victims, provide support to child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and prosecute the perpetrators.

31. A [Handbook on Protection of children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse: States' main obligations under the Lanzarote Convention](#) was also prepared by the Lanzarote Committee Secretariat to guide practitioners and policymakers in reception, transit and destination countries to better protect children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

32. Both the Checklist and the Handbook are available in [Czech](#), [Hungarian](#), [Polish](#), [Romanian](#), [Slovak](#) and [Ukrainian](#), in addition to [English](#) and [French](#).



3. Protecting children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in the context of the conflict in Ukraine

33. During its 36th plenary meeting (7-10 March 2022), the Committee made a [Statement on protecting children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse resulting from the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine](#), calling upon the States Parties to the Convention to “uphold the rights and best interests of the child at all times” and to “take measures to address the specific risk of exposure to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of migrant and refugee children” (see full text of the statement below).

34. Mr George Nikolaidis (Greece), a member and ex-Chairperson of the Committee, accompanied the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Migration and Refugees on her visit with a fact-finding mission to Poland which took place from 30 May to 3 June 2022. The Checklist referred to above was used during the visit, among other tools, to identify issues and provide targeted support.

35. At its 37th plenary meeting (31 January - 2 February 2022), in addition to the Lanzarote Convention [Checklist](#) and [Handbook](#) (see above), the Committee was informed of other Council of Europe initiatives to protect children against sexual abuse and sexual exploitation as a consequence of the war in Ukraine, notably other fact-finding missions of the [Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Migration and Refugees](#) and the [GRETA's Guidance Note](#) on addressing the risks of trafficking in human beings related to the war in Ukraine and the ensuing humanitarian crisis. The Lanzarote Committee Secretariat participated in the roundtables prepared by the Special Representative as a follow-up to her country visits. The first of these events took place online on 21 September 2022 and it addressed the authorities and relevant organisations in the Slovak Republic. The second roundtable took

place in the Czech Republic on 26 January 2023. At both events, the Secretariat presented results of the compliance procedure, as well as the Checklist and Handbook (see above). At the event in the Czech Republic, the Handbook was disseminated in digital format in Czech.

Lanzarote Committee Statement on protecting children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse resulting from the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine

Recalling that the unjustifiable and unprovoked military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, in violation of international law and human rights, including the rights of the child, has been strongly condemned by the Council of Europe,

Affirming that the safety and protection of all children should be a priority and that children in vulnerable situations such as unaccompanied and missing children are at a higher risk of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse,

Noting the increasing number of refugee, migrant and internally displaced children and recognising the urgent need for safe passages,

The Lanzarote Committee solemnly reaffirms, in the current context, its Declaration on protecting refugee and migrant children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse adopted on 28 June 2018, which calls upon the States Parties to the Convention to:

1. *uphold the rights and best interests of the child at all times, regardless of their migration status;*
2. *ensure that follow-up is given to the recommendations contained in its urgent monitoring round report on “Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse”;*
3. *take measures to address the specific risk of exposure to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of migrant and refugee children, taking into account the increased vulnerability caused by factors such as deprivation of liberty, family separation, inadequacy of reception and care and lack of effective guardianship systems;*
4. *cooperate with relevant stakeholders in Europe and beyond to:*
 - *prevent the exposure of migrant and refugee children to the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse;*
 - *provide appropriate support and assistance to child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in their physical and psychosocial recovery;*
 - *fight against the impunity of sexual offenders.*



4. Next monitoring work: Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust

36. The next thematic monitoring work to be launched by the Committee in 2023 will be dedicated to the same subject matter as the [1st monitoring round](#): Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust. Since the adoption of the second implementation report of the 1st monitoring round in January 2018, the number of the Parties to the Lanzarote Convention has increased from 26 to 48, which means that 22 Parties have not yet undergone the evaluation procedure concerning the required legal framework and strategies. In addition, an assessment of compliance with the monitoring findings with respect to the 26 Parties that had undergone such an evaluation has not yet been carried out. A renewed focus on the theme of the 1st monitoring round will therefore enable the Committee to have a comprehensive picture of the situation in all current Parties to the Convention.

37. In addition, there have been many advances in the area concerned since the adoption of the Committee's two implementation reports closing the evaluation procedure in the 1st monitoring round. Addressing the situation in all current Parties with respect to the sexual abuse of children in the circle of trust will enable the Committee to showcase additional good practices in this area.

38. Finally, a child's circle of trust remains the environment where the vast majority of child sexual abuse occurs, thus making it particularly important to ensure that all Parties have the right legislation and policies in place to prevent it and to address it in the optimal manner when it occurs.



5. Working methods/Rules of Procedure

39. As outlined in its [5th activity report](#), the increase in membership (from 12 at its first meeting to 48 Parties in 2021) led the Committee to initiate discussions on how to strengthen the efficiency of its working methods and the Lanzarote Convention's monitoring procedure in particular.

40. At its 35th (30 November-3 December 2021) and 36th (7-10 March 2022) meetings, the Committee agreed on various amendments to its [Rules of Procedure](#). These amendments were adopted during an extraordinary meeting of the representatives of the Parties to the Convention held on 6-7 December 2022. They address the following issues:

- ▶ In order to address the high turnover of Parties' representatives during monitoring rounds which resulted from the short terms of office, a Party nominating its representative pursuant to Rule 2.1 §2 is now required to strive, insofar as possible, and within the limit of what is compatible with the representative's national duties, to nominate that representative for a term of office of at least two years. For the same purpose, the terms of office of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson (Rule 3 §1) and that of the members of the Bureau (Rule 4 §2) were extended to two years instead of one year (renewable once).
- ▶ In order to cope better with the increased volume of work, the number of members of the Bureau was raised from three to five, in addition to the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson (Rule 4 §1).

- ▶ A number of other amendments reflected the increased use of the online environment for holding plenary meetings (Rules 7, 10 and 18). Thus, it was decided that, “[if] deemed appropriate, the meetings of the Lanzarote Committee may be held by videoconference or in a hybrid nature, in conditions permitting confidentiality of discussions and also interpretation in the Council of Europe’s official languages”. Voting may also take place online as long as it is in conditions permitting confidentiality.
- ▶ In order to allow for a wider participation in the work of the Committee by representatives of civil society, Rule 20 on hearings was amended to explicitly include the possibility that such hearings are attended by qualified persons from civil society. Furthermore, the amended Rule has codified the possibility for children to make contributions to the Committee at the hearings in the form of their views expressed on the themes covered by the Committee’s monitoring round. The hearings of children should respect the geographical balance of the Parties, be based on voluntary participation and conducted without discrimination on any grounds.
- ▶ An additional paragraph concerning voting by written procedure was included in Rule 18 on Voting, reflecting the relevant provision in the Committee of Ministers’ updated Resolution on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods (CM/Res(2021)3).

41. Following the cessation of the membership in the Council of Europe of the Russian Federation on 16 March 2022, the Committee of Ministers invited on 30 June 2022 each body representing all Parties of the treaties to which the Russian Federation remained a Party to decide, on the basis of its rules of procedure, on the modalities of the participation of the Russian Federation in the respective body. On 6 December 2022, the Committee decided to include the following new Rule at the end of Rule 2.1 of its Rules of Procedure:

“The Lanzarote Committee may decide on measures to restrict the participation in its work of a Party that has ceased to be a member of the Council of Europe, following a decision by the Committee of Ministers in the context of a procedure launched under Article 8 of the Statute of the Council of Europe for a serious violation of Article 3 of the Statute. Similarly, measures restricting the participation of a Party can be taken in respect of any non-member state of the Council of Europe concerned by a Committee of Ministers decision restricting or suspending its relations with it due to serious breaches of international law comparable to a serious violation of Article 3 of the Statute. No measures contravening the rights of the States Parties under the Convention may be imposed. No participants or observers shall be present during the Committee’s examination of the matter. Voting shall be in accordance with Rule 18 paragraph 2 and the decision taken shall

have immediate effect. Any reconsideration of the decision shall be in accordance with Rule 17 and shall be carried out as swiftly as possible. The Chairperson shall ensure the orderly implementation of the decision in the interest of the effective functioning of the Committee."

42. Following the entry into force of the above amended Rule, the Committee adopted the following decision on restrictions of the modalities of participation of the Russian Federation in the Lanzarote Committee:

"Based on new Rule 2.1.5 of its [Rules of Procedure](#), the Lanzarote Committee adopts the following measures with immediate effect:

- a. The representative of the Russian Federation will not take part in the election of the Bureau of the Lanzarote Committee, and s/he shall not chair the Lanzarote Committee or be a member of the Bureau. Similarly, s/he shall not be entrusted with any task of rapporteur and shall not represent the Lanzarote Committee in any circumstances.*
- b. The representative of the Russian Federation will continue to receive information concerning the work of the Lanzarote Committee and will have access to its working documents via the shared space of the Lanzarote Committee but will not be invited to take part in the meetings and capacity building activities of the Lanzarote Committee.*
- c. In the context of the Lanzarote Committee's monitoring and capacity-building work, the representative of the Russian Federation may communicate to the Secretariat of the Lanzarote Committee any comments s/he may have on working documents only to the extent that they refer to, or include an evaluation of, the situation in the Russian Federation. The Chairperson will ask the Secretariat to present any such comments received by the Russian Federation during the meetings. If further clarifications from the Russian Federation are necessary following the Committee's examination of the comments received, the Secretariat will seek such clarifications in the margins of the meeting and communicate them to the Committee.*
- d. If voting is scheduled to take place, the Secretariat will inform the representative of the Russian Federation beforehand and will provide a link to participate in the vote remotely or indicate another channel for communicating his or her vote directly to the Secretariat. In case of a vote by secret ballot, the Secretariat shall ensure the secrecy of the vote.*
- e. The Russian Federation will continue to be required to respond to Committee requests concerning its own implementation of the Lanzarote Convention in accordance with Rules 23 and 24 of its Rules of Procedure.*

Any reconsideration of the above decision shall take place in accordance with Rule 17."



B. Exchange of information, experiences and good practices

43. The Lanzarote Committee is also tasked with facilitating the collection, analysis and exchange of information, experience and good practices among States to enhance their capacity to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children. Accordingly, the Committee can organise capacity-building activities, information exchanges, hearings on specific issues raised by the implementation of the Convention or any other activity it deems useful. The COVID-19 pandemic and other events during the period under review made it difficult to organise any in-person capacity-building events. However, the Committee still exchanged information.

1. Country overviews

44. At the 36th meeting (7-10 March 2022), the Committee was presented a pilot country overview for Italy, which had been prepared by the Secretariat in collaboration with the national authorities. The Committee asked the Secretariat to continue to prepare two or three pilot country overviews building also on similar awareness-raising material developed by civil society stakeholders.

45. Following the 36th meeting, the Lanzarote Committee Secretariat engaged with ECPAT to prepare joint country overviews in light of its experience with similar overviews. The aim of the joint country overview is to present information on each of the Parties to the Lanzarote Convention concerning the implementation of the Convention as a result of the Lanzarote Committee's monitoring work, as well as other advancements related to the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and the prevention of related phenomena.

46. The country overviews are divided into several sections:
- ▶ an introduction containing general information and statistics;
 - ▶ recent data and country-specific characteristics related to child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation in various environments;
 - ▶ the country's international commitments and the national legislative framework;
 - ▶ the country's response to the sexual abuse and exploitation of children, including any national action plans, cooperation with the private sector, prevention and protection measures;
 - ▶ the opportunities for the participation of children and survivors;
 - ▶ priority areas to be focused on to achieve progress and relevant recommendations from the Lanzarote Committee.
47. At the 37th meeting (31 January-2 February 2023), two such joint ECPAT/ Council of Europe pilot country overviews were presented, notably for Finland and the Republic of Moldova and an updated country overview for Italy. In 2023, launch events will be organised in each of the three countries with the aim to present the findings of the country overviews, to mobilise society in the country around the issue of sexual abuse and exploitation of children and to inspire action. Other country overviews will also be prepared.



18 NOVEMBRE

Journée européenne
pour la protection
des enfants
contre l'exploitation
et les abus sexuels

2. The European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (18 November)

48. On the [7th edition of the European Day](#) (18 November 2021), Parties were invited to share their initiatives on “Making the circle of trust truly safe for children”. This theme came back to the forefront of the Committee’s attention in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, when during the lockdowns those children who were closed in with their abusers had even less chances to seek help. Ahead of the day, Council of Europe Secretary General Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ called on the states to step up their efforts to ensure that children’s “circle of trust” is made as safe as possible. The Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, Ms Christel DE CRAIM, issued a statement highlighting the importance of the problem. The events organised on the occasion of this edition of the European Day reflected the recommendations and best practices gathered as a result of the first monitoring round of the Committee dedicated to the protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust.

49. The first event organised under the Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe was in the framework of the [8th edition of the European Day](#) (18 November 2022) which focused on “Getting it right: ensuring child-friendly justice through Barnahus structures in Europe”. Iceland has made it a clear priority to promote internationally the Barnahus model, first pioneered in Iceland, to other Parties as a promising practice in addressing

child sexual exploitation and abuse outside tradition justice settings through child-friendly processes and avoiding any further victimisation. Barnahus (Children’s House) is the leading European child-friendly multidisciplinary and interagency response model for child sexual abuse. Its unique approach brings together all relevant services under one roof, to avoid re-victimisation of the child during investigation and court proceedings and to provide every child with a coordinated and effective response. The core purpose of Barnahus is to coordinate parallel criminal and child welfare investigations and help produce valid evidence for judicial proceedings by eliciting the child’s disclosure. The child victims and witnesses of violence also receive support and assistance, including medical evaluation and treatment, in a safe environment for children. Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Vice-Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, made a statement which was published for the occasion.



3. Council of Europe cooperation projects on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse

50. During the reference period, the Committee continued to follow closely Council of Europe cooperation projects on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. The cooperation project portfolio of the Council of Europe has increased significantly over the last years addressing a larger number of topics and implementing the Council of Europe's standards. The gaps revealed through the recommendations from the monitoring rounds of the Committee have served as the basis for building action and adjusting interventions on specific subjects where needs were identified, and Parties have requested specific support.

51. The Joint European Union/Council of Europe [Barnahus project in Slovenia](#) was completed, with its Barnahus premises having been officially inaugurated in May 2022. The Ljubljana Barnahus is expected to deal with up to 200 cases of child sexual abuse per year. It will have five core staff members and will receive additional support from doctors and medical examiners at the nearby Paediatric Clinic. In the first year, it is expected to host trainings for 50 judges, 50 prosecutors, 100 social services professionals and 30 doctors, as well as teachers and educators. It will also train police officers in the police academy. The legal framework for the Ljubljana Barnahus was set up by the Law on Child Protection in Criminal Proceedings and their Comprehensive Treatment, or the Barnahus Law, the first of its kind in Europe, adopted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia in 2021.

52. In 2019, Finland initiated its own nationwide Barnahus project to be implemented around the core of five university hospital expert units specialising in forensic psychology/psychiatry (Barnahus-units). The Joint European Union/Council of Europe Project [Barnahus in Finland](#), to be implemented from 2021 to 2024, sets out to support the Finnish authorities in addressing the needs and challenges identified since the launch of their project so as to reduce the existing significant delays in the pre-trial and judicial proceedings involving children. In September 2022, a comprehensive legal review of Finnish legislation concerning child sexual exploitation and abuse cases and a training gap analysis was presented to the key stakeholders to shape further legal amendments with a possibility to adopt a separate law on Barnahus. In order to reduce the duration of judicial proceedings related to underage victims of violence, the project will support Finland in the development of tools for inter-agency coordination, information sharing and case management. The project will also use the tools to train professionals working in Barnahus-units and relevant agencies, including the police, the children protection service, the judiciary, and social workers. In order to increase awareness of child sexual abuse, it will include a comprehensive study of the perceptions of children and adolescents of the quality and friendliness of judicial services available for child victims and witnesses of violence, develop a child-friendly communication strategy on child sexual abuse and Barnahus services, and develop information and awareness-raising materials based on the results of the study.

53. In addition, in the Summer of 2022, two more Barnahus-related projects were launched, in [Ireland](#) and in [Spain](#).

54. The European Union/Council of Europe Joint Project “[CP4EUROPE](#) - Strengthening National Child Participation Frameworks and Action in Europe” has been underway since April 2021. It aims to contribute to the promotion of children’s right to participation at national and pan-European levels in accordance with Council of Europe standards and tools in this area and is implemented in 5 partner countries: the Czech Republic, Iceland, Portugal, Slovenia and Finland, and at the European level. A project on [reform of the juvenile justice system](#) in Slovenia, also underway since 2021, aims at supporting the Slovenian authorities in pursuing a comprehensive review of the national legal framework on juvenile justice, in order to harmonise it with the latest European and international standards and good practices.

55. Cooperation projects to strengthen the response to violence against children, including online child sexual exploitation and abuse, have also been ongoing in the [Republic of Moldova](#) and [Ukraine](#), and have been adjusted to respond better to the current needs, i.e. situation in Ukraine following the Russian aggression and the refugee crisis in the Republic of Moldova. A new project has also been launched in Georgia to support the authorities in ensuring prevention and protection of children from sexual violence, including in the digital environment.



FOCUS SECTION: BARNAHUS

Overview

56. There is growing international recognition of the paramount importance of child-friendly multidisciplinary and interagency (MDIA) services being made available for child victims and witnesses of violence, as acknowledged by the Council of Europe in the leaflet on “[Child-friendly, multidisciplinary and interagency response inspired by the Barnahus model](#)”. Originally developed by the National Children’s Advocacy Centre in the United States, the Barnahus model was introduced and adapted to the European context by Iceland in 1998, then replicated in Sweden and Norway. In its first implementation report “[Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust: The framework](#)”, the Lanzarote Committee identified the Icelandic Barnahus model as an example of a promising practice for a child-friendly MDIA response. The Lanzarote Convention provides a legal basis for the child-friendly MDIA collaboration by including provisions on national measures of coordination and collaboration (Article 10); investigation (Articles 30, 31 and 34); interviews with the child (Article 35); and protected measures and assistance to victims (Articles 11, 14 and 31).

What is Barnahus?

57. Different national contexts have generated different types of MDIA services and Barnahus depending on legal systems, social structures, cultural traditions, and professional practices. The Council of Europe produced a leaflet on “[Child-friendly, multidisciplinary and interagency response inspired by the Barnahus model](#)”.

58. The term Barnahus/MDIA services for child victims and witnesses of violence is generally defined as a child-friendly, safe environment for children, bringing together relevant services under one roof for the purposes of providing a coordinated and effective response and for preventing re-traumatisation during investigation and court proceedings. The central goal is to coordinate the parallel criminal and child welfare investigations. A key role of the service is to help produce valid evidence for judicial proceedings by eliciting the child's disclosure. The child also receives support and assistance, including medical evaluation and treatment and therapeutic evaluation and treatment.

Key common criteria of Barnahus

- ▶ Forensic interviews are carried out according to an evidence-based protocol.
- ▶ The evidentiary validity of the child's statement is ensured by appropriate arrangements in line with the principles of "due process".
- ▶ Medical evaluation for forensic investigative purposes, as well as to ensure the child's physical well-being and recovery, is available.
- ▶ Psychological support and short- and long-term therapeutic services for trauma to the child and non-offending family members and caretakers are available.
- ▶ Assessment of the protection needs of the victim and potential siblings in the family is made.

Enabling factors for establishing and operating Barnahus or similar multidisciplinary interagency services

59. Strong political will, adequate stakeholder engagement and commitment from Barnahus champions that drive change are prerequisites for establishing and operating effective and professional Barnahus or similar MDIA services. Further enabling factors include an appropriate regulatory environment, sufficient and sustainable resources, availability of qualified professionals, supportive and aware societies, and an effective interagency cooperation.

60. International and European law and guidance are considered important foundations and opportunities to bring national law, policy and practice in line with children's rights to protection from violence, child-friendly justice and assistance. Ensuring effective implementation of the Lanzarote Convention and the relevant EU Directives is vital in this regard. Detailed provisions and mechanisms for specific safeguards, such as provisions concerning interview modalities for children, coordination, exchange of information and joint planning are often needed at country level to ensure child-friendly and effective interagency case management.

Operating standards: European Barnahus Quality Standards

61. The European Barnahus Quality Standards developed by the EU-funded PROMISE project embody the operational and organisational framework for the organisation and practice of Barnahus. The key purpose of the standards is to promote practice which prevents re-traumatisation while securing valid testimony for the courts and effectively safeguards children’s rights to protection, assistance and child-friendly justice. The standards provide a framework for setting quality goals for core operational practices for Barnahus/MDIA services.

<p>Standard 1.1 Best interest of the child</p>	<p>The best interests of the child are a primary consideration in all actions and decisions concerning the child and the non-offending family/caregivers/support persons.</p>
<p>Standard 1.2 Child participation</p>	<p>Children’s rights to express their views and to receive information are respected and fulfilled. Children and family/ caregivers receive adequate information regarding available and necessary treatment and can influence the timing, location and set-up of interventions.</p>
<p>Standard 1.3 Preventing undue delay</p>	<p>Measures are taken to avoid undue delay, ensuring that forensic interviews, child protection assessments and mental health and medical examinations take place within a stipulated time period and that children benefit from timely information.</p>
<p>Standard 2 Multidisciplinary and interagency (MDIA) collaboration</p>	<p>Formal status: Barnahus is formally embedded in the national or local social or child protection services, law enforcement/judicial system or national health system. Barnahus can operate as an independent service if it enjoys a statutory role, recognised by the national or local authorities.</p> <p>Structured and transparent MDIA collaboration: There are clearly established roles, mandates, coordination mechanisms, budget, measures for monitoring and evaluation. MDIA collaboration begins at the initial report of suspected child abuse and continues throughout the case management.</p>
<p>Standard 3 Non-discrimination</p>	<p>The target group includes all children who are victims and/ or witnesses of crime involving all forms of violence. Non-offending family/caregivers are included as a secondary target group.</p>

<p>Standard 4</p> <p>Child-friendly environment</p>	<p>Place and accessibility: The Barnahus premises are preferably situated in a detached building located in an environment familiar to children and accessible by public transport and for children with special needs.</p> <p>Interior environment: Furnishing and material are child and family-friendly and age-appropriate. The premises are physically safe for children at all ages and developmental stages. Separate, soundproof and private areas are available.</p> <p>Preventing contact with the suspected perpetrator: The premises are set up so that contact between victim and alleged offender is avoided at all times.</p> <p>Interview room: Live observation of interviews is made possible for the interagency team in a room other than the interview room.</p>
<p>Standard 5</p> <p>Interagency planning and case management</p>	<p>Formal procedures and regular routines: Interagency case review and planning is formalised by mutually agreed upon procedures and routines which are evaluated on a regular basis. Continuous documentation and access to relevant case information to the interagency team members is ensured.</p> <p>Support person: A designated, trained individual/ member of the Barnahus team monitors the MDIA response to ensure continuous support and follow-up with the child and non-offending family/caregivers.</p>
<p>Standard 6</p> <p>Forensic interviews</p>	<p>Evidence-based practice and protocols by specialised staff: Forensic interviews are carried out by specialised staff according to evidence-based practice and protocols to ensure the quality and quantity of the evidence.</p> <p>Location and recording: Forensic interviews are conducted in the Barnahus premises. Interviews are audio-visually recorded in order to avoid repeated interviewing.</p> <p>MDIA presence: The forensic interview is carried out by a single professional. All relevant members of the MDIA team are able to observe the forensic interview; either live in an adjacent room or recorded. There is a system of interaction between the interviewer and the observers.</p> <p>Adapted to child: The interview is adapted to the child's age, development and cultural background and takes into account special needs. The number of interviews is limited to the minimum necessary for the criminal investigation. The same professional conducts the interview if multiple interviews are necessary.</p>

<p>Standard 7</p> <p>Medical evaluation and treatment</p>	<p>Evaluation and treatment: Medical evaluations and/or forensic medical evaluations are routinely carried out by specialised staff in the Barnahus premises, unless hospital setting is required in special cases.</p> <p>Case review and planning: Medical staff is present in case review and planning meetings as appropriate.</p>
<p>Standard 8</p> <p>Mental health examination and treatment</p>	<p>Assessment and treatment: Assessment and treatment is routinely made available for child victims and witnesses who are referred to the Barnahus by professionals with specialised training and expertise.</p> <p>Crisis intervention: There is a clear organisational structure and permanent staff in place to routinely offer crisis support for the child and non-offending family members/caregivers, if needed.</p>
<p>Standard 9</p> <p>Training, supervision and guidance</p>	<p>Training of professionals: The members of the Barnahus team and involved agencies are provided with regular training in their specific areas of expertise and offered joint training in cross-cutting issues.</p> <p>Guidance, supervision, counselling: The members of the Barnahus team have access to regular guidance, supervision, counselling and peer review.</p>
<p>Standard 10</p> <p>Prevention</p>	<p>Data collection, information sharing and awareness raising: Aggregated and disaggregated data/statistics is collected and shared with relevant stakeholders to create awareness, facilitate research and support evidence-based legislation, policy and procedures.</p> <p>External competence building: Competence and knowledge are increased among professionals working for and with children through study visits, information meetings, lectures and producing written material.</p>



4. Use of digital tools to automatically detect online child sexual abuse and exploitation material

62. During its 37th meeting, the Lanzarote Committee pursued the analysis of issues already discussed at its 32nd meeting when the independent experts' report on "[Respecting human rights and the rule of law when using automated technology to detect online child sexual exploitation and abuse](#)" it had triggered was launched. On 1 February 2023, the Committee heard a detailed presentation by the European Commission of its [proposed Regulation](#) aimed at clarifying service providers' legal responsibilities to assess and mitigate risks and, where necessary, to detect, report and remove known and new child sexual abuse material as well as child solicitation on their servers and also aimed at establishing a European Centre to prevent and combat child sexual abuse. The [outcome report of a multistakeholder workshop held in Leiden](#) on 17 and 18 October 2022 was also launched during the meeting and the Committee engaged in a thorough discussion with its authors, Dr Mark Leiser (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) and Dr Sabine Witting (Leiden University), who welcomed the constructive criticism of the workshop's outcome on the EU proposal. The Committee noted that further workshops were in the pipeline to address identified loopholes in the EU proposal and looked forward to being informed of the results of this further work as well as progress in the finalisation of the EU proposal.



5. Participation of Lanzarote Committee members and its Secretariat in meetings on the Lanzarote Committee's behalf

63. Representatives of the Lanzarote Committee took part in various events organised at the initiative of states or other stakeholders, in order to facilitate exchange of views and experience on the implementation of the Convention (see Appendix IV). A few such events deserve particular attention:

- ▶ On 25 October 2021, Ms Christel DE CRAIM (Belgium), Chairperson, participated in the 9th annual meeting between the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the heads of the monitoring and advisory bodies of the Council of Europe. At this meeting she presented the work of the Committee around the following three axes: synergies and co-ordination with other bodies; stronger impact through increased visibility; increased efficiency through innovative working methods.
- ▶ On 10 November 2021, she had the opportunity to present the most recent activities of the Lanzarote Committee in front of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO (Portugal), the Vice-Chairperson, did the same on 16 November 2022.
- ▶ On 7 April 2022, Ms CASTELLO-BRANCO participated in the High-level Launching Conference for the new Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027) in Rome.

64. The Lanzarote Committee is also represented in the work of other bodies responsible for the relevant standard-setting activities of the Council of Europe, including the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF), the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY), the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ), the Committee of Experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE), the European Committee for Social Cohesion (CCS), and the Working Group on responses to violence against children (CDENF-GT-VAE).



6. Cooperation with civil society: annual end-of-year panels

65. Several representatives of international, governmental or non-governmental organisations, as well as experts, presented their activities, which are relevant to the work of the Committee, at every plenary meeting of the Committee (see Appendix V).

66. At its 35th meeting (30 November-3 December 2021), the Committee decided to hold annual end-of-the-year panels for all its civil society observer members showcasing their recent and upcoming work aimed at strengthening the protection of children from sexual abuse and exploitation. Their presentations made at the 35th meeting in 2021 can be summarised as follows.

– ECPAT-International

67. Ms Dorothea CZARNECKI (ECPAT Deputy Executive Director) presented the study carried out by her organisation in eight countries, across the European Union, to explore public attitudes towards online child protection and privacy ([Project Beacon](#)).

68. She indicated that the research has shown widespread public support to give up a piece of their privacy for the use of tools to identify child sexual abuse materials, and for the European Union to ensure longer-term changes to legislation that will keep children safe online. She highlighted that the key findings are:

- a. 68% of respondents support plans by the European Union to introduce new legislation on the detection of child sexual abuse material by private companies;

- b. 76% of respondents said that allowing online service providers to be able to detect and flag any signs of child online sexual exploitation or abuse is more or as important as their privacy online;
- c. An average of 73% of adults believe children cannot go online without being approached by adults looking to harm them;
- d. Nearly 7 out of 10 respondents feel that there is not much, if any, privacy online. Those who believe online privacy does not exist (68%) outnumber those who believe it does (25%) by more than two to one;
- e. Over 3/4 of respondents believe protecting children from abuse is as important or more important than the protection of their own privacy.

– The International Association of Internet Hotlines (INHOPE)

69. Mr Denton HOWARD (INHOPE’s Executive Director) emphasised that there is always a victim behind any child sexual abuse material found online (which may remain accessible on the internet for decades) and that awareness, prevention, reporting and removal minimise the consequences for the child victim (even after becoming an adult). He explained what hotlines’ role is for each of these four stages and noted that national hotlines – which exist in nearly all Parties to the Lanzarote Convention – can be found on [INHOPE’s website](#).

– Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)

70. Ms Abigail FEDOROVSKY (Policy and Public Affairs Assistant) informed the Committee about IWF work to raise awareness on self-generated child sexual abuse images/videos. She emphasised, in particular, that, in a study carried out by IWF in October 2021, 67% of the reports received by IWF between 1 January and 30 September 2021 included self-generated child sexual abuse imagery, which was a 27% increase since 2020 (138% increase in the number of reports which include self-generated imagery of 11-13 years old children; 186% increase in the number of reports which include self-generated child sexual abuse of 7-10 years old).

71. She also presented the following two prevention campaigns led by IWF in the United Kingdom and stated that they can easily be adapted to other national contexts:

- a. [Gurls out loud](#) to help girls aged 11-13 recognise the actions of offenders, feel empowered to block, report and tell someone they trust;
- b. [T.A.L.K.](#) to raise parental awareness of this criminality and motivate and educate them to help protect children, with, in particular, a shocking video to make parents understand that without protection they leave their door open to online sexual offenders to access their daughters.

72. Ms FEDOROVSKY then described the [Report Remove](#) tool developed with NSPCC and in partnership with age verification app. [Yoti](#), to support a young person in reporting sexual images or videos shared online and enable them to get the image removed if it is illegal.

73. Finally, she presented the new tool [IntelliGrade](#), which enables IWF analysts to accurately grade child sexual abuse images and videos, while automatically generating unique hashes (digital fingerprints) which are used to identify and eliminate these images wherever they appear. She highlighted that IntelliGrade allows to enrich these hashes with additional contextual metadata which are compatible with child sexual abuse laws and classifications in multiple legal jurisdictions around the world, and the Interpol Baseline standard

– WeProtect Global Alliance

74. Ms Chloe SETTER (Head of Policy at WeProtect Global Alliance) presented the [2021 Global Threat Assessment report](#), which includes the results of a [survey of technology companies](#). She emphasised in particular, with regard to this Global Threat Assessment report that:

- a. The US National Center for Missing and Exploited Children processes on average 60,000 reports of child sexual abuse online every day;
- b. The Internet Watch Foundation saw a 77% rise in child “self-generated” sexual material from 2019 to 2020.

75. As for the Survey of technology companies carried out on February-March 2021, she indicated that:

- a. 84% of companies surveyed have at least partly automated processes for forwarding reports of child sexual abuse online, suggesting that report management is relatively efficient;
- b. While most companies use tools to detect child sexual abuse material (87% use image ‘hash-matching’), only 37% currently use tools to detect the online grooming of children. In addition, the use of advanced classifiers to detect video and livestream content, is less common despite the fact this category is becoming more prevalent;
- c. Most reports are at least partly automated, and almost all companies have some form of reporting mechanism;
- d. Prevention measures such as deterrence messaging and child safety resources are widely provided, but these are less common than use of hash-based detection, despite their potential to prevent abuse before it occurs;

- e. Many companies use tools developed by others, but it is less common for them to develop tools in-house and share them;
- f. Most companies do not yet publish transparency reports. However, of companies that do, a large majority publish specific data on child sexual abuse and exploitation.

76. Ms SETTER then presented a [global survey](#) conducted with Economist Impact directed to 18 to 20 years olds in 54 countries worldwide about childhood experiences of online sexual harms, and pointed out, in particular, that:

- a. 54% of respondents (18 to 20 years old) had experienced at least one of the four online sexual harms considered;
- b. 1 in 3 (34%) of respondents were asked to do something sexually explicit online they were uncomfortable with during childhood;
- c. 29% of all respondents had received sexually explicit content from an adult they knew or someone they did not know;
- d. 25% of all respondents had an adult they know or someone they did not know ask them to keep part of their sexually explicit interactions online a secret;
- e. 29% of all respondents had someone share sexually explicit images and/or videos of them without their permission (18% shared by a peer);
- f. The age at which children are first exposed to sexually explicit content seems to be dropping. The average age of first exposure among 18-year-old respondents was 12.7 years old, almost a full year younger than the average age of first exposure among 20-year-old respondents (13.4 years).

77. She concluded that despite the challenges, there is hope since countries, companies and charities are all involved in tackling this crime and that even if the pace of change is not yet fast enough, it is happening, and that online safety technology is more accessible and advanced than ever. She acknowledged the many remaining issues to tackle to fight effectively against online child sexual abuse material, in particular child self-generated sexual images and/or videos, and the need to have a fuller understanding of the use of such images and/or videos by children themselves through child participation.

78. The end-of-the-year panel in 2022 had to be postponed to the 37th meeting (31 January-2 February 2023) because of the holding of the extraordinary meeting on 6-7 December 2022.

79. The presentations made at the 37th meeting in 2023 can be summarised as follows.

– ECPAT-International

80. Ms Andrea VARRELLA (Research and Child Rights Monitoring Manager) presented to the Committee several ongoing projects:

- a. **Disrupting Harm** has to date been used to collect evidence on online child sexual exploitation and abuse in 13 target countries in Southeast Asia and Eastern and Southern Africa (currently the project is being adapted to be deployed in 11 other countries, including in Eastern Europe). The project revealed that between 1-20% Internet-using children in the countries surveyed had been subjected to online sexual exploitation and abuse; that the offenders are often someone the child already knows; and that few children report experiences of online sexual exploitation and abuse through helplines (3%) or to the police (2.9%);
- b. The goals of the **Global Boys Initiative** are to document promising practices by working with boy survivors of sexual exploitation and abuse; to carry out case studies of different approaches to working with boys (in Bolivia, Colombia, Namibia, UK, Morocco, Thailand, Cambodia and South Korea); and to promote cross-context learning and to analyse trends and differences;
- c. Another global project is a **(Child) Sex Offenders Registry**. After an analysis of the different practices existing worldwide, ECPAT intends to provide technical assistance for states considering setting up such a registry.

– Hope for Children – CRC Policy Center Cyprus

81. Ms Andria NEOCLEOUS (Director of Humanitarian Division) updated the Committee, among other things, on the work of the **Children's House** - Barnahus Cyprus. It is monitored and funded by the Social Welfare Services of Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare and operated by Hope for Children within the framework of the National Strategy and Action Plan to Combat Sexual Abuse and Child Abuse and Child Pornography. Under the same roof it provides the setting for forensic interviews, medical examinations, psychological evaluation, psychological support and therapy, family therapy and support groups, and social support and rehabilitation. Between the start of its operation in September 2017 up until December 2022, 1,631 children had been referred to it for the investigation of sexual abuse reports. Children's House in Cyprus works in close cooperation with prosecutors (the Law Office of the Republic of Cyprus), social workers and psychologists to prepare children for court proceedings and support them throughout this process and afterwards. In 2021, Hope for Children entered into a research partnership with Sheffield Hallam University for the development of "The KiCGame", a board game used as a psychoeducational tool to support children's appearance in court through

play-based activities. It is based on the Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy model and aims to increase children's legal knowledge and, to an extent, reduce court-related stress while increasing children's wellbeing.

– The International Association of Internet Hotlines (INHOPE)

82. After having recalled what [INHOPE](#) and a hotline are, Ms Samantha WOOLFE (Head of Global Partnerships and Network Expansion) explained why a country should have a hotline. She then presented the various steps to set up a hotline, from the initial country review up to full membership of the INHOPE network.

83. She also presented INHOPE's other projects such as [ICCAM](#) which offers a secure technology platform for the hotlines to exchange the reports they receive for removal wherever they are reported and wherever they are hosted, cutting down on duplication and providing actionable intelligence to INTERPOL. She also referred to [AviaTor](#) (Augmented Visual Intelligence and Targeted Online Research) which is a tool that helps classify and prioritise NCMEC reports. AviaTor can automatically search online sources for additional intelligence and information for investigations in accordance with national legal requirements.

84. In 2022 a total of 587,852 content URLs were processed in ICCAM by INHOPE hotlines from which 497,001 content URLs were seen for the first time. From these content URLs, a total of 384,748 were determined to be illegal and, subsequently, national law enforcement agencies were informed and a notice for takedown was issued to the hosting internet service provider.

85. Insights gained in 2022: 1) decrease in total volume, 2) major increase in hosting locations (from 49 to 83) so content is more widely distributed, 3) more of reported material was illegal compared to 2021 (indirectly testifying to the effect of the awareness-raising programmes).

86. Finally, Ms Katarzyna STACIWA (Independent Expert, Department for Reacting to Illegal Content on the Internet [Dyżurnet.pl](#)) presented INHOPE's Poland-Ukraine initiative and explained in particular that the Polish Research Office decided to hire a Ukrainian colleague to work in their office and learn the procedures in order to set up a hotline in Ukraine.

– International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates (IAYFJM)

87. Mr Daniel PICAL (Honorary judge representing IAYFJM at the Council of Europe) described a variety of projects undertaken by the association. Referring to the experience and expertise of the Barnahus model, it has

encouraged the establishment of *Unités d'Accueil Pédiatrique Enfance en Danger* (UAPED) (Pediatric Reception Units for Children at Risk) in all French geographic-administrative departments. These reception units will be located in hospitals bringing together healthcare resources specialised in child and adolescent health and an adapted hearing room. A multidisciplinary team will be made up of health professionals (doctors, nurses, psychologists) as well as social workers, police officers, and specialised members of the judiciary. The equipped hearing room will allow the recording of the children's testimony by a specifically trained investigator following the protocol of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD).

– Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)

88. Mr Michael TUNKS (Head of Policy and Public Affairs) informed the Committee about IWF's most recent work on the identification and removal of images and videos showing the sexual abuse of children, wherever they are found on the internet.

89. He emphasised, in particular, that every one and a half minutes, IWF analysts assess a webpage, and that every two minutes, that webpage shows a child being sexually abused. He highlighted in particular the 1 058% increase since 2019 in the number of webpages showing images and videos of 7-10 years old who have been groomed/coerced/exploited online, reaching 63,050 reports of such kind in 2022.

90. He then presented to the Committee the [IntelliGrade](#) tool, which enables IWF analysts to accurately grade child sexual abuse images and videos, while automatically generating unique hashes (digital fingerprints) which are used to identify and eliminate these images wherever they appear. IntelliGrade allows to enrich these hashes with additional contextual metadata which are compatible with child sexual abuse laws and classifications in multiple legal jurisdictions around the world, and the Interpol Baseline standard.

91. IWF also developed a [chatbot](#) to offer confidential non-judgmental support by Stop It Now! The chatbot was deployed on Pornhub UK on 14 March 2022 and automatically pops up when one of the 28,000 banned keywords are used. In the first 30 days, already 173,904 sessions were triggered, and 158 persons chose to find out more about Stop It Now! Services.

92. Finally, Mr TUNKS recalled the [Report Remove](#) tool developed with NSPCC to support a young person in reporting sexual images or videos shared online and enable them to get the image removed if it is illegal.

– Save the Children

93. Ms Tiina-Maria LEVAMO (Senior Child Rights and Advocacy Advisor) informed the Committee that the organisation had recently published a [report](#) on the experiences of children on online grooming “[Grooming in the Eyes of a Child](#)” which highlights that:

- a. 62% (n=1069) of children had been contacted online by a person they knew or suspected to be an adult or at least five years older than them
- b. Children received messages with sexual content from adults every week (17%, n=190) or at least once a month (29%, n=320)
- c. Half of the children answered that they tended to or felt it was natural to start a conversation with someone they did not know
- d. Most often the children started the conversation because they were bored (55%, n=352) or they were curious (40%, n=256)
- e. The children were asked whether or not they had disclosed their grooming experience and, if they had disclosed, whom they had told. A third had not told anyone. The majority of the children who had disclosed had told their friends (93%, n=617).

94. Save the Children Finland has a lead role in a new project “[CSAPE 2022-2024](#)” (Child Sexual Abuse and Prevention project). CSAPE project is a European Commission/ISF-funded two-year project in 4 European countries: Iceland (Barnaheill – Save the Children Island), Albania (Save the Children Albania), Bosnia-Herzegovina (Save the Children International, implementing department Save the Children North Western Balkans), and Greece (KMOP, Social Action and Innovation Centre). The objective is to provide:

- a. evidence-based sexual education to children aged 5 to 11
- b. support to young people who have a sexual interest in children.

95. The consortium members in the project will together build a training package in each thematic area and train professionals working with the target group children. Training will be provided to professionals in each consortium member country and possible to European level stakeholders through existing partners. Material is also produced to children, young people and their parents on sexual education, sexual violence and help-seeking when a young person has a sexual interest in children.

– Missing Children Europe

96. Ms Aagje I EVEN (Secretary General) informed the Committee that the organisation is now investigating the link between child sexual abuse and the phenomenon of missing children. The [CESAGRAM](#) (Comprehensive European

Strategy against Tech Facilitated Grooming and Missing) project has been set up and is currently in the research and data collection stage. The organisation is also active in advocacy via its European CSA Legislation Advocacy group.

– WeProtect Global Alliance

97. Ms Eleanor LINSELL (Advocacy Manager) presented to the Committee the highlights of the organisation's activities in 2022, focusing on knowledge building, empowerment, advocacy, and collaboration. She in particular referred to reports done in collaboration with UNICEF ([Framing the Future](#)) and ECPAT International ([Child sexual exploitation and abuse online: Survivors' Perspectives](#)). She also referred to their [Global Summit "Turning the Tide"](#) (Brussels, 1-2 June 2022).

98. She also referred to the recently established [Global Taskforce on Child Sexual Abuse Online](#), which brings together 18 countries, the European Commission and the African Union. The Global Taskforce will meet twice per year. Its goals are to coordinate across governments to share updates and best practices, help members to identify opportunities in their national strategies and improve the sharing of information between members. The Lanzarote Committee underlined the need to coordinate work closely to avoid unnecessary overlaps and exploit synergies to increase collective impact. To this end the Committee also welcomed the Council of Europe's possible formal participation in the We Protect Global Alliance.

99. Finally, she informed the Lanzarote Committee that its [Global Threat Assessment](#) will be released in October 2023. It will assess the scale and nature of global child sexual exploitation and abuse online between 2021-2023, identify the impact of the global responses to the threat, emerging trends and likely developments over the next 2 years, and set out recommendations to improve the responses.

Appendices

Appendix I – List of meetings of the Lanzarote Committee

Plenary meetings

- ▶ 33rd meeting: Virtual meeting, 21-22 September 2021
- ▶ 34th meeting: Virtual meeting, 4-7 October 2021
- ▶ 35th meeting: Virtual meeting, 30 November-3 December 2021
- ▶ 36th meeting: Virtual meeting, 7-10 March 2022
- ▶ Extraordinary meeting: Hybrid meeting, 6-7 December 2022
- ▶ 37th meeting: Hybrid meeting, 31 January-2 February 2023

Appendix II – Composition of the Lanzarote Committee

(as of 2 February 2023)

Members

State Parties to the Convention

ALBANIA

Ms Alma TANDILI
Chairperson of the
State Agency for the Rights and
Protection of the Child
Ministry of Health and Social
Protection

ANDORRA

Ms Rebeca ARMENGOL ASENJO
Head of the Child and Adolescent
Care Unit
Ministry of Social Affairs, Youth and
Equality

ARMENIA

Ms Gayane HOVAKIMYAN
Deputy Director
Center for Implementation of
Legal Education and Rehabilitation
Programs
Ministry of Justice

AUSTRIA

Ms Madalena PAMPALK-LORBEER
Public Prosecutor / Consultant
Section IV – Criminal Law
Division IV 1 – Substantive Criminal
Law
Federal Ministry for Justice

AZERBAIJAN

Mr Samir GARAYEV
Head of Division
Main Department on Combatting
Trafficking in Human Beings
Ministry of Internal Affairs

Ms Jeyran RAHMATULLAYEVA
Head of the Administrative Office
State Committee for Family, Women
and Children Affairs

BELGIUM

Ms Christel DE CRAIM
Head of Service
Service for Criminal Policy
FPS Justice

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Ms Tijana BOROVIČANIN
High Expert Associate
Sector for Human Rights
Ministry for Human Rights and
Refugees

BULGARIA

Mr Yanko KOVACHEV
State Expert
“Child Policies and Programs,
Strategic Development and
Coordination” Directorate
State Agency for Child Protection

CROATIA

Ms Marlena JUKIĆ
Head of Service
Service for criminal substantive law regulations
Sector for criminal law regulations
Directorate for criminal law
Ministry of Justice and Public Administration

CYPRUS

Ms Katerina KLERIDOU
Social Services Officer
Social Welfare Services
Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare

CZECH REPUBLIC

Ms Aneta PRCHLÍKOVÁ
Senior Ministerial Counsellor
Criminal Law Unit
Legislative Department
Ministry of Justice

DENMARK

Ms Lea ELKJÆR TARPGÅRD
Criminal Law Division
Ministry of Justice

ESTONIA

Ms Brit TAMMISTE
Adviser
Criminal Policy Department
Ministry of Justice

FINLAND

Ms Helinä HEIKKINEN
Legal Officer
Unit for Human Rights Courts and Conventions
Legal Service
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

FRANCE

M^{me} Bertille DOURTHE
Magistrate – Rédactrice au bureau de la négociation pénale européenne et internationale
Direction des affaires criminelles et des grâces
Ministère de la Justice

GEORGIA

Ms Ketevani TATUASHVILI
Adviser
Human Rights Secretariat
Administration of the Government

GERMANY

Ms Jana BEWERSDORFF
Senior Public Prosecutor
Division II A 7
Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection

GREECE

Mr George NIKOLAIDIS
Director
Department of Mental Health and Social Welfare
Centre for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
Institute of Child Health

HUNGARY

Ms Ana DOSZPOTH
Legal Adviser
Deputy State Secretariat for Criminal Law Codification
Ministry of Justice

Mr András GYÖRE
Child Protection Specialist
Department for Child Protection
and Guardianship Affairs
Deputy State Secretariat for Social
Affairs
Ministry of Interior

ICELAND

Mr Páll MAGNÚSSON
Counsellor
Permanent Mission of Iceland in
Geneva

Ms Hlín SÆPÓRSDÓTTIR
Senior Adviser
Ministry of Education and Children

IRELAND

Ms Corah CAPLES
Assistant Principal Officer
Criminal Justice Policy
Department of Justice

ITALY

Ms Tiziana ZANNINI
Director General
Presidency of the Council of
Ministers
Department for Family Policies

LATVIA

Ms Indra AIZUPE
Director
Department of Criminal Law
Ministry of Justice

LIECHTENSTEIN

Mr Claudio NARDI
Counsellor
Division for Economic Affairs and
Development
Division for Security and Human
Rights
Office for Foreign Affairs

Ms Sarah FRICK
Psychologist
Children and Youth Service Division
Office of Social Services

LITHUANIA

Ms Kristina STEPANOVA
Head of the Family and Child Rights
Protection Group
Ministry of Social Security and
Labour

LUXEMBOURG

M^{me} Marguerite KRIER
Conseiller de Gouvernement
1^{re} classe
Service des droits de l'enfant, chef
de service
Direction générale de l'aide à
l'enfance et à la famille
Ministère de l'Éducation nationale,
de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

MALTA

Ms Lorna MUSCAT
Head of Office
Office of the Commissioner for
Children

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Mr Artur DEGTEARIOV
Head of the Child Pornography
Investigation Section
Cybercrime Investigation Directorate
National Investigation Inspectorate
General Police Inspectorate
Ministry of Internal Affairs

MONACO

M^{me} Corinne BOURDAS MAGAIL
Chargée de Mission
Département des Relations
extérieures et de la Coopération
Ministère d'État

MONTENEGRO

Ms Svetlana SOVILJ
Head of the Directorate for the
Protection of Children and Youth
Ministry of Labour and Social
Welfare

NETHERLANDS

Ms Eugenia POZO MORILLAS
Senior policy officer (sexual
violence crimes)
Ministry of Justice and Security

NORTH MACEDONIA

Mr Dušan TOMŠIČ
Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

NORWAY

Ms Maria Brit ESPINOZA
Special Adviser International Affairs
Department of Childhood, Youth
and Family Affairs
Ministry of Children and Families

POLAND

Ms Agnieszka MATYSEK
Chief Specialist – Judge
Victims' Assistance Unit
Department of Family and Juvenile
Matters
Ministry of Justice

Ms Magdalena BOCHIŃSKA
Chief Specialist
Victims' Assistance Unit
Department of Family and Juvenile
Matters
Ministry of Justice

PORTUGAL

Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO
Legal Adviser
Civil Justice Unit
International Affairs Department
Directorate General for Justice
Policy
Ministry of Justice

ROMANIA

Ms Alina ION
Legal Adviser
Department for Drafting Legislation
Ministry of Justice

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Ms Larisa FALKOVSKAYA
Director
Department for Children's Rights
Protection
Ministry of Education

SAN MARINO

Ms Giulia SANTI
Directorate of Legal Affairs
Department of Foreign Affairs

SERBIA

Mr Stevan POPOVIĆ
Independent Advisor
Family Protection Department
Ministry for Family Protection and
Demography

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Ms Petra GRZNÁROVÁ
National Coordination Centre for
Resolving the Issues of Violence
against Children (NCC)
Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs
and Family

SLOVENIA

Ms Jana LOVŠIN
Head of Division
EU Affairs and International
Cooperation
Office for International Cooperation
and Mutual Legal Assistance
Ministry of Justice

SPAIN

Awaiting nomination

SWEDEN

Mr Per-Anders SUNESEON
Deputy Director-General
Division for EU and International
Affairs
Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

SWITZERLAND

M^{me} Anita MARFURT
Juriste
Office fédéral de la justice
Département fédéral de justice et
police

TUNISIA

M^{me} Faten SEBEL
Juge de 3^e grade
Chambre de la première présidente
Cour d'appel de Tunis
Chargée de mission au Cabinet de
la Ministre
Bureau de suivi du travail
gouvernemental et parlementaire
Ministère de la Femme, de la
Famille et des Personnes âgées

M^{me} Fedoua DEROUICHE
Directrice de la coopération
internationale
Ministère de la Femme, de la
Famille et des Personnes âgées

TÜRKIYE

Ms Songül BİNİCİ AKKAŞ
Rapporteur Judge
Directorate General for Foreign
Relations and European Union Affairs
Ministry of Justice

UKRAINE

Ms Svitlana ILCHUK
Director
Legal Support and Monitoring
of the Implementation of the UN
Convention on Children's Rights
Ministry of Social Policy

UNITED KINGDOM

Ms Sarah GREGORY
International Lead
Tackling Child Sexual Abuse Unit
UK Government Home Office

Participants

States having participated in the drafting of the Convention

CANADA

Awaiting nomination

HOLY SEE

M^{me} Alessandra AULA
Secrétaire Générale
Bureau international catholique de l'enfance (BICE)
Genève, Suisse

JAPAN

Awaiting nomination

MEXICO

Awaiting nomination

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Awaiting nomination

State invited by the Committee of Ministers to accede to the Convention

MOROCCO

M. Abderrazzak ADNANI
Chef de la Division de l'Enfance
Ministère de la Solidarité, du Développement Social, de l'Egalité et de la Famille

International organisations

COUNCIL OF THE BALTIC SEA STATES (CBSS)

Ms Olivia LIND HALDORSSON
Head of the Children at Risk Unit

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS (ENNHRI)

Ms Debbie KOHNER
Secretary General
Permanent Secretariat

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF OMBUDSPERSONS FOR CHILDREN (ENOC)

Awaiting nomination

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Mr Emilio PUCCIO
Secretary General
European Parliament Intergroup on Children's Rights

EUROPEAN UNION

Mr Antonio LABRADOR JIMENEZ
Policy Officer – Fight Against Cybercrime and Child Sexual Abuse
Unit D4: Cybercrime
Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs
European Commission

EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (FRA)

Ms Astrid PODSIADLOWSKI
Head of Social Rights Sector
Equality, Roma and Social Rights Unit

EUROPOL

Mr Anton Toni KLANČNIK
Specialist in AP Twins
O3 European Cybercrime Centre
(EC3)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LA FRANCOPHONIE (IOF)

M^{me} Delphine
COUVEINHES-MATSUMOTO
Spécialiste de programme
Direction « affaires politiques et
gouvernance démocratique »
(DAPG)

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

Ms Carla LICCIARDELLO
Corporate Strategy Division

INTERPOL

Mr Uri SADEH
Coordinator
Crimes against Children Unit
VCO/Organized and Emerging
Crime Directorate

UNICEF

Mr Artashes MIRZOYAN
Partnerships Advisor
Europe & Central Asia Regional
Office (ECARO)

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)

Mr Andreas WISSNER
UNHCR Representative to the
European Institutions in Strasbourg

UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE SALE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

Ms Mama Fatima SINGHATEH
Special Rapporteur on the sale and
sexual exploitation of children,
including child prostitution, child
pornography and any other child
sexual abuse material

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO)

Mr Jonathon PASSMORE
Programme Manager - Violence
and Injury Prevention
World Health Organization
Regional Office for Europe

Council of Europe Institutions and Bodies

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON YOUTH
Awaiting nomination

CONFERENCE OF INGOs OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Ms Bénédicte COLIN
Policy Manager
Federation of Catholic Family
Associations in Europe (FAFCE)

CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Ms Brigitte van den BERG
Rapporteur for Children's Rights
Netherlands

COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Ms Dunja MIJATOVIĆ
Commissioner for Human Rights

CYBERCRIME CONVENTION COMMITTEE (T-CY)

Ms Cristina SCHULMAN
Chair of the T-CY

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS (CDPC)

Awaiting nomination

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON LEGAL CO-OPERATION (CDCJ)

Awaiting nomination

GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER AND THE EUROPEAN CODE OF SOCIAL SECURITY (T-SG)

Awaiting nomination

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

M. Jean-Pierre GRIN
Vice-président de la Sous-commission sur les enfants
Commission des questions sociales, de la santé et du développement durable

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (CDDH)

M^{me} Brigitte KONZ
Présidente du Tribunal
Tribunal d'Arrondissement de Diekirch
Luxembourg

Observers

Non-governmental Organisations

ECPAT INTERNATIONAL

Ms Stana BUCHOWSKA
Regional Coordinator for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

"HOPE FOR CHILDREN" CRC POLICY CENTER CYPRUS

Ms Katerina MELISSARI
Child Protection Coordinator

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH AND FAMILY JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES (IAYFJM)

M. Daniel PICAL
Magistrat honoraire représentant l'AIMJF auprès du Conseil de l'Europe

MISSING CHILDREN EUROPE

Ms Aagje IEVEN
Secretary General

SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL

Ms Tiina-Maria LEVAMO
Senior Child Rights and Advocacy Advisor
Save the Children Finland

THE BRAVE MOVEMENT

Mr Matthew McVARISH
Co-Founder

Other stakeholders

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN (EVAC)

Ms Marija MANOJLOVIC
Safe Online Director

**INHOPE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF INTERNET HOTLINES)**

Mr Denton HOWARD
Executive Director

INTERNET WATCH FOUNDATION (IWF)

Mr Michael TUNKS
Head of Policy and Public Affairs

WEPROTECT GLOBAL ALLIANCE

Mr Iain DRENNAN
Executive Director

Secretariat

Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI
Executive Secretary to the
Lanzarote Committee

Mr Mikaël POUTIERS
Secretary to the Lanzarote
Committee

Ms Ekaterina MALAREVA
Legal Officer

Ms Ana GUERREIRO
Policy Advisor

Ms Faustine LABBADI
Assistant Lawyer

Ms Corinne CHRISTOPHEL
Assistant to the Lanzarote
Committee

Appendix III – Composition of the Bureau of the Lanzarote Committee and list of the representatives of the Lanzarote Committee to other entities

Composition of the Bureau of the Lanzarote Committee

Since 7 December 2022

- ▶ Chairperson: Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Portugal
- ▶ Vice-Chairperson: Ms Svitlana ILCHUK, Ukraine
- ▶ Members: Ms Bertille DOURTHE, France
Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Greece
Mr Páll MAGNÚSSON, Iceland
Ms Lorna MUSCAT, Malta
Ms Jana LOVŠIN, Slovenia

From 1 July 2021 to 6 December 2022

- ▶ Chairperson: Ms Christel DE CRAIM, Belgium
- ▶ Vice-Chairperson: Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Portugal (acting Chairperson since January 2022)
- ▶ Members: Ms Bertille DOURTHE, France
Ms Lorna MUSCAT, Malta
Mr Luuk ESSER, Netherlands (until 10 March 2022)

List of representatives of the Lanzarote Committee to other entities

Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDEFN)

Mr George NIKOLAIDIS (Greece), representative
Ms Tijana BOROVIČANIN (Bosnia and Herzegovina), substitute

Committee of Experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE)

Mr George NIKOLAIDIS (Greece), representative

Committee of Experts on the prevention of violence (ENF-VAE)

Ms Tijana BOROVIČANIN (Bosnia and Herzegovina), representative

Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY)

Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO (Portugal), representative

European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ)

Ms Agnieszka MATYSEK (Poland), representative

Mr Páll MAGNÚSSON (Iceland), substitute

European Committee for Social Cohesion (CCS)

Ms Svitlana ILCHUK (Ukraine), representative

Ms Lorna MUSCAT (Malta), substitute

Gender Equality Rapporteur

Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO (Portugal)

Appendix IV – Participation of the Lanzarote Committee and of the Council of Europe Secretariat in outside events

2021

16-17 September	Plenary session of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) dedicated to the rights of children in migration, online	Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee Member, Greece Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Adviser to the Lanzarote Committee
21 September	UNODC Workshop to Fight Online Child Exploitation in Asia, online	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Vice-Chairperson, Portugal
23 September	Webinar “Digital Citizens” (Implementation of the Children’s Right to be Heard through the Use of Digital and Social Media)	Ms Regína JENSDÓTTIR, Head of the Children’s Rights Division, Council of Europe
23-24 September	Conference on Statelessness and the Right to a Nationality in Europe: Progress, Challenges and Opportunities, Strasbourg	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Vice-Chairperson, Portugal
7 October	Hungarian Presidency Conference “Rights, opportunities and well-being of children and young people in the digital age. Relationship between digital technology and fundamental rights, social impact of technological and economic change on children and youth”, online	Ms Christel DE CRAIM, Lanzarote Committee Chairperson, Belgium Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee

13-15 October	4th meeting of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF), online	Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee Member, Greece
25 October	9th annual meeting of the Secretary General with the Heads and Executive Secretaries of the Monitoring Bodies of the Council of Europe	Ms Christel DE CRAIM, Lanzarote Committee Chairperson, Belgium
10 November	Exchange of views with the Committee of Ministers' Deputies, Strasbourg	Ms Christel DE CRAIM, Lanzarote Committee Chairperson, Belgium
15 November	25th Plenary meeting of the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY), online	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Vice-Chairperson, Portugal
16-18 November	Workshop on "Automated Detection of Child Sexual Abuse Materials", Octopus Conference, Strasbourg	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Vice-Chairperson, Portugal
18 November	European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
22 November	Webinars on Children's Mental Health and Intrafamily Violence, CDENF, online	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Vice-Chairperson, Portugal

13-14 December	4th meeting of the Committee of experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE), Strasbourg and online	Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee Member, Greece
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2022

1-3 February	2nd Plenary session of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) dedicated to the rights of children in migration, online	Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee Member, Greece
5 February	12th Edition of the European Forum on Bioethics, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
11 March	Online brainstorming event on practical approach to addressing the sale and sexual exploitation of children, UNHCHR Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
7-8 April	High-level Launching Conference for the new Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027) "Beyond the horizon: a new era for the rights of the child", Rome	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Acting Chairperson, Portugal

22 April	Seminar “How to strengthen the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in Europe? Implementation of the Lanzarote Convention in the European Union”, Strasbourg	Ms Bertille DOURTHE, Lanzarote Committee Bureau Member, France
26 April	Launch event of the Lanzarote Convention action in Finland (online)	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Acting Chairperson, Portugal
27 April	Internet Watch Foundation, Annual Report Launch, Brussels	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Acting Chairperson, Portugal
2-4 May	5th meeting of the Committee of experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE), Strasbourg and online	Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee Member, Greece
4 May	1st meeting of the Pool of international experts on safe sport	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee

10-13 May	26th Plenary meeting of the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY) and International Conference on Enhanced co-operation and disclosure of electronic evidence, Strasbourg and online	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Acting Chairperson, Portugal
24 May	Presentation of the Lanzarote Convention to a delegation from Kazakhstan, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
25-26 May	International Roundtable: Fighting online Child Sexual Abuse Material, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava	Ms Faustine LABBADI, Assistant Lawyer
30 May-3 June	Fact-finding visit of the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on migration and refugees to Poland	Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee Member, Greece
1-2 June	WeProtect Global Alliance Global Summit, Brussels	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
9-10 June	5th meeting of the Network of Focal Points on Migration (online)	Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Adviser to the Lanzarote Committee

13-16 June	International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN): International congress 'Child protection for the most vulnerable children and families', Tallinn	Ms Brit TAMMISTE, Lanzarote Committee Member, Estonia
20-22 June	International Safeguarding Conference on "Reporting Abuse. Obligations, Dilemmas, and Reality", Rome	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
30 June	Roundtable Discussion on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism, Office of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and ECPAT International (online)	Ms Faustine LABBADI, Assistant Lawyer
4 July	Visit of Ms Arberije Nagavci, Minister of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation of Kosovo to the Council of Europe, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
4-6 July	5th Plenary Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF), online	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
21 September	Virtual side event "Online sexual abuse and exploitation of children" in the margins of the UN GA 77 High Level Week	Ms Regína JENSDÓTTIR, Head of the Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe

21 September	Strengthening the protection against abuse and exploitation of vulnerable persons, in particular women and children, fleeing the war in Ukraine, Follow-up to the SRSG fact-finding visit to the Slovak Republic, online	Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Adviser to the Lanzarote Committee
22-23 September	7th meeting of the Working group on responses to violence against children (CDENF-GT-VAE), online	Ms Tijana BOROVIČANIN Lanzarote Committee Member, Bosnia and Herzegovina
23 September	Virtual side event for the launch of a new resolution to declare the 18 November the “World Day for Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Healing”, Harvard University	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
29 September	Study visit by a delegation from the League of Arab States, Strasbourg	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
4-5 October	6th meeting of the Committee of experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE), Dublin	Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee Member, Greece
17-18 October	Expert Workshop on proposed EU Regulation on preventing and combatting child sexual abuse online, Leiden	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee

28 October	Presentation of the Lanzarote Convention to a delegation from Uzbekistan, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
15-17 November	6th Plenary Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF), Strasbourg	Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee Member, Greece Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
16 November	Exchange of views with the Committee of Ministers' Deputies, Strasbourg	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Acting Chairperson, Portugal
16 November	High-level event "Towards Barnahus in All European States; Ensuring the Rights of Every Child" organised by the Council of Europe and the Council of the Baltic Sea States under the Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg	Ms Irena GUIDIKOVA, Head of the Children's Rights and Sport Values Department, Council of Europe Ms Regína JENSDÓTTIR, Head of the Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe
16 November	Technical Workshop "Safe digital futures for children: data for change", organised by the European Parliament, End Violence's Safe Online Initiative and WeProtect Global Alliance, Brussels	Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Adviser to the Lanzarote Committee

18 November	European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
18 November	Conference “Lutter contre les violences sexuelles faites aux enfants” (Fight against sexual violence against children), organised by CIDFF (Centre d’information sur les droits des femmes et des familles – Bas-Rhin), Planning familial 67, Themis and Viadug 67, Strasbourg	Ms Bertille DOURTHE, Lanzarote Committee Bureau Member, France Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee Ms Zaruhi GASPARYAN, Senior Project Officer, Children’s Rights Division
22 November	Documentary film screening “First do not harm”, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
23 November	Recording of the TV programme “Dimanche en politique” on Sexual violence against children, France 3 – Grand Est, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
23-25 November	99th meeting of the European Committee on Legal Co-Operation (CDCJ), Strasbourg and online	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Acting Chairperson, Portugal
24 November	Study visit of staff of the European affairs and international relations Department of the Romanian Supreme Council of Magistracy	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee

25 November	Presentation to students of medicine faculty on sexual health education ("Education à la santé sexuelle"), Strasbourg	Ms Faustine LABBADI, Assistant Lawyer, Lanzarote Committee Secretariat
29 November	Internet Governance Forum, workshop on "Digital Wellbeing of Youth: Self-generated Sexualised Content" (online)	Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
29-30 November	27th Plenary meeting of the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY), Strasbourg and online	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Acting Chairperson, Portugal
5 December	Presentation to French magistrates, Strasbourg	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee

2023

17 January	10th Annual Meeting of the Secretary General with the Heads of the Monitoring and Advisory Bodies	Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Lanzarote Committee Chairperson, Portugal Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee
26 January	Round table on Strengthening the protection of vulnerable persons, in particular women and children fleeing the war in Ukraine, Prague and online	Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Adviser to the Lanzarote Committee

Appendix V – Presentation of relevant activities by international governmental and non-governmental organisations as well as experts in meetings of the Lanzarote Committee

2021

33rd (21-22 September) and 34th meetings (4-7 October)

- ▶ Ms Christel DE CRAIM, Lanzarote Committee Chairperson, Belgium: *Plenary session of the Steering Committee for the rights of the child (CDENF) dedicated to the rights of children in migration (16-17 September 2021);*
- ▶ Ms Maria-José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Vice-Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, Portugal: *Recent work carried out by the T-CY on online child sexual exploitation and abuse of children;*
- ▶ Ms Maria-José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Vice-Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, Portugal: *Conference on Statelessness and the right to a nationality in Europe: progress, challenges and opportunities (23-24 September 2021).*

35th meeting (30 November-3 December)

- ▶ Ms Dorothea CZARNECKI, Deputy Executive Director, ECPAT: *Presentation of a study exploring public attitudes towards online child protection and privacy;*
- ▶ Mr Denton HOWARD, Executive Director, International Association of Internet Hotlines (INHOPE): *Role of the hotlines in the awareness, prevention, reporting and removal of child sexual abuse material;*
- ▶ Ms Abigail FEDOROVSKY, Policy and Public Affairs Assistant, Internet Watch Foundation (IWF): *Debriefing on IWF work to raise awareness of self-generated child sexual abuse images/videos;*
- ▶ Ms Chloe SETTER, Head of Policy, WeProtect Global Alliance: *Presentation of the 2021 Global Threat Assessment Report, including a survey of technology companies;*
- ▶ Ms Dorothea CZARNECKI, Deputy Executive Director, ECPAT, and Ms Zsuzsanna RUTAI, independent consultant: *Presentation of a draft report on “Contribution to the Implementation of the Lanzarote Convention and Engagement with the Lanzarote Committee: A civil society perspective”;*
- ▶ Mr Alexander SEGER, Head of the Cybercrime Division, Council of Europe: *Introduction to the 2nd Additional Protocol to the Budapest Convention on enhanced cooperation and disclosure of electronic evidence;*

- ▶ Ms Maren LAMBRECHT-FEIGL, Co-Secretary to the Steering Committee of the Rights of the Child (CDENF): *Debriefing on the CDENF activities and the new Strategy for the Rights of the Child*;
- ▶ Ms Maria-José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Vice-Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, Portugal: *Debriefing on the Octopus conference (16-18 November 2021)*;
- ▶ Ms Christel DE CRAIM, Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, Belgium: *Debriefing on the 9th annual meeting of the Secretary General with the Heads and Executive Secretaries of monitoring and advisory bodies of the Council of Europe*;
- ▶ Ms Christel DE CRAIM, Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, Belgium: *Debriefing on the annual exchange with the Committee of Ministers' deputies*;
- ▶ Ms Zaruhi GASPARYAN, Senior Project Officer, Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe: *State of play of cooperation projects related to the protection of children against violence*;
- ▶ Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee, Council of Europe: *7th edition of the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (18 November 2021) dedicated to "Making the circle of trust truly safe for children"*;
- ▶ Mr Anton Toni KLANČNIK, Specialist in AP Twins, O3 European Cybercrime Centre (EC3), EUROPOL: *Presentation of recent EUROPOL activities*.

2022

36th meeting (7-10 March)

- ▶ Ms Regina JENSDÓTTIR, Head of the Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe: *Adoption of the new Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027)*;
- ▶ Ms Maren LAMBRECHT-FEIGL, Programme Officer, Co-Secretary to the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF): *Debriefing on the activities of the Working group on responses to violence against children (CDENF-GT-VAE), the Committee of Experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE), and the joint work with the Steering Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO)*;
- ▶ Ms Anna OVASKA, Legal Specialist, Protect Children Finland: *Presentation of the #ReDirection Project concerning a survey of child sexual abuse material users on the dark web and of the subsequently developed Re-Direction Self-Help programme*;

- ▶ Ms Stana BUCHOWSKA, Regional Coordinator for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, ECPAT International: *Presentation of the ECPAT and WeProtect Global Alliance report “Child sexual exploitation and abuse online: Survivors’ Perspectives”;*
- ▶ Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee, Council of Europe: *Information about the Brave Movement, a global movement of survivors of child sexual exploitation and abuse;*
- ▶ Ms Zaruhi GASPARYAN and Ms Stéphanie BUREL, Senior Project Officers, Children’s Rights Division, Council of Europe: *Debriefing of the state of play of the various children’s rights cooperation projects related to protection of children against violence;*
- ▶ Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Adviser to the Lanzarote Committee: *Overview of the progress in preparation of the pilot Country Overviews as an awareness-raising tool.*

2023

■ 37th meeting (31 January-2 February)

- ▶ Ms Andrea VARRELLA, Research and Child Rights Monitoring Manager, ECPAT International: *Presentation of ECPAT ongoing projects;*
- ▶ Ms Andria NEOCLEOUS, CEO, Director of Humanitarian Division, Hope for Children: *Presentation of ongoing projects and activities;*
- ▶ Mr Daniel PICAL, Honorary Judge, International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates: *Improving justice to protect children;*
- ▶ Ms Samantha WOLFE, Head of Global Partnerships and Network Expansion, INHOPE: *Hotlines as a tool for combating online child sexual abuse material;*
- ▶ Mr Michael TUNKS, Head of Policy and Public Affairs, Internet Watch Foundation: *Update on the work of the organisation;*
- ▶ Ms Tiina-Maria LEVAMO, Senior Child Rights and Advocacy Advisor, Save the Children Finland: *Update on the work of the organisation;*
- ▶ Ms Eleanor LINSELL, Advocacy Manager, WeProtect Global Alliance: *Global Taskforce on Child Sexual Abuse Online;*
- ▶ Ms Marija MANOJLOVIC, Safe Online Director, End Violence Against Children Fund (EVAC): *EVAC’s priorities;*
- ▶ Dr Matthew McVARISH, Brave Movement representative: *Priorities of survivors of child sexual violence;*
- ▶ Ms Maria Andriani KOSTOPOULOU, Independent Consultant: *Presentation of the preliminary observations on the replies by Parties to the questionnaire on statute of limitations for sexual offences against children;*

- ▶ Mr Domenico ROSANI, Research and Teaching Associate, Department of Italian Law, Innsbruck University, Austria: *Presentation of the preliminary observations on the replies by Parties to the questionnaire on the legal age for sexual activities;*
- ▶ Mr Jean-Pierre GRIN, Member of the Subcommittee on children, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: *Recent and up-coming activities carried out by the PACE Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development;*
- ▶ Ms Penelope DENU, Head of Secretariat, Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe: *Recent and up-coming activities carried out by the PACE Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination;*
- ▶ Mr George NIKOLAIDIS, Lanzarote Committee member, Greece: *Debriefing on the work of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDEFN) and the Committee of Experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE);*
- ▶ Ms Tijana BOROVIČANIN, Lanzarote Committee member, Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Debriefing on the work of the Working Group on responses to violence against children, Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDEFN-GT-VAE);*
- ▶ Ms Maria ASENSIO VELASCO, Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe: *The Barnahus mapping study carried out by the Children's Rights Division;*
- ▶ Ms Maria-José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, Portugal: *Debriefing on the work of the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY) and of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ);*
- ▶ Ms Maria-José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee, Portugal: *10th Annual Meeting of the Secretary General with the Heads and Executive Secretaries of the Monitoring and Advisory Bodies of the Council of Europe;*
- ▶ Ms Annette CASSAR, Unit D4: Cybercrime, Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission: *Proposal for an EU Regulation laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse;*
- ▶ Dr Mark LEISER, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and Dr Sabine WITTING, Leiden University: *Presentation of the outcome report of the Expert workshop on EU proposed Regulation on preventing and combatting child sexual abuse held in Leiden on 17-18 October 2022 and jointly organised by the Center for Law and Digital Technologies (eLaw) of Leiden University and ECPAT International;*

- ▶ Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Adviser to the Lanzarote Committee, Council of Europe: *Update on the pilot country overviews and on the way forward*;
- ▶ Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Adviser to the Lanzarote Committee: *Checklist and Handbook on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in crisis and emergency situations: States' main obligations under the Lanzarote Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse*;
- ▶ Ms Parvine GHADAMI, Administrator, Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: *GRETA's Guidance Note on addressing the risks of trafficking in human beings related to the war in Ukraine and the ensuing humanitarian crisis*;
- ▶ Ms Jenna SHEARER-DEMIR, Administrator, Gender equality – Capacity building and cooperation projects, Council of Europe: *Working with Victims of Sexual Violence during Armed Conflict: A manual for Ukrainian mental health and emergency response professionals, developed under the project "Combatting violence against women in Ukraine (COVAW)"*;
- ▶ Ms Olena VYKHOR, Ombudsman's Office of Ukraine: *Presentation of the current situation of Ukrainian children*;
- ▶ Ms Leyla KAYACIK, Special Representative of the Secretary General for migration and refugees, Council of Europe: *Recent activities*;
- ▶ Ms Zaruhi GASPARYAN, Senior Project Officer, Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe: *Progress in Council of Europe cooperation projects*;
- ▶ Mr Ovidiu MAJINA, Senior Project Officer, Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe: *Progress in cooperation projects "Combatting violence against children in Ukraine – Phase III" and "Combatting violence against children in the Republic of Moldova – Phase III"*;
- ▶ Ms Ana GUERREIRO, Policy Advisor to the Lanzarote Committee, Council of Europe: *Presentation of factsheets on the key monitoring findings of the implementation report "The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies (ICTs): addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos"*;
- ▶ Ms Mama Fatima SINGHATEH, UN Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material: *Report "A practical approach to addressing the sale and sexual exploitation of children" (document A/HRC/49/51) and "check list"*;

- ▶ Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee, Council of Europe: *8th edition of the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (18 November 2022) "Getting it right: ensuring child-friendly justice through Barnahus structures in Europe"*;
- ▶ Her Excellency Fatima Maada BIO, First Lady of Sierra Leone, and Dr. Jennifer WORTHAM, Research Associate, Human Flourishing Program at Harvard University, Secretariat Global Collaborative for the Protection and Healing of Child Dignity: *The setting up of a World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence*;
- ▶ Mr Anton Toni KLANČNIK, Specialist in APTwins, O3 European Cybercrime Centre (EC3), EUROPOL: *Presentation of EUROPOL's Guidelines for law enforcement first responders in child sexual exploitation and abuse cases*.

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