

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 6 March 2025

9th activity report of the Lanzarote Committee

(covering the period 16 February 2024 - 6 March 2025)



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Council of Europe

French edition: 9e rapport d'activités du Comité de Lanzarote

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Foreword: Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO, Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee

Having been re-elected as Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee in November 2024, it is my pleasure to introduce this 9th activity report, covering the period from 16 February 2024 to 6 March 2025.

The core objective of all our efforts in the Lanzarote Committee is clear: protecting children from the heinous crime of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. The report provides an overview of our efforts to pursue this objective during a year of intensive work and important achievements.

The focus of this report highlights sexual violence facilitated by emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence (AI). Both this year's edition of the <u>18 November Day</u> and the Lanzarote Committee's annual capacity building event were dedicated to this topic, which highlighted the Committee's cross-sectoral and multi-level capabilities.

Though we speak of "emerging" technologies, the reality is that these technologies – and the challenges they raise - are already here: We see a stark increase in AI-generated child sexual abuse material circulating on the web. Generative AI, easily accessible through "nudifying apps" for instance, is used to manipulate existing images or videos and create child sexual abuse materials by altering the faces, bodies or voices of children. Apart from the victimisation of the children depicted, such fake images are also being used to groom and blackmail children and force victims into further abuse. Through AI-powered models for image or video generation, offenders can also create realistic but synthetic child sexual abuse materials. The fact that this content may not involve real children should not be an excuse not to criminalise such content as it poses serious ethical and legal challenges: AI-generated child sexual abuse materials "normalise" sexual abuse, complicate investigation and enforcement, and serve as a gateway for offenders to commit further sexual offences against children.

The serious harm caused by artificially generated and altered child sexual abuse material was recognised not only by the Lanzarote Committee in a recent <u>Declaration</u>, but also in the annual <u>Joint Statement</u> by Council of Europe member states at the occasion of the 18 November Day on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse: "Regardless of the origin of the image, and whether or not the child depicted actually exists, it is crucial to consider the dissemination of such content as a criminal offence, and to adopt an appropriate response in terms of regulation and sanctions."

At the same time, law enforcement authorities can harness AI technology to strengthen the detection and removal of child sexual abuse material, secure evidence, and identify and rescue children. As the Council of Europe <u>Secretary General Alain Berset</u> put it at the occasion of the 18 November Day, "It is time to fight back - using the same technology that is fuelling these crimes. AI has enormous potential for detecting child sexual abuse materials on online platforms and flagging suspicious behaviour on social networks. More must be done to put this into practice."

The work of the Lanzarote Committee as both a standard-setting and monitoring body is key during this time when the defence of human rights is vital. Strong international and national standards and co-operation are necessary to successfully tackle online child sexual abuse and exploitation. The Lanzarote Committee has therefore continued to follow closely the work of the Council of Europe Cybercrime Convention Committee and kept abreast of legislative developments at EU level and the process leading up to the new UN Convention against Cybercrime. We also strongly welcome the adoption of the Council of Europe Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and human rights, democracy and the rule of law. We stand ready to help ensure that the Lanzarote Convention and other international standards meaningfully complement each other to guarantee the most comprehensive and effective protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

Much of the Lanzarote Committee's monitoring work in 2024 was dedicated to the examination of responses received in the context of the 3rd monitoring round on the protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust. The adoption of the corresponding implementation report on State Parties' legal frameworks is scheduled for July 2025.

Another important topic the Lanzarote Committee worked on in 2024 are the limitation periods applying to child sexual abuse offences. Child victims of sexual violence face considerable challenges in reporting sexual abuse, including due to stigma or taboos. This makes it crucial to leave enough time to report childhood sexual abuse, as required by Article 33 of the Lanzarote Convention. In June 2024, the Lanzarote Committee therefore adopted an <u>Opinion</u> on this topic, emphasising that limitation periods must not expire before victims reach the age of majority and supporting the abolition of limitation periods as an effective action to ensure sufficient time for initiating prosecution. During our regular *"tours de table"* in the Lanzarote Committee meetings, we were pleased to learn that several State Parties had recently abolished or extended limitation periods in respect of sexual offences against children in line with this approach.

Finally, I would like to use this occasion to express my gratitude: I am truly grateful for the generous support of our work by State Parties providing voluntary contributions and hosting meetings of our Committee, as the Austrian authorities did in November 2024. I am equally grateful to the authorities of Monaco and the other like-minded States for initiating a Joint Statement at the occasion of the 18 November Day, and for the support for our work expressed by delegations during my exchange with the Committee of Ministers.

I would also like to warmly thank the former and current members of the Bureau and the members, participants and observers of the entire Committee, as well as the Secretariat, for their commitment and energy in working for the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse throughout this past year. The results we have achieved is a testament to their dedication.

I look forward to the continuation of our work in 2025 and beyond, which will see, among other things, the adoption of implementation reports on data collection mechanisms and on sexual abuse in the circle of trust, and a ministerial conference on 1 July 2025 in Malta to mark the 15th anniversary of the entry into force of the Lanzarote Convention.

MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

- Guidelines for policy makers on engaging with victims and survivors of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse "Nothing About Us Without Us"
- Opinion on Article 33 of the Lanzarote Convention and its explanatory note -Requirements of the provision on statute of limitations and recommendations on its implementation
- Capacity building event on "Emerging technologies: threats and opportunities for the protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse"
- Declaration on protecting children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by emerging technologies
- HELP course for legal and other professionals on the Protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse



I. Composition of the Lanzarote Committee

- 1. In accordance with Rule 2 of the <u>Rules of Procedure</u>, the Committee is composed of:
 - <u>Members</u>: representatives of the 48 State Parties to the Lanzarote Convention;
 - <u>Participants</u>: Council of Europe bodies, observer States to the Council of Europe which are not yet Parties to the Convention, States invited to accede to the Convention, the European Union, the United Nations, and other intergovernmental organisations;
 - <u>Observers</u>: representatives of civil society who have been granted observer status by the Committee.

2. The Lanzarote Convention has 48 State Parties: 46 Council of Europe member States, the Russian Federation and Tunisia.¹



3. The Lanzarote Convention is open for accession to States that are not members of the Council of Europe in accordance with Article 46 of the Convention.² Parties to the Convention benefit from all the activities of the Lanzarote Committee including opportunities to share information and experiences, participate in peer review of the implementation of the Convention through thematic monitoring rounds and the interpretation of the Convention through the statements and opinions of the Committee. 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, without the need to sign bilateral agreements.

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

5. Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO continued to chair the Committee. On 8 November 2024, she was re-elected for a second term of office, together with Philippe OLIVIER (France) as Vice-Chairperson of the Committee. On the same day, Kristina STEPANOVA (Lithuania) and Jelena GRDNIĆ (Montenegro) were elected for a first term of office as members of the Committee's Bureau, and George NIKOLAIDIS (Greece), Páll MAGNÚSSON (Iceland) and Jana LOVŠIN (Slovenia) were re-elected for the same position for a second term of office. 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.

¹ The map shows the countries which have ratified/acceded to the Lanzarote 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.

² 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).

6. At the Committee's 42nd meeting (11-13 June 2024), the non-governmental organisation <u>Suojellaan Lapsia</u> (Protect Children) was granted observer status.



Protect Children is a non-profit, non-governmental Helsinki-based organisation working internationally with a dedicated team advocating for the right of the child to be free from sexual violence.

II. Functions of the Lanzarote Committee



7. The functions of the Lanzarote Committee are set out in Article 41 of the Convention. The Committee has two main functions, namely:

- 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.

8. In addition, the Committee may also facilitate the effective use and implementation of the Convention, express an opinion on any question concerning the application of the Convention and facilitate the exchange of information on significant legal, policy or technology developments.

A. Monitoring the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention

9. As outlined in previous <u>activity reports</u>, the Lanzarote Committee monitors the implementation of the Convention through thematic monitoring rounds where all State Parties are monitored at the same time. This allows the Committee to create a momentum around specific topics with a view to identifying and promoting promising practices and making recommendations to address common challenges faced by State Parties. This also empowers the Committee to be reactive in addressing particular trends and emerging challenges in the course of its work.

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1) Protecting children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust

10. At its 42nd (11-13 June 2024) and 43rd (6-8 November 2024) meetings, the Committee continued to examine the information submitted by the <u>46 Parties</u> and <u>five civil</u> <u>society organisations and national human rights institutions</u> in response to the <u>first thematic</u> <u>questionnaire</u> of the third monitoring round "Protecting children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust: legal frameworks". Two <u>contributions</u> from child consultations have also been received: from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Portugal. No information was received from Greece and the Russian Federation.

11. At its 44th meeting (4-6 March 2025), the Committee examined a draft implementation report prepared on the basis of the above information. A revised draft taking into account the clarifications and supplementary information to be provided by the Parties subsequent to the meeting will be examined by the Committee, with a view to adoption, at the 45th meeting (2-3 July 2025).

12. At its 44th meeting, the Committee also examined a new draft thematic questionnaire of the third monitoring round with a focus on policies implemented by the Parties to protect children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust. The draft questionnaire will be presented to the Committee for examination with a view to adoption at its 45th meeting (2-3 July 2025).



2) Sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies

13. In the framework of a compliance procedure launched on 2 October 2024, the Committee started examining the actions taken by the Parties to implement the recommendations made in the implementation report of the second monitoring round 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. Using the existing country factsheets prepared for 43 Parties as a tool for gathering information, Parties were invited to provide information by 1 March 2025. The Committee will examine the information received at its 46th meeting (18-20 November 2025).

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3) Data collection on child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse

14. During its 41st meeting (13-15 February 2024), the Committee adopted a mapping <u>survey</u> of data collection mechanisms in State Parties to obtain a clear picture of the types of data available. In the course of 2024, replies were gathered from 32 Parties to the Convention and the responses were analysed. At its 44th meeting (4-6 March 2025), the Committee examined a draft implementation report prepared on the basis of the above information. A revised draft taking into account the clarifications and supplementary information to be provided by the Parties subsequent to this meeting will be examined by the Committee, with a view to adoption, at the 45th meeting (2-3 July 2025).

15. At its 43rd meeting (5-8 November 2024), the Committee also held a thematic exchange on the issue of data collection. Representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UNICEF and the Lanzarote Committee (Greece and United Kingdom) shared information about relevant research, projects and good practices. The Committee also decided to dedicate to this topic both its next capacity building activity and the theme of the 2025 edition of the 18 November Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse.

B. Exchange of information, experience and good practice

16. 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.



1) Focus theme: Threats and opportunities raised by emerging technologies

17. The Lanzarote Committee confirmed, in its <u>2017 interpretative opinion</u>, that the Lanzarote Convention requires States to protect children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse whatever the means used by sexual offenders to commit them. The Committee also dedicated its <u>second monitoring round</u> to addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos (2017-2022). In view of the increased use of technologies such as artificial intelligence and extended realities (emerging technologies) by perpetrators, the Lanzarote Committee decided to focus on this topic in 2025.

18. As stated in the background paper <u>Emerging technologies: threats and opportunities</u> for the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse prepared by Victoria Baines, emerging technologies are increasingly being used by perpetrators of child sexual abuse and exploitation to solicit, groom and blackmail children. Child sexual abuse material is being generated and altered by artificial intelligence, sexual violence is being

perpetrated using avatars in immersive reality environments, and these technologies are facilitating live streaming of sexual abuse via webcams.

19. On 5 November 2024, the Lanzarote Committee held a <u>capacity building event</u> to further explore the threats and opportunities for the protection of children in the context of emerging technologies. The Committee heard evidence relating to the ways that children experience immersive realities and was informed about research initiatives exploring the use of artificial intelligence to improve child-friendly interviewing for child victims. These technologies are also being used to analyse vast data sets to facilitate the detection and investigation of grooming, as well as to train frontline professionals in prevention (<u>DRAGON-S</u> and <u>CESAGRAM</u>). The Committee also heard about safeguards that companies build into AI technologies to reduce the risk their tools are misused to generate CSAM and other harmful content.

20. The Committee was updated about recent changes observed in offender behaviour and the types of threats children are facing, notably the marked increase in the number and realism of AI-generated CSAM images and the development of AI-generated CSAM videos. Serious concerns were also raised that technologies are being used to edit otherwise inoffensive images and videos to make children appear nude in them (so-called "nudifying" technologies), which are then used to groom and blackmail the child victim. Increased targeting of boys and linguistic limitations (many tools are being developed in English language but not translated or adapted to other languages) were also identified as concerns.

21. The <u>INHOPE mapping study of CSAM legislation</u> found that the terminology "child pornography" continues to be used in the legislation in many countries instead of the terms "child sexual abuse materials", and that a wide disparity persists in the types of materials that are criminalised across States. This lack of harmonisation across countries makes cross-border investigations and prosecution more challenging. Notable progress has been made as regards the criminalisation of grooming and solicitation of a child for sexual purposes.

22. The Committee also heard some examples of relevant legislative and policy changes. In the United Kingdom, AI generated CSAM imagery is illegal and subject to robust sanctions. In Sweden, the legislation on the offence of rape has been amended to also include rape committed without physical contact. Spain is reviewing legislation to ensure that "deep fakes" cannot be used to commit sexual offences with impunity. The Spanish authorities are also considering ways to ensure that children in particular have access to education and prevention services regarding "deep fake" technologies.

23. In Ireland, professionals supporting child victims of sexual abuse in Barnahus West have seen a number of referrals of victims of sexual abuse facilitated by information technologies. Speakers emphasised that child victims of sexual abuse facilitated by technologies require a trauma-informed response that is adapted to their age and maturity in much the same way as child victims of sexual abuse where there was physical contact. Some additional challenges may arise related to the child victim's perception of the

investigation. For example, children may feel "punished" when the authorities seize their smartphone or other electronic devices to search and secure electronic evidence of the sexual abuse they suffered. Barnahus West has also been supporting parents to address the parental distress caused when they discover that their child has been a victim of sexual abuse. This has shown to have had a direct impact on improving the child victim's sense of well-being. Issues were also raised regarding harmful sexual behaviours displayed by children in schools and the difficulties faced by schools in responding to these behaviours. Speakers emphasised that child-safeguarding and child protection referrals and therapeutic responses should be prioritised in order to respond to harmful sexual behaviours displayed by children.

24. According to the speakers at the event, potential solutions to strengthen action against the risks associated with emerging technologies include: flagging or watermarking Algenerated materials to assist law enforcement to prioritise investigations, enhancing training and capacity-building for law enforcement officers charged with investigating these offences, and strengthening awareness raising among all professionals in contact with children (including specifically education and health staff) to ensure that they are able to report suspicions to the appropriate authorities and better safeguard children. Strengthening cross-border co-operation between law enforcement authorities was highlighted as a necessary precursor for more effective investigations and prosecution, including through initiatives such as <u>INHOPE CPORT</u> and the proposed <u>EU centre to prevent and combat child sexual abuse</u>. Preventive actions, such as therapy for "potential" offenders and children displaying risky or harmful sexual behaviours were also emphasised as crucial.

25. During the meeting that followed this event, the Lanzarote Committee adopted a <u>Declaration on protecting children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by</u> <u>emerging technologies</u>.

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





www.coe.int/EndChildSexualAbuseDay

26. The 10th edition of the Day (18 November 2024) focused on "<u>Emerging technologies:</u> threats and opportunities for the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse". This day was formerly referred to as "the European Day". In 2022, the United Nations General Assembly <u>recognised</u> 18 November as the "World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence". Therefore, the Council of Europe has rebranded the title of the day to acknowledge this global recognition.

27. Council of Europe Secretary General Alain Berset <u>called</u> on Council of Europe member States to make use of the "enormous potential" of AI to detect child sexual abuse materials online and to flag suspicious behaviours on social networks. He also reiterated that solicitation and grooming of children online should be criminalised.

28. Six Council of Europe member States issued a joint statement reiterating that any sexual offence committed against a child and facilitated by emerging technologies falls within the scope of criminal activities whatever the means used.³ The statement was endorsed by 36 other Council of Europe member States and the European Union.⁴

29. On 9 December 2024, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development organised a <u>seminar</u> in collaboration with the Italian Parliament on protecting children from online violence.

30. The European Parliament issued an "<u>At A Glance</u>" document in relation to the Day, highlighting the <u>EU strategy</u> for a more effective fight against child sexual abuse.

31. INHOPE published an <u>Global overview of CSAM legislation</u>, reviewing legislation across 61 countries. The overview highlights significant discrepancies between the types of materials that are considered illegal across countries. This research was jointly funded by the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

³ Andorra, Belgium, Luxembourg, Monaco, San Marino and Slovenia.

⁴ Albania, Armenia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine and United Kingdom.

32. See the <u>webpage</u> for more information on other events organised on the occasion of the Day for the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse.

33. At its 43rd meeting (5-8 November 2024), the Committee decided to dedicate the theme of the 2025 edition of the Day to the Committee's work on data collection mechanisms.

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3) Limitation periods in respect of sexual offences against children

34. The Lanzarote Committee continued its work to clarify the interpretation of Article 33 of the Lanzarote Convention concerning limitation periods for sexual offences against children, which had started in 2023 as a follow-up to a thematic <u>public seminar</u>. At its 42nd meeting (11-13 June 2024), the Committee adopted <u>an Opinion on requirements of the provision on statute of limitations</u>, together with an explanatory note.

35. In this opinion, the Committee clarified that Article 33 did not require limitation periods to be put in place where there are none. It also specified that limitation periods must not run out before the victim has reached the age of majority, and that the limitation periods for offences committed by family members and other persons in a child victim's circle of trust must not be shorter than limitation periods applicable to offences committed by other offenders.

36. The Committee agreed that the abolition of limitation periods, while not explicitly required by the Lanzarote Convention, was an effective way to ensure there is sufficient time to initiate proceedings. It listed additional ways to effectively implement Article 33, including extension of the length of limitation periods or postponement of their ending or starting point, and encouraged Parties to pay particular attention to specific policy measures.



4) Guidelines for policy makers on engaging with victims and survivors

37. On 31 May 2024, the Council of Europe published <u>Guidelines for policy makers on</u> engaging with victims and survivors of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse – "Nothing <u>About Us Without Us</u>". These are a direct outcome of the 2023 edition of the Day for the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse which focused on "Learning from victims and survivors of childhood sexual violence to inspire policy change" and the thematic exchange held by the Lanzarote Committee during its 40th <u>meeting</u> (28-30 November 2023).

38. The guidelines were developed by two prominent survivor advocates with extensive experience in engaging and facilitating victim and survivor participation in policy making, Professor S. Caroline Taylor and Sophie Otiende. Engaging with people who have experienced sexual exploitation and sexual abuse during childhood is crucial to ensure a holistic and evidence-informed approach to legal and policy reforms.

39. According to the key principles identified in the guidelines, to be meaningful, engagement should:

- Be trauma-informed: those initiating the dialogue should be aware of the prevalence of trauma, understand its effects and actively seek to resist re-traumatisation.
- Uphold the self-determination of those involved: voluntary and continuous consent should be sought; persons involved should be given the right to remain anonymous and to choose how they want their contributions to be referred to.
- Empower and value the victims and survivors involved: compensation for engagement in the process should be foreseen, accessibility in terms of language use and absence of other barriers ensured, and transparency of the outcomes guaranteed.
- Ensure equality: personal characteristics, socio-economic status and geographical diversity should be duly considered.

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40. The guidelines have not been designed to engage with children under the age of 18. Specific safeguards need to be in place when working with this age group on child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (see <u>child participation</u> resources).



5) Implementation of the Lanzarote Convention in State Parties

41. In the reporting period, the Committee continued to hold *tour de table* exchanges with members updating the Committee about any developments reflecting the impact of the Lanzarote Convention at national level to enhance protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. The table below summarises some of the updates that were shared with the Committee during the 42nd and 43rd meetings (11-13 June and 5-8 November 2024) (see the <u>meeting reports</u> for more details).

Type of change	Countries concerned
Amendments to substantive and procedural criminal	Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and
law with regard to offences related to child sexual	Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus,
exploitation and sexual abuse	Czechia, Estonia, Finland,
	Germany, Greece, Hungary,
	Ireland, Malta, Republic of
	Moldova, Montenegro,
	Netherlands, Portugal, Romania,
	Switzerland, Tunisia, United
	Kingdom
Legislative amendments and policy measures related	Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro
to child-friendly justice standards	

Barnahus and other multidisciplinary and interagency responses to child sexual abuse	Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Slovak Republic, Norway
Awareness raising measures among children, parents and/or society	Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Tunisia
Prevention initiatives	Austria, Estonia, Poland
National strategies or action plans including the protection of children against violence and specifically sexual exploitation and sexual abuse	Albania, Republic of Moldova, Norway, Tunisia
Victim protection initiatives and measures	Armenia, Greece, Liechtenstein, Poland
New training and awareness raising initiatives addressed to professionals	Armenia, Estonia, Latvia, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Türkiye



6) Promoting accession to the Lanzarote Convention

42. States in all world regions continue to express an interest in learning more about and possibly acceding to the Lanzarote Convention. The Lanzarote Committee and its Secretariat have therefore continued to promote the Lanzarote Convention globally.

43. As the ordinary budget of the Lanzarote Secretariat is not sufficient to cover this work, State Parties have the possibility to provide voluntary contributions to the co-operation project "Lanzarote Convention as a tool to ensure a global coordinated protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse". Throughout the reporting period, voluntary contributions have been received from Cyprus, France and Liechtenstein. Additional funding is needed to meet the demand for global outreach and information about the Lanzarote Convention to non-member States.

44. Wherever resources allowed it, efforts were made to present the Lanzarote Convention in conferences and workshops and to provide information about possible accession in bilateral meetings, either online or at the margins of other meetings such as those of the Cybercrime Committee (T-CY).

45. Over 50 criminal justice representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam took part in a regional workshop on <u>cybercrime and electronic evidence in Southeast Asia</u> (2-4 September 2024, Bangkok). Several sessions focused on combatting online child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse through the Council of Europe Cybercrime and Lanzarote Conventions, which allowed the Secretariat to hold bilateral discussions with representatives from several participating countries.

46. On 18 October 2024, the Council of Europe hosted a study visit from a delegation of representatives from the State of Victoria, Australia. The study visit included an exchange on the Lanzarote Convention and promising practices identified by the Lanzarote Committee, notably Barnahus.

47. Following an interest expressed by the authorities of Chile, at its 43rd plenary meeting (5-8 November 2024), the Lanzarote Committee <u>decided</u> to invite a representative of Chile to attend a future meeting as an *ad hoc* observer.

48. At the <u>Global Ministerial Conference on ending violence against children</u> (7-8 November 2024, Bogotá), a high-level delegation of the Council of Europe brought the Lanzarote Convention and the Lanzarote Committee's <u>Declaration on protecting children</u> <u>against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by emerging technologies</u> to the attention of ministers and government representatives.

49. An online presentation of the Lanzarote Convention was made to the National Coordination Council on online child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and child sexual abuse material of the Philippines on 17 December 2024.

50. The benefits for States worldwide to accede to the Lanzarote Convention were also brought to the attention of the participants of the <u>We Protect Global Alliance Summit</u> (4-5 December 2024, Abu Dhabi). Marja Ruotanen, Director General of Democracy and Human Dignity, underlined the added value of the Lanzarote Convention at a session on "Shifting safety on a regional scale".



7) HELP course on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse

51. In 2024, several independent experts working in criminal justice, prevention and victim protection worked together with the Lanzarote Committee Secretariat and representatives of the Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit of the Council of Europe's Children's Rights Division on an e-learning course on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

52. The <u>course</u> in English and French is available on the platform of the Council of Europe's European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (<u>HELP</u>) as of March 2025. It has been designed to equip professionals with a better understanding of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and provide them with a detailed knowledge of the legal and policy instruments available to address it. The course has five modules: Understanding child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, Prosecution, Protection of victims, Prevention, and Promotion of national and international co-operation.



8) Co-operation projects to support implementation of the Lanzarote Convention

53. Through national and regional <u>co-operation projects</u>, the Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit of the Council of Europe Children's Rights Division has continued to support States to strengthen the protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse through the implementation of the provisions of the Lanzarote Convention and relevant recommendations made by the Lanzarote Committee to participating State Parties. The <u>Technical Co-operation Strategy 2022-2027</u>: Supporting the implementation of children's <u>rights at regional and national level</u> provides further details of the technical support that is available for States.

Preventing and combatting violence against children

54. The <u>Republic of Moldova Phase III</u> project aims to strengthen responses to violence against children, including online child sexual exploitation and abuse. The project began in January 2022 and ran until December 2024. A national <u>campaign</u> for the prevention and reporting of child abuse and violence was launched in June 2024. At the final Steering Committee meeting in October 2024, the authorities outlined that the project had provided support in advancing legal reforms on children in conflict with the law and the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention. Over 600 professionals were trained during the project. The Steering Committee agreed that strengthening child-friendly procedures to avoid re-victimisation and re-traumatisation of children should be among the priorities for the next phase of the project.

55. In June 2024, a new project to support <u>Georgia's</u> reform agenda on the rights of the child was launched. It is due to run until May 2026 and will focus on strengthening the quality of responses to violence against children including online child sexual exploitation and abuse in Georgia. A series of <u>events</u> took place in November 2024 to mark the 18 November Day for the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse.

Supporting the implementation of Barnahus

56. In <u>Croatia</u>, the joint Council of Europe and European Union project to support the implementation of the Barnahus model in Croatia will run from September 2023 to February 2026. A legal and policy analysis and a training gap analysis were presented during a <u>round table</u> in October 2024. A Croatian delegation of professionals met with professionals working in Barnahus in Finland during a <u>study visit</u> in November 2024.

57. In 2019, the Finnish authorities launched a nationwide Barnahus project centred around five university hospitals. The joint Council of Europe and European Union project in <u>Finland</u> provided support to the Finnish authorities to address challenges in the implementation of the Barnahus model and concluded in February 2024.

58. Since August 2022, the joint Council of Europe and European Union project has been supporting <u>Ireland</u> to develop and expand the Barnahus model in Ireland. During the reporting period, Irish representatives visited the Barnahus in Iceland, and an exchange of good practices took place between Croatian, Cypriot, Irish and Scottish judges in Dublin. In November 2024, a <u>roundtable</u> took place to present various reports developed under the project including a strategy to scale-up Barnahus services in Ireland, a communications strategy and updating of the Good Practice guidelines.

59. In June 2021, <u>Spain</u> adopted a law on the comprehensive protection of children and adolescents against violence. The joint Council of Europe and European Union Barnahus project started in July 2022 to contribute to the implementation of this law including the introduction and development of the Barnahus model in the regions in Spain. During the reporting period, authorities met to discuss a <u>draft strategy</u> to scale-up Barnahus services in Spain, the <u>Spanish version</u> of the HELP course on child-friendly justice was launched, and a <u>conference</u> took place in October 2024 to assess progress made under the current project and identify priorities for the second phase which started on 1 November 2024.

Child-friendly justice

60. In January 2024, the Council of Europe and European Union launched a joint project to strengthen <u>child-friendly justice</u> for children in contact with the law, as offenders, victims or witnesses across Europe. The project will run until March 2026. Belgium, Poland and Slovenia are focus countries to pilot the tools and activities developed. Greece, Hungary and Portugal are partner countries who sit in the project Steering Committee. Judges and representatives of Ministries of Justice from the three focus and three partner countries met to <u>exchange on good practices</u> for child-friendly justice. The three focus countries have also completed self-assessment exercises using the Council of Europe's <u>child-friendly justice</u> assessment tool.

61. The joint Council of Europe and European Union project on ensuring the best interests of the child in civil court proceedings in <u>Slovenia</u> began in September 2023 and will run until February 2026. Representatives of various ministries met in October 2024 to take stock of the <u>assessment of the legal and policy framework</u> along with a <u>training gap analysis</u> for professionals working with children involved in civil court proceedings. A strategy and action will be developed on the implementation of the changes required to strengthen child-friendly responses and uphold the best interests of the child in civil court proceedings.

Upholding the rights of the child during and in post-war contexts

62. The Council of Europe is currently supporting the authorities in <u>Ukraine</u> to strengthen responses to violence against children, including sexual violence. The project focuses on enhancing the effectiveness of frameworks to protect children from violence in the context of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation. Several training sessions on restorative justice for minors involved in criminal proceedings for <u>mediators</u> were held in co-operation with the Co-ordination centre for free legal aid. In addition, 207 professionals participated in 8 training sessions on models of effective <u>interagency co-operation</u> in criminal proceedings involving children, and 594 professionals took part in an e-learning course on <u>psychological support and assistance to children who have experienced traumatic events</u>. Strengthening interagency co-operation and prevention of children coming into conflict with the law were identified as key priorities for the next phase of the project during the project Steering Committee meeting.

63. A project to protect the rights of Armenian children in post-conflict context commenced in <u>Armenia</u> in January 2024. National authorities participated in a roundtable to support the deinstitutionalisation of unaccompanied and separated children, a workshop on effective guardianship took place in October 2024, and the <u>HELP course on refugee and migrant children</u> was launched in Armenian. In November 2024, a roundtable brought multi-disciplinary experts together to discuss the importance of <u>involving children in decision-making processes about their health</u>.

Protecting children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies

64. The End Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse@Europe Plus (EndOCSEA@Europe+) regional project runs from September 2023 to December 2025. Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Montenegro act as focus countries for the project to pilot the tools and activities developed to better protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse online. A workshop was held in June 2024 to take stock of preliminary findings from the legal and policy gap analyses conducted in the three focus countries. Newly developed training modules for interagency co-operation for legal professionals and a training of trainers module for frontline professionals were presented to key stakeholders from the focus countries in November 2024. These modules have been jointly developed by professionals and piloted in the focus countries.

Activities under the Council of Europe Neighbourhood Partnership Agreements

65. In the context of the <u>Neighbourhood Partnership agreement between Tunisia and the</u> <u>Council of Europe</u> (2022-2025), a conference was co-organised by the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and Seniors (MFFES) and the Council of Europe on the <u>protection of children</u> <u>against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse</u> (Lanzarote Convention) in Tunis on 3-4 December 2024. Participants exchanged on promising practices at national and international level regarding multi-disciplinary and interagency co-ordination (Barnahus model) and reporting hotlines. The synergies between the Lanzarote Convention and the Cybercrime Convention were also explored. Participants identified a series of recommendations aiming to strengthen inter-agency co-ordination. Several training sessions for child protection officers were also held in January 2025 in Tunis, Sousse and Djerba.

66. In the context of the <u>Neighbourhood Partnership agreement between Morocco and</u> <u>the Council of Europe</u> (2022-2025), the Chair of the Lanzarote Committee, Maria-José CASTELLO-BRANCO, took part in a seminar on human rights in June 2024. She also took part in a conference on child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse online in February 2025, which sought to raise awareness about technology facilitated sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and identify key recommendations to strengthen the detection, investigation and prosecution of such offences.

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9) Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine

67. The <u>Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine</u> (CGU) was launched on 30 November 2023 to facilitate co-operation between States, the European Union and relevant international organisations in follow-up to the Council of Europe's <u>Reykjavik Summit</u>. The CGU operates in a two-fold manner: Two thematic dialogue groups, one focused on Transnational Procedures and Guardianship, and the other on Psychological Support and Trauma-Informed Care, regularly convene with experts and professionals working directly with children of Ukraine, including guardians and psycho-social support providers. They develop practical tools, such as:

- A compendium and gap analysis on transnational procedures and co-operation for professionals dealing with transnational issues concerning children of Ukraine;
- An information note and position paper on adoption procedures during war to emphasise that in principle, no adoptions should take place during, or in the immediate aftermath of, an emergency situation;
- A gap analysis on guardianship arrangements concerning the children of Ukraine;
- A gap analysis on psychological support and trauma-informed care provided to the children of Ukraine.

68. In addition, the CGU addresses thematic topics during its plenary meetings, conducts relevant research, and organises special hearings:

- A <u>mapping study</u> on children of Ukraine's access to education was published in November 2024.
- During its 3rd meeting (1-2 July 2024), the CGU held a thematic hearing on "understanding the risks of human trafficking, including for the purposes of sexual and labour exploitation, of children of Ukraine". The <u>report</u> published in October 2024 identifies key risks and potential mitigation measures for the protection of children of Ukraine against trafficking in human beings.
- A special thematic hearing on the preconditions for the safe return of children of Ukraine from Council of Europe member States was held on 23 January 2025.



10) Participation in meetings on behalf of the Lanzarote Committee

69. Representatives of the Committee and Secretariat regularly participate in meetings and events on behalf of the Committee to exchange views with relevant partners, feed into the development of new standards and research and to contribute to better co-ordination and co-operation among stakeholders to protect children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (see Appendix IV).

70. Out of the large number of events and meetings that took place during the reporting period, the following are particularly worth highlighting:

- On 21 March 2024, Agnieszka MATYSEK (Poland) participated in the "Efficient and effective online child exploitation investigations" training organised for law enforcement agents and prosecutors by the US Department of Justice and State Department in Warsaw (Poland).
- On 7 June 2024, Maria-José CASTELLO-BRANCO (Chairperson, Portugal) took part in the Human Rights Seminar in Tangier (Morocco).
- On 18 September 2024, Panayiota TRIFILLI (Cyprus) took part in the "Making sport safe and empowering for children" conference launching the national <u>Start to talk</u> campaign in Nicosia (Cyprus).
- On 7 and 8 November 2024, Regina JENSDOTTIR, then Head of the Children's Rights Division, and Marja RUOTANEN, Director General of Democracy and Human Dignity of the Council of Europe, took part in the 1st <u>Global Ministerial Conference on ending violence against children</u> in Bogotá (Colombia).
- On 3 and 4 December 2024, Christel DE CRAIM (Belgium), Philippe OLIVIER (France), and Naomi TREWINNARD, Legal Advisor, took part in a Conference on the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention in Tunis (Tunisia).

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- On 4 and 5 December 2024, Agnes von MARAVIĆ, Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee, and Marja RUOTANEN, Director General of Democracy and Human Dignity of the Council of Europe, participated in the <u>WeProtect Global Alliance Summit</u> in Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) "Creating a safer digital world, free from child sexual exploitation and abuse, for future generations".
- 71. A full list of meetings and events is included in Appendix IV.



11) Co-operation with civil society

72. The Lanzarote Committee holds regular exchanges with relevant stakeholders including international and civil society organisations that hold observer status with the Committee. The Committee also maintained its practice of holding an annual panel to showcase recent work of the observers of the Committee to enrich and inform its work. This panel took place during the 43rd meeting of the Committee (5-8 November 2024).

73. **Suojellan Lapsia (Protect Children)** updated the Committee about the implementation of its several research projects and practical programmes, as well as the insights gained:

- The survey of individuals searching for child sexual abuse material online had now been carried out in 21 languages and included 56,000 respondents, with questions aimed at establishing what drives their behaviour.
- The <u>online self-help Redirection programme</u> aimed at such individuals had been replicated in numerous countries and is available to any interested State. The organisation has also commenced a research project in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University to evaluate the effectiveness of the Redirection programme.
- The global survivor survey <u>Our Voice</u> has been replicated in numerous languages. Among other things, it has revealed even more severe trauma symptoms related to the experience of online child sexual exploitation and abuse compared to contact sexual offences (attributed, in part, to a victim's difficulties with grasping the imbalance of power when the offence took place online).
- A pilot of <u>You are Enough</u> parental peer support groups in Finland and Ireland has confirmed the importance of supporting caregivers to enable them to support the healing process in children, as well as the need for training for professionals working with families.

74. The organisation has also translated its child safety materials into several languages. In response to a question about help to children with the immigrant background, Protect Children informed the Committee about the availability of digital safety workshops online for kindergartens and schools which can be replicated in any country.

75. **Brave Movement** shared information about the organisation's engagement at the Global ministerial Conference on ending violence against children which took place in November 2024 in Bogotà, Colombia, including hosting satellite and side events focused on the promotion of the Lanzarote Convention and digital safety and encouraging States to set up national survivor councils. A Global survivor council taskforce has been formed to help ensure survivor-centred reforms and use survivor insights for effective policy guidance.

76. **INHOPE** updated the Committee about the most recent expansion of the hotline network which now includes four new countries: Argentina, Republic of Moldova, Nigeria and the Slovak Republic. 400+ professionals were trained by the network in 2024 to detect, report and remove CSEA content online. INHOPE has been active in EU advocacy efforts advocating for the inclusion of new mechanisms to process industry reports and the creation of a firm legal basis for the work of the hotlines. Its total volume of CSAM reports has increased by 25% since 2022 signifying heightened awareness of the issue in the public domain. 88% of the content is new underlining the needs to escalate awareness raising activities. The reports of illegal content have increased by 68% since 2022. The network highlighted that the global removing time for the illegal content within the network amounted to 2.5 days as opposed to 28 days for the content removal outside the network. INHOPE also shared information it has gathered concerning the profile of the victims identified in the illegal content: the majority fell within the pre-pubescent age range (3-13 years old) and were female. Among the emerging threats observed INHOPE listed non-consensual intimate image abuse and AIgenerated CSAM.

77. **Hope for Children Centre Cyprus** informed the Committee about the development of a board game created in collaboration with two universities to support children in judicial proceedings, notably by familiarising children with legal terminology, their rights, judicial roles and participants. The game is led by trained professionals.

78. Internet Watch Foundation shared with the Committee the findings of its 2024 AI CSAM report update. In the past six months, the Internet Watch Foundation has seen a 6% increase in confirmed reports containing AI-generated CSAM, and almost all of the content was found on publicly available areas of the Internet instead of the dark web. More than half of the AI generated content found in the past six months was hosted on servers in two countries, the Russian Federation (36%) and the United States (22%). Addresses of webpages containing AI generated child sexual abuse images are uploaded on to the Internet Watch Foundation's URL list which is shared with the tech industry to block the sites and prevent people from being able to access or see them. AI images are also hashed and tagged on a Hash List of more than two million images which can be used by law enforcement in their investigations. The report also included policy recommendations for governments and tech companies.

79. **Missing Children Europe** presented to the Committee the final outputs of its <u>CESAGRAM</u> (Comprehensive European Strategy against Grooming and Missing) project. They included notably an online awareness raising platform CESAGRAM Ville promoting educational activities aimed at preventing grooming and child sexual abuse by using gamification elements. They also included an online toolkit to be used for monitoring online spaces, including websites and social media, to assess risks of grooming behaviour and prevent it through early warnings.

APPENDICES

Appendix I – List of meetings of the Lanzarote Committee

Plenary meetings

- ▶ 42nd meeting: In-person only meeting, 11-13 June 2024, Strasbourg, France
- > 43rd meeting: In-person only meeting, 5-8 November 2024, Vienna, Austria
- ▶ 44th meeting: In-person only meeting, 4-6 March 2025, Strasbourg, France

Appendix II – Composition of the Lanzarote Committee

(as of 6 March 2025)

MEMBERS State Parties to the Convention

ALBANIA

Alma TANDILI Chairperson of the State Agency for the Rights and Protection of the Child Ministry of Social Affairs, Youth and Equality

ANDORRA

Lara FORTÓ RIBERA Psychologue Unité « Enfance et Adolescence » Ministère des Affaires sociales et de la Fonction publique

ARMENIA

Syuzanna MAKYAN Deputy Director Legal Education and Rehabilitation Programs' Implementation Center

AUSTRIA

Manuela TROPPACHER Judge Legal Advisor Federal Ministry of Justice

AZERBAIJAN

Samir GARAYEV Head of Division Main Department on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings Ministry of Internal Affairs Jeyran RAHMATULLAYEVA Head of the Administrative Office State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs

BELGIUM

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

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Ajla NANIĆ Expert Advisor Human Rights Department Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees

BULGARIA

Marga STOYANOVA Chief Expert Policy and Programmes Directorate for Children, Strategic Development and Coordination State Agency for Child Protection at the Council of Ministers

CROATIA

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

Georgia PAVLIDOU Social Services Officer Social Welfare Services Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare

CZECHIA

Šimon PEPŘÍK Senior Ministerial Counsellor Criminal Law Unit Legislative Department Ministry of Justice

DENMARK

Mie HEDENGRAN HELANDER Criminal Law Division Ministry of Justice

ESTONIA

Tuuli LEPP Adviser Department of Criminal Policy Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs

FINLAND

Satu SISTONEN Deputy Director, Senior Specialist, Legal Affairs Legal Service Unit for Human Rights Courts and Conventions Ministry for Foreign Affairs

FRANCE

Philippe OLIVIER Magistrat – Rédacteur Bureau de la négociation pénale européenne et internationale Direction des affaires criminelles et des grâces Ministère de la Justice

GEORGIA

Ketevani TATUASHVILI Adviser Human Rights Secretariat Administration of the Government

GERMANY

Liesa GUTSCH II A 7 - Division for Criminal Law on Sexual Offences, Criminology, Criminal Justice Statistics Federal Ministry of Justice

GREECE

George NIKOLAIDIS Psychiatrist, Researcher Department of Mental Health and Social Welfare Centre for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Institute of Child Health

HUNGARY

Iván A. BUJDOS Senior legal advisor Department of Criminal Law Codification Deputy Secretariat of State for Criminal Law Legislation Ministry of Justice

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

ICELAND Páll MAGNÚSSON Counsellor Permanent Mission of Iceland in Geneva

Hlín SÆÞÓRSDÓTTIR Senior Adviser Ministry of Education and Children

IRELAND

Corah CAPLES Assistant Principal Officer Criminal Justice Policy Department of Justice

ITALY

Alfredo FERRANTE Department for family policies Presidency of the Council of Ministers

Alessandra BERNARDON Department for family policies Presidency of the Council of Ministers

LATVIA

Indra AIZUPE-DZINTARE Head of the Criminal Law Department Ministry of Justice

LIECHTENSTEIN

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

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

LITHUANIA

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

LUXEMBOURG

Marguerite KRIER Conseiller de Gouvernement 1^{ère} 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

Lorna MUSCAT Head of Office Office of the Commissioner for Children

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Petru JALBĂ Main Officer Directorate of Policy in the field of public order and security Ministry of Internal Affairs

Anastasia GRUZIN Deputy Head of the Directorate of Policies of protection of children rights and of families with children Ministry of Labour and Social Protection

MONACO

Cécile VACARIE-BERNARD Adjointe au Directeur de l'Action et de l'Aide Sociales Direction de l'Action et de l'Aide Sociales

MONTENEGRO

Jelena GRDINIĆ General Director Directorate for Criminal and Civil Legislation Ministry of Justice

NETHERLANDS

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

NORTH MACEDONIA

Ljubica NAJDOSKA Desk Officer for Family Relations Ministry of Social Policy, Demography and Youth

NORWAY

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

POLAND

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

PORTUGAL

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

ROMANIA

Alina ION Legal Adviser Department for Drafting Legislation Ministry of Justice

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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

SAN MARINO

Gloria VALENTINI Second Secretary Department of Foreign Affairs

SERBIA

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

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

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

SLOVENIA

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

Sara PLATTEN BÄCKSTRÖM Lawyer and Investigator Department for Investigation and Analysis Ombudsman for Children – Swedish Children's Rights Agency

SWITZERLAND

Anita MARFURT Juriste Unité Droit pénal international Office fédéral de la justice Département fédéral de justice et police

TUNISIA

Awaiting nomination

TÜRKİYE

Gökçen TÜRKER Head of Department Directorate General for Foreign Relations and European Union Affairs Ministry of Justice

Bahattin EMRE Rapporteur Judge Directorate General for Foreign Relations and European Union Affairs Ministry of Justice

Yavuz ERASLAN Rapporteur Judge Directorate General for Foreign Relations and European Union Affairs Ministry of Justice

UKRAINE Awaiting nomination

UNITED KINGDOM

Leah BUCK International Lead - CSEA Tackling Child Sexual Abuse Unit Tackling Exploitation and Abuse Directorate Public Safety Group Home Office

PARTICIPANTS

States having participated in the drafting of the Convention

CANADA Awaiting nomination

HOLY SEE

Aleksandra BRZEMIA BONAREK Professeure Membre du Dicastère pour les Laïcs, la Famille et la Vie Faculté de Droit Canonique Université Pontificale Jean-Paul II de Cracovie Juge ecclésiastique au Tribunal métropolitain de Katowice 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

Lamiaa BEGHIEL Cheffe du Service de la Protection des Enfants en Situation Difficile Division de l'Enfance Ministère de la Solidarité, de l'Insertion sociale et de la Famille

Non-member State

CHILE

Javiera VERDUGO TORO Attorney International Judicial Cooperation Division Ministry of Foreign Affairs

International organisations

COUNCIL OF THE BALTIC SEA STATES (CBSS) Sven WILSON Policy and Research Assistance

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS (ENNHRI)

Debbie KOHNER Secretary General Permanent Secretariat

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF OMBUDSMANS FOR CHILDREN (ENOC) Awaiting nomination

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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

EUROPEAN UNION

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)

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

EUROPOL

Anton Toni KLANČNIK Strategic Specialist in Child Protection O3 European Cybercrime Centre (EC3)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LA FRANCOPHONIE (IOF)

Delphine COUVEINHES-MATSUMOTO Spécialiste de programme Direction « affaires politiques et gouvernance démocratique » (DAPG)

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

Carla LICCIARDELLO Corporate Strategy Division

INTERPOL

Mark BEAVAN Head Crimes against Children Unit VCO/Organized and Emerging Crime Directorate

UNICEF

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

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)

Andreas WISSNER UNHCR Representative to the European Institutions in Strasbourg

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

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 ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Jonathon PASSMORE Programme Manager – Road Safety, Injury & Violence Prevention European Center for Environment & Health WHO Regional Office for Europe

Council of Europe Institutions and Bodies

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON YOUTH Awaiting nomination

CONFERENCE OF INGOS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE Awaiting nomination

CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Brigitte van den BERG Rapporteur for Children's Rights Netherlands

COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS Michael O'FLAHERTY Commissioner for Human Rights

CYBERCRIME CONVENTION COMMITTEE (T-CY) Awaiting nomination

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS (CDPC) Awaiting nomination

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON LEGAL COOPERATION (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 Awaiting nomination

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (CDDH) Awaiting nomination

OBSERVERS

THE BRAVE MOVEMENT

Matthew McVARISH Co-Founder

ECPAT INTERNATIONAL

Andrea VARRELLA Research and Child Rights Monitoring Manager

GLOBAL COLLABORATIVE Sara ALAOUI Co-founder and Vice-chairman

"HOPE FOR CHILDREN" CRC Policy Center Cyprus

Katerina MELISSARI Coordinator of Child Protection Department

INHOPE (International Association of Internet Hotlines) Samantha WOOLFE Global Partnerships and Expansion Lead

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

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

SECRETARIAT

Agnes von MARAVIĆ Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee

Ekaterina MALAREVA Legal Advisor

Naomi TREWINNARD Legal Advisor

INTERNET WATCH FOUNDATION

Hannah SWIRSKY Head of Policy and Public Affairs

MISSING CHILDREN EUROPE

Aagje IEVEN Secretary General

PROTECT CHILDREN (Suojellaan Lapsia RY)

Nina VAARANEN-VALKONEN Executive Director Trauma focused Cognitive Psychotherapist Victim Services and Offender Management Sub-Group Chair Interpol SGCAC

SAFE ONLINE

Marija MANOJLOVIC Executive Director

SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL

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

WePROTECT Global Alliance

lain DRENNAN Executive Director

Ana GUERREIRO Senior Project Officer

Corinne CHRISTOPHEL Assistant to the Lanzarote Committee

Anna KHROMOVA Assistant

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

Composition of the Bureau of the Lanzarote Committee

- > Chairperson: Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO (Portugal)
- Vice-Chairperson: Philippe OLIVIER (France)
- > Members:
 - Anna DOSZPOTH (Hungary) until 16/09/24; Kristina STEPANOVA (Lithuania) as of 08/11/24
 - George NIKOLAIDIS (Greece)
 - Páll MAGNÚSSON (Iceland)
 - Lorna MUSCAT (Malta) until 08/11/24; Jelena GRDINIĆ (Montenegro) as of 08/11/24
 - Jana LOVŠIN (Slovenia)

List of representatives of the Lanzarote Committee to other entities

Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF)

George NIKOLAIDIS (Greece), representative

Committee of Experts on Combatting technology-facilitated violence against women and girls

Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO (Portugal), representative Jana LOVŠIN (Slovenia), substitute

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

George NIKOLAIDIS (Greece), representative

Committee of Experts on access to child-friendly justice through multidisciplinary and interagency services (ENF-JUS)

Syuzanna MAKYAN (Armenia), representative Iván BUJDOS (Hungary), substitute

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

Lorna MUSCAT (Malta), representative Stevan POPOVIĆ (Serbia), substitute

Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU)

Kristina STEPANOVA (Lithuania), representative

Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY)

Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO (Portugal), representative

European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ)

Agnieszka MATYSEK (Poland), representative Páll MAGNÚSSON (Iceland), substitute

European Committee for Social Cohesion (CCS)

Lorna MUSCAT (Malta), representative

Gender Equality Rapporteur

Maria José CASTELLO-BRANCO (Portugal)

Appendix IV – Participation of the Lanzarote Committee and of the Council of Europe Secretariat in meetings on behalf of the Lanzarote Committee

- International Telecommunications Union Working Group on Online Child Protection, 22-23 January 2024, online
- 40th Operational Meeting of the INTERPOL Specialists Group on Crimes against Children, 11-14 March 2024, Lyon, France
- Official visit to the pilot court on violence against children, 13 March 2024, Las Palmas, Spain
- Workshop on efficient and effective online child exploitation investigations, 19-21 March 2024, Warsaw, Poland
- 2nd meeting of the Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU), 26-27 March 2024, online
- Brave Movement Global Team meeting, 11 April 2024, Lisbon, Portugal
- Meeting of the WeProtect Global Alliance <u>Global Taskforce on child sexual abuse</u> <u>online</u>, 25 April 2024, online
- 9th plenary meeting of the Steering Committee on the Rights of the Child (CDENF), 28-30 May 2024, Strasbourg, France
- Seminar on human rights, 7 June 2024, Tangier, Morocco
- 30th plenary meeting of the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY), 18-20 June 2024, online
- Workshop for T-CY representatives on the Lanzarote Convention, 20 June 2024, Strasbourg, France
- 3rd meeting of the Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU), 1-2 July 2024, Strasbourg, France
- Etkiniz Civil Society visit, 9 July 2024, Strasbourg, France
- Regional workshop on CSAM, 2-3 September 2024, Bangkok, Thailand
- Afecto Congress, 3 September 2024, online
- Webinar UNICEF country offices, 12 September 2024, online

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- "Making sport safe and empowering for children" Conference launching the national <u>Start to talk</u> Campaign, 18 September 2024, Nicosia, Cyprus
- International Telecommunications Union working group on Online Child Protection, 1 October 2024, online
- Safe Online Data for Change Workshop, 3-4 October 2024, London, United Kingdom
- Stakeholder workshop on Guidelines on the protection of minors under the Digital Services Act, 4 October 2024, Brussels, Belgium
- 10th 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), 14-16 October 2024, Strasbourg, France
- 3rd Dialogue Group of the CGU sub-group on guardianship, 18 October 2024, online
- Study visit with the delegation from sexual assault services from Victoria, Australia, 18 October 2024, Strasbourg, France
- Risk, Trends and Methods Working Group of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF),
 22 October 2024, Paris, France
- EndOCSEA Conference, 4 November 2024, Vienna, Austria
- Global Ministerial Conference on ending violence against children, 7-8 November 2024, Bogotá, Colombia
- EU Generative AI Industry Briefing, 21 November 2024, Brussels, Belgium
- Panel following the screening of the film "Elle ne pleure pas, elle chante" ("She does not cry, she sings") organised by the Luxembourgish presidency and the city of Strasbourg, 25 November 2024, Strasbourg, France
- Exchange of views with the Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee at the 1513th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies, 27 November 2024, Strasbourg, France
- 3rd annual meeting of the Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport, 3 December 2024, Strasbourg, France
- Workshop on the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention, 3-4 December 2024, Tunis, Tunisia

- Task force meeting and WeProtect Global Alliance's 2024 Global Summit, 3-5 December 2024, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- 10th plenary meeting of the Steering Committee on the Rights of the Child (CDENF), 3-5 December 2024, Strasbourg, France
- Conference on "The Council of Europe fight against child abuse in institutions in Europe" organised by the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, 6 December 2024, Strasbourg, France
- CESAGRAM closing conference, 9-10 December 2024, Brussels, Belgium
- Training on "Sexual violence against children: detecting, reporting and supporting victims" organised by the Family Planning (*Planning familial*), 10 December 2024, Strasbourg, France
- 31st plenary meeting of the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY), 11-12 December 2024, online
- Internet Governance Forum Riyad, presentation of the Lanzarote Convention during the Workshop "Advancing online safety role standards", 19 December 2024, online
- Training workshops for child protection officers, 9-10 January 2025, Tunis, Tunisia
- Training workshops for child protection officers, 16-17 January 2025, Sousse, Tunisia
- 4th meeting of the Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU), 21-23 January 2025, Strasbourg, France
- Training workshops for child protection officers, 23-24 January 2025, Djerba, Tunisia
- Ad hoc ENF-VAE meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Violence (ENF-VAE), 10 February 2025, online
- Conference on online child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, 18 February 2025, Rabat, Morocco

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