



# TURNING 18 WITH CONFIDENCE

SUPPORTING MIGRANT AND REFUGEE CHILDREN  
IN TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD

International launching event

[European Youth Centre,](#)

30 rue Pierre de Coubertin, Strasbourg, France

And online

**Tuesday, 18 Avril 2023**

**9:00 – 17:00**

English and French

## AGENDA

The event is co-organised by the Council of Europe's Special Representative of the Secretary General on Migration and Refugees, the Youth Department and the Co-operation Programmes Division (DGI), with the support of the Icelandic Presidency of the Council of Europe and the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This Event is co-funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the Council of Europe. The content of this document represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for the use that may be made of the information it contains.

08:15 – 09:00	<b>Arrival and Registration of Participants</b>
09:00 – 09:15	<p><b>Welcome and Introduction of Participants</b></p> <p><i>“<a href="#">I woke up 18</a>”</i> – video developed by SolidarityNow (Greece) in the framework of the Project <i>“Building Futures, Sharing Good Practices: Migrant Children’s Transition to Adulthood – UACFutures”</i></p>
09:15 – 09:45	<p><b>OPENING REMARKS</b></p> <p><b>Marja Ruotanen</b>, Director General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe</p> <p><b>Spyros Papadatos</b>, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth, Council of Europe</p> <p><b>Leyla Kayacik</b>, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Migration and Refugees</p>
09:45 – 10:00	<p><b>KEYNOTE SPEECH</b></p> <p><b>Ásmundur Einar Daðason</b>, Minister of Education and Children of Iceland</p>
10:00 – 10:40	<p><b>TRANSITION TO ADULthood: PRESENTING COUNCIL OF EUROPE STANDARDS AND LAUNCHING THE NEW TOOLS</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ambassador Fakhraddin Ismayilov, Chair of the Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment of the Committee of Ministers (GR-C), Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the Council of Europe</p> <p><i>Guide to the Council of Europe’s Committee of Ministers <a href="#">Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)4</a> on supporting young refugees in transition to adulthood</i></p> <p><b>Rui Gomes</b>, Head of Division Education and Training, Youth Department, Council of Europe</p> <p><b>Amy Stapleton</b>, International Consultant</p> <p><i>Roadmap to Adulthood developed under the Project “Building Futures, Sharing Good Practices: Migrant Children’s Transition to Adulthood – UACFutures”</i></p> <p><b>Gelly Aroni</b>, Head of the Unit for Integration and Support of UAMs, Special Secretariat for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors, Ministry of Migration and Asylum, Greece</p> <p>Questions and discussion</p>

<p><b>10:40 – 11:10</b></p>	<p><b>TESTIMONIES AND EXPERIENCES FROM YOUNG MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">“Jano &amp; Shiro, a brother’s journey”</a></b> – extract of a short documentary part of the <b><a href="#">“Shadow games”</a></b> project, co-produced by <b><a href="#">Prospektor</a></b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Tatiana Termacic, Head of Secretariat of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe</p> <p><b>Farès Nahlawi</b>, Former Young Refugee</p> <p><b>Pierre-Alain Fridez</b>, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe</p>
<p><b>11:10 – 11: 40</b></p>	<p><b>Break</b></p>
<p><b>11:40 – 12:20</b></p>	<p><b>EUROPEAN, NATIONAL AND LOCAL POLICIES AND CONTEXTS</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Lilit Daneghian, Deputy Head of the Co-operation Programmes Division, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe</p> <p><b>Adolfo Sommaribas</b>, Senior Legal Migration Expert, European Migration Network (EMN) – <b><a href="#">Inform</a></b> <i>on the transition of unaccompanied minors to adulthood in EU Member States</i></p> <p><b>Pau Vidal I Gil</b>, Head of Legal Services, Fundació Cepaim (Spain) – <i>The reform of the Regulation for youth care leavers reaching majority in Spain</i></p> <p><b>Dusica Davidovic</b>, Deputy Mayor of Nis (Serbia), Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe – <i>Local practices and experiences of service provision to young adults</i></p> <p>Questions and discussion</p>
<p><b>12:20 – 13:00</b></p>	<p><b>SAFEGUARDING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AGING OUT</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Andreas Wissner, Representative to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)</p> <p><b>Maria Asensio Velasco</b>, Policy Officer, Children’s Rights Division, Council of Europe - <b><a href="#">Life Projects</a></b>, <b><a href="#">Guardianship</a></b>, <b><a href="#">Age Assessment</a></b></p> <p><b>Cedric Christian Kamgaing</b>, Voice of Young Refugees in Europe</p> <p><b>Laetitia Van der Vennet</b>, Advocacy Officer, PICUM (Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants) – <b><a href="#">Report</a></b> <i>“Turning 18 and undocumented: Supporting children in their transition into adulthood”</i></p> <p><b>Pierre Greib</b> Co-president <i>La CIMADE Grand-Est</i>, President of the Strasbourg collective <i>“For another migration policy”</i>; <b>Fernand Jehl</b>, Committee <i>“Rights of Persons who are Migrants”</i>, Conference of INGOs, Council of Europe</p> <p>Questions and discussion</p>

13:00 – 14:30	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14:20 – 14:30	<b><a href="#">“I dreamt you yesterday”</a></b> – video developed by Fundaci3n Cepaim (Spain) in the framework of the Project <i>“Building Futures, Sharing Good Practices: Migrant Children's Transition to Adulthood – UACFutures”</i>
14:30 – 15:15	<p><b>FACILITATING ACCESS OF YOUNG ADULTS TO SERVICES: EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Liliya Elenkova, Advisor on youth issues, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Republic of Bulgaria</p> <p><b>Marta Mędlińska</b>, Administrator, and <b>Samir Hećo</b>, Project Officer, Education Department, Council of Europe – <a href="#">Linguistic Integration of Adult Migrants, European Qualification Passport for Refugees</a></p> <p><b>Domniki Georgopoulou</b>, Child Protection Expert, SolidarityNow, Greece</p> <p><b>Zain Bouch</b>, Representative of “Voices of Young Refugees in Europe” in the Advisory Council on Youth</p> <p><b>Omid Hotak</b>, Networking and Learning Opportunities, United Kingdom</p> <p>Questions and discussion</p>
15:15 – 15:30	<b>Break</b>
15:30 – 15:45	<p><b>THE ROLE OF YOUTH WORK IN SUPPORTING YOUNG REFUGEES</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ida Kreutzman, Educational Adviser, Youth Department, Council of Europe</p> <p><i>Introductions by:</i></p> <p><b>Kinda Khazaal</b>, Tumult vzw, Belgium</p> <p><b>Samantha Zodwa Mhlanga</b>, CDYS Youth Work, Ireland</p>
15:45 – 16:45	<p><b>THE ROLE OF YOUTH WORK IN SUPPORTING YOUNG REFUGEES</b></p> <p><i>Sharing experiences and challenges in working groups:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participation and inclusion (<i>online participation possible</i>)</li> <li>- Support to wellbeing and mental health (<i>in presence only</i>)</li> <li>- Reaching out to young refugees (<i>in presence only</i>)</li> <li>- Supporting youth organisations (<i>in presence only</i>)</li> </ul>
16:45 – 17:00	<p><b>CLOSING REMARKS AND WAYS FORWARD</b></p> <p><i>Summing up of the youth session</i></p> <p><b>Lilit Daneghian</b>, Deputy Head of the Co-operation Programmes Division, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe</p> <p><b>Rui Gomes</b>, Head of Division Education and Training, Youth Department, Council of Europe</p>
17:00	<b>Closing Cocktail</b>