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COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF)

ENF-VAE: Questionnaire for the implementation review of CM/Rec(2009)10 on Policy Guidelines on Integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence

8th plenary meeting

Strasbourg, 14 – 16 November

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Questionnaire for the implementation review of CM/Rec(2009)10 on Policy Guidelines on Integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence

(Questionnaire to be circulated to the CDENF delegations in order to obtain information about the national implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)10 Prepared by Dr Susanna Greijer, Independent expert)

Background and purpose

In November 2009, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, representing its (then) 47 member states, adopted Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)10 containing the Guidelines on Integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence. Since then, the Council of Europe has worked to inspire the development of national strategies both in Europe and beyond.

The Recommendation focuses in particular on the need for the member states' governments to honour their international obligations and to implement and monitor the Policy guidelines on integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence, to ensure their widest possible dissemination in all areas relating to children, including in areas not under the direct competence of public authorities, and to co-operate with the Council of Europe and with the United Nations Special Representative to the Secretary General on Violence against Children.

In October 2019, ten years after the adoption of the Recommendation, the Council of Europe published "A life free from violence for all children", a report on action taken by the Council of Europe and member states to tackle violence against children, to implement international standards relevant to violence against children and to promote an integrated approach to the protection from violence.

Part of that report is based on a survey conducted among Council of Europe member states in the last quarter of 2018 in the framework of intergovernmental activities carried out within the Ad hoc Committee for the Rights of the Child (CAHENF). The survey aimed to take stock of responses by member states to different forms of violence against children, notably through the development and implementation of integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence, as defined by Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)10, as well as through other actions addressing specific forms of violence against children and violence in different settings at national level.

At its first meeting in May 2023, the Committee of Experts on the prevention of violence (ENF-VAE) emphasised the necessity to gather further data from member states about actions being taken to implement the guidelines included in Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)10 with a particular focus on the relevant national law and practice, and covering the main challenges in developing national strategies. The Committee instructed the Secretariat to prepare a questionnaire for the review of the implementation of the Recommendation, emphasising these aspects.[1]

[1] ENF-VAE(2023)PV01.

Definitions

Child

Any human being under 18 years of age.

Violence against children

In accordance with Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child ("UNCRC" hereafter), "violence" is defined as including "all forms of physical or mental violence, injury and abuse, neglect and negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse".

This definition covers the exposure of children to violence in the home and elsewhere. Violence is understood to occur not only between adults and children but also between children.

As set out in the Appendix to Recommendation CM/Rec(2023)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on strengthening reporting systems on violence against children,[2] the term "violence against children" includes acts such as physical, sexual or psychological violence, maltreatment and abuse, as well as omissions such as neglect and negligent treatment, which violate the rights of the child and result in actual or potential harm to the child's health, physical, psychological and emotional integrity, survival or development. This includes disciplinary measures that humiliate the child or inflict pain, however light, as well as exploitation and harassment, the exposure to domestic violence and the witnessing of violence.[3]

Integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence

Proposed working definition:

"A national strategy focusing on the protection of children from violence, which sets forth general and specific objectives and concrete actions to be implemented and monitored within a defined time frame at national, regional and local levels, and which takes an integrated and multistakeholder approach and foresees cross-sectoral co-operation, including both state and non-state actors."

Core principles of the Council of Europe Policy Guidelines on integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence

The Policy Guidelines are based upon eight general principles and four operative principles, which should be mainstreamed throughout national, regional and local action, education and awareness-raising measures, legal, policy, and institutional frameworks, research and data collection.

[2] Recommendation CM/Rec(2023)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on strengthening reporting systems on violence against children

[3] See also other relevant definitions: The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), in its Article 3 (a), defines "violence against women" as a "violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life", where "women" includes girls under the age of 18.
The World Health Organisation (WHO), in its World report on violence and health (WRVH), defines violence as "The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation."

General principles

1. Protection against violence
2. The right to life and maximum survival and development
3. Non-discrimination
4. Gender equality
5. Child participation
6. State obligations
7. Other actors' obligations and participation
8. Best interests of the child

Operational principles

1. Multidimensional nature of violence
2. Integrated approach
3. Cross-sectoral co-operation
4. Multistakeholder approach

SURVEY

Thank you for agreeing to take part in this survey, which will support the work of the Council of Europe Children's Rights Division. You are kindly invited to return the completed questionnaire by **31 January 2024** through SurveyMonkey: *https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/HS769L5*

CONTACTS

Please indicate the contact person for this questionnaire:

Country	
Institution/Organisation	
Name and Surname	
Job/Position	
Email	

If any other institution contributed to preparing this document, please list them below:

HOW TO FILL IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is divided into two main parts, one focusing on quantitative aspects and the other on qualitative ones. The first (quantitative) part is composed of closed questions – i.e. with a choice of answers to click on – to enable a comparative analysis of the data. The second (qualitative) part is composed of open questions, where you are requested to submit your answers in free text.

Please note that Part II of the questionnaire foresees a specific space to fill in any additional and/or clarifying information regarding the closed questions in Part I.

Please feel free to complement your responses to the questionnaire by sharing any relevant reports and supporting documents by email (children@coe.int).

DECLARATION OF CONSENT

In my capacity as the contact person for replies provided to the Council of Europe Children's Rights Division, I understand that any data, information or assessment, including personal data or confidential information, that I supply to the above survey will be exclusively used by the Council of Europe in the framework of the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027). I agree to this use being made of any information provided. I understand that, following the analysis of responses by the Council of Europe Secretariat (Children's Rights Division/DGII) and any mandated expert, the original replies provided, containing the above personal data, will be deleted by the same Secretariat by 31 December 2025 at the latest.

By ticking the box below, I formally consent to the use of my personal data and any other information I supply as described above. If I submit personal data or confidential information of another person, I confirm that I have obtained the authorisation from that person to do so.

☐ **I agree**

PART I – Quantitative part (closed questions)

Question 1.

Has a national integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence been adopted in your country?

- ☐ a. Yes, a national integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has been adopted (Please indicate when (which year): _____) (N.B. allow only numbers in answer).
- ☐ b. No, a national integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has not been adopted.
- ☐ c. No, a national integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has not been adopted but is in the process of being developed.
- ☐ d. No, a national integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has not been adopted but violence against children is covered under another national strategy (e.g., another national strategy on the rights of the child).
- ☐ e. No, a national integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has not been adopted and actions to end violence against children are carried out without any national framework.
- ☐ f. No information.

Question 2.

Has a regional integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence been adopted in your country?

- ☐ a. Yes, a regional integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has been adopted (Please indicate when (which year): _____) (N.B. allow only numbers in answer).
- ☐ b. No, a regional integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has not been adopted.
- ☐ c. No, a regional integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has not been adopted but is in the process of being developed.
- ☐ d. No, a regional integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has not been adopted but violence against children is covered under another national/regional strategy (e.g., another strategy on the rights of the child).
- ☐ e. No, a regional integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence has not been adopted and actions to end violence against children are carried out without any national framework.
- ☐ f. No information.

Question 3.

Is the protection of children from violence part of a broader national strategy on the rights of the child and/or child protection in your country?

- ☐ a. Yes, the protection of children from violence is part of a broader national strategy on the rights of the child and/or child protection (Please indicate

when (which year) such a strategy was adopted: _____) (N.B. allow only numbers in answer).

☐ b. No, the protection of children from violence is not part of a broader national strategy on the rights of the child and/or child protection.

☐ c. No information.

Question 4.

Is the protection of children from violence part of a broader regional strategy on the rights of the child and/or child protection in your country?

☐ a. Yes, the protection of children from violence is part of a broader regional strategy on the rights of the child and/or child protection (Please indicate when (which year) such a strategy was adopted: _____) (N.B. allow only numbers in answer).

☐ b. No, the protection of children from violence is not part of a broader regional strategy on the rights of the child and/or child protection.

☐ c. No information.

Question 5.

What is the main challenge(s) in your country with regard to the adoption of, implementation of, evaluation of, and/or updating of the national/regional strategy to protect children from violence? (Multiple answers possible)

☐ a. Adopting a strategy.

☐ b. Implementing the strategy.

☐ c. Evaluating the strategy.

☐ d. Updating the strategy regularly and timely.

☐ e. Integrating children's views and opinions into the strategy.

☐ f. Guaranteeing sufficient funding to effectively reach the goals/objectives set forth in the strategy.

☐ g. Lack of sufficient knowledge about violence against children

☐ h. No information.

Question 6.

Does the Strategy or any other state initiative to protect children from violence in your country cover the following areas? (multiple answers possible):

☐ a. **Preventing** violence against children.

☐ b. **Detecting** violence against children.

☐ c. **Combatting** violence against children.

☐ d. **Addressing** children who display harmful behaviour.

☐ e. **Prosecuting** offenders committing violence against children.

☐ f. **Promoting** actions at national, regional and/or local level to tackle violence against children.

☐ g. **Safeguarding** the rights of children who are victims of violence.

☐ h. **Monitoring** the implementation of actions to tackle violence against children.

☐ i. **Reinforcing international co-operation** to protect children from violence.

☐ j. **Reinforcing national co-operation** to protect children from violence.

☐ k. No information.

Question 7.

Does the Strategy or any other state initiative to protect children from violence in your country cover all forms of violence, as defined by article 19 of the UNCRC and other applicable standards of the Council of Europe?[4] (Multiple answers possible)

☐ a. **Physical** violence against children

☐ b. **Corporal punishment**

☐ c. **Mental / psychological** violence against children

☐ d. **Injury and abuse** against children

☐ e. **Maltreatment** of children

☐ f. **Exploitation** of children

☐ g. **Sexual violence, including sexual abuse and exploitation** of children

☐ h. **Neglect** and **negligent treatment** of children

☐ i. **Bullying**

☐ j. **Cyber-bullying**

☐ k. **Domestic violence**

☐ l. **Witnessing** violence

☐ m. **Gender-based** violence

☐ n. **Gang violence**

☐ o. **Honour-related violence**

☐ p. **Child / forced marriage**

☐ q. **Female genital mutilation**

☐ r. **Trafficking** of children

☐ s. Violence against children **between peers**

☐ t. Other forms of **online violence** against children

☐ u. No information

Question 8.

The definition in article 19 UNCRC covers the exposure of children to violence in all settings, whether in the home or elsewhere. Does the Strategy or any other state initiative to protect children from violence in your country cover violence against children in all settings? (Multiple answers possible)

☐ a. Violence against children in the **home / private sphere / family**

☐ b. Violence against children in **school / educational settings**

[4] Such as the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention).

- ☐ c. Violence against children in **institutional / alternative care settings** (including family-based alternative care)
- ☐ d. Violence against children in **the judicial system / judicial institutions**
- ☐ e. Violence against children in **labour /work settings**
- ☐ f. Violence against children in **religious settings**
- ☐ g. Violence against children in **leisure activities**
- ☐ h. Violence against children in **sports**
- ☐ i. Violence against children in **cultural / artistic settings**
- ☐ j. Violence against children **online**
- ☐ k. Violence against children in **the media**
- ☐ l. Violence against children in **the streets**
- ☐ m. Violence against children in **the community**
- ☐ n. Violence against children **in the context of migration (e.g. trafficking, smuggling)**
- ☐ o. Violence against children **in the context of travel and tourism**
- ☐ p. No information

Question 9.

In accordance with the UNCRC, violence is understood to occur not only between adults and children but also between children. Does the Strategy or any other state initiative to protect children from violence in your country cover also violence against children committed by other children?

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. Yes, but only in certain specific settings, e.g. in school (Please indicate which: _____)
- ☐ c. No
- ☐ d. No information

Question 10.

Is there any law in your country obliging the government to regularly adopt a national or regional integrated strategy for the protection of children from violence?

- ☐ a. Yes, there is a law underpinning the integrated strategy on the protection of children from violence.
- ☐ b. Yes, the law obliges the government to adopt a strategy on the rights of the child which covers also violence against children.
- ☐ c. Yes, the law obliges the government to work for the protection of children from violence, but not necessarily through an integrated strategy.
- ☐ d. No, there is no law that obliges the government to work for the protection of children from violence.
- ☐ e. No information.

Question 11.

Does the **national legal framework** in your country adequately cover the **prevention** of violence and safeguarding of the rights of the child, including the following elements? (Multiple answers possible)

- ☐ a. Registering children immediately after birth.
- ☐ b. Setting a minimum age of marriage that is not too low and that is applicable to both boys and girls.
- ☐ c. Setting a minimum age for sexual consent.
- ☐ d. Including an age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education in the school curricula, aiming at preventing violence against children.
- ☐ e. Prohibiting employment into positions involving child supervision of persons convicted of violent, including sexual, offences against children.
- ☐ f. Developing programmes and measures to evaluate and prevent the risk of violence against children.
- ☐ g. Devising a system to vet fully those working **directly** for and with children, in any capacity, that ensures an appropriate balance between the child's right to protection from violence and the individual's right to a good name.
- ☐ h. Devising a system to vet fully those working **indirectly** for and with children, in any capacity, that ensures an appropriate balance between the child's right to protection from violence and the individual's right to a good name.
- ☐ i. Integrating in national laws an obligation to respect the right of the child to be heard and to attribute due weight to children's views.

Question 12.

Does the **national legal framework** in your country adequately cover the **prohibition** of violence against children, including the following elements? (Multiple answers possible)

- ☐ a. All forms of sexual violence and abuse, corruption of children and solicitation of children for sexual purposes.
- ☐ b. All forms of exploitation of children, including through prostitution, child sexual abuse material,[5] sexual exploitation in travel and tourism, trafficking, sale of children, illegal adoption, forced labour or services, slavery and practices similar to it, removal of organs, for any purpose or in any form.
- ☐ c. All forms of recruitment or involvement of children in armed conflict.
- ☐ d. All forms of exploitation of children through the use of technologies.
- ☐ e. All harmful traditional or customary practices, such as early or forced marriage, honour killing and female genital mutilation.
- ☐ f. Exposure of children to violent or harmful content, irrespective of its origin and through any medium.
- ☐ g. All forms of violence in residential institutions.
- ☐ h. All forms of violence in school.
- ☐ i. All forms of violence in other educational settings.
- ☐ j. All corporal punishment.

[5] Referred to as "child pornography" in CM/Rec(2009)10.

☐ k. All other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of children, both physical and psychological.

☐ l. Exposure of children to all forms of violence within the families and home.

Question 13.

Does the prohibition of all forms of violence against children, as set forth in the question above, adequately cover **all children** who find themselves on the territory of your country, **regardless of their legal status**?

☐ a. Yes.

☐ b. No.

☐ c. No information.

Question 14.

Does the **national legal framework** in your country adequately cover the possibility of holding **legal persons** (e.g. corporate actors) liable for offences related to violence against children?

☐ a. Yes, the national legal framework adequately covers the possibility of holding legal persons (e.g. corporate actors) liable for offences related to violence against children.

☐ b. Yes, the national legal framework covers the possibility of holding legal persons (e.g. corporate actors) liable for offences related to violence against children in some cases, but not yet adequately or fully.

☐ c. No, the national legal framework does not adequately cover the possibility of holding legal persons (e.g. corporate actors) liable for offences related to violence against children.

☐ d. No information.

Question 15.

Does the **national legal framework** in your country establish **adequate sanctions** for criminal offences related to violence against children, which take into account the gravity of these acts and their potential long-lasting consequences on child victims?

☐ a. Yes, the national legal framework establishes adequate sanctions for **all** criminal offences related to violence against children. Sanctioning practices adequately take into account the gravity of these acts and their potential long-lasting consequences on child victims.

☐ b. Yes, the national legal framework establishes adequate sanctions for **some** criminal offences related to violence against children.

☐ c. No, the national legal framework does not establish adequate sanctions for criminal offences related to violence against children.

☐ d. No information.

Question 16.

Does the **national legal framework** in your country establish sufficiently long periods of time for **statutes of limitations** for all offences relating to violence against children to allow the

efficient starting of proceedings after the child victim has reached the age of majority and which are commensurate with the gravity of the crime in question?

☐ a. Yes, the national legal framework establishes sufficiently long statutes of limitations to allow the efficient starting of proceedings after the child victim has reached the age of majority for **all offences relating to violence against children.**

☐ b. Yes, the national legal framework establishes sufficiently long statutes of limitations to allow the efficient starting of proceedings after the child victim has reached the age of majority, **but only for (certain) sexual offences against children.**

☐ c. No, the national legal framework does not establish sufficiently long statutes of limitations to allow the efficient starting of proceedings after the child victim has reached the age of majority.

☐ d. No, but a legal reform is underway to extend the statutes of limitations for offences relating to violence against children.

☐ e. No information.

Question 17.

Does any **law** in your country refer to the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers Recommendation **CM/Rec(2009)10** on Integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence?

☐ a. Yes (If yes, please provide reference to the law: _____)

☐ b. No.

☐ c. No information.

Question 18.

Does any **policy document** in your country refer to the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers Recommendation **CM/Rec(2009)10** on Integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence?

☐ a. Yes (If yes, please provide reference to the document: _____)

☐ b. No.

☐ c. No information.

Question 19.

Does a specific **Ministry or Government department** in your country have the main/lead responsibility for the work to protect children from violence?

☐ a. The Ministry of Justice

☐ b. The Ministry of Education

☐ c. The Ministry of Family affairs

☐ d. The Ministry of Social affairs

☐ e. The Ministry of Children

☐ f. The Ministry that has children/childhood in its mandate (Please provide the name of the Ministry: _____).

☐ g. Another Ministry (Please provide the name of the Ministry: _____).

☐ h. Another Government entity (Please provide the name of the entity: _____).

☐ i. No specific Ministry or Government department/entity has the main/lead responsibility for the work to protect children from violence.

☐ j. No information.

Question 20.

Which other **Ministries or Government departments** in your country are also involved in the work to protect children from violence?

☐ a. The Ministry of Justice

☐ b. The Ministry of Education

☐ c. The Ministry of Family affairs

☐ d. The Ministry of Social affairs

☐ e. The Ministry of Children

☐ f. The Ministry that has children/childhood in its mandate (Please provide the name of the Ministry: _____).

☐ g. Another Ministry (Please provide the name of the Ministry: _____).

☐ h. Another Government entity (Please provide the name of the entity: _____).

☐ i. The responsibility for the protection of children from violence differs among regions.

☐ j. No information.

Question 21.

Is the Strategy or any other state initiative to protect children from violence in your country based on **interagency co-operation** between different Ministries, Government departments and/or other actors?

☐ a. Yes, the work to protect children from violence is based on interagency co-operation between different Ministries, Government departments and/or other actors.

☐ b. Yes, the work to protect children from violence is, in theory, based on interagency co-operation between different Ministries, Government departments and/or other actors, but in practice the work is not carried out through interagency co-operation.

☐ c. No, the work to protect children from violence is not based on interagency co-operation between different Ministries, Government departments and/or

other actors, but in practice the work is carried out through interagency co-operation.

☐ d. No, the work to protect children from violence is not based on interagency co-operation between different Ministries, Government departments and/or other actors.

☐ e. No information.

Question 22.

Is the Strategy or any other state initiative to protect children from violence in your country based on a **multidisciplinary and multistakeholder approach**, bringing different professionals into the picture to respond to the child's needs (e.g. justice professionals, psycho-social support professionals, child carers and educational professionals, medical doctors, etc.)?

☐ a. Yes, the work to protect children from violence is based on a multidisciplinary and multistakeholder approach.

☐ b. Yes, the work to protect children from violence is, in theory, based on a multidisciplinary and multistakeholder approach, but in practice the work is not carried out through a multidisciplinary and multistakeholder approach.

☐ c. No, the work to protect children from violence is not based on a multidisciplinary and multistakeholder approach.

☐ d. No information.

Question 23.

Is the Government (or any other specifically mandated entity) responsible for **collecting data** on violence against children in your country?

☐ a. Yes, there is a specific entity (Government or other) responsible for collecting data on violence against children, and the data is regularly disaggregated and made public.

☐ b. Yes, there is a specific entity (Government or other) responsible for collecting data on violence against children, but the data is not made public.

☐ c. No, there is no specific entity (Government or other) responsible for collecting data on violence against children.

☐ d. No information.

Question 24.

Does the strategy to protect children from violence or any other strategy or policy covering violence against children in your country make specific mention of the following principles? (Multiple answers possible)

☐ a. Non-discrimination

☐ b. Gender equality

☐ c. Child participation

☐ d. Best interests of the child

☐ e. No information

Question 25.

Does the strategy to protect children from violence or any other strategy or policy covering violence against children in your country outline which **actors** are responsible and/or involved in actions to protect children from violence? (Multiple answers possible)

- ☐ a. Yes, one main co-ordinating/leading Government ministry / agency is mentioned
- ☐ b. Yes, several Government ministries or departments are mentioned
- ☐ c. Yes, public entities other than Government agencies are mentioned
- ☐ d. Yes, regional and local authorities are mentioned
- ☐ e. Yes, civil society actors are mentioned
- ☐ f. Yes, private actors are mentioned
- ☐ g. No, no specific actors are mentioned
- ☐ h. No information

Question 26.

Does the strategy to protect children from violence or any other strategy or policy covering violence against children in your country include **child participation**, whereby children should be empowered to and actively engaged in the planning, implementation and evaluation of actions and programmes to prevent violence?

- ☐ a. Yes, child participation is included in the strategy to protect children from violence, and covers planning, implementation and evaluation of actions and programmes.
- ☐ b. Yes, child participation is included in the strategy to protect children from violence, but does not comprehensively cover all elements of planning, implementation and evaluation of actions and programmes.
- ☐ c. Yes, child participation is included in the strategy to protect children from violence, but it is not specified when and how.
- ☐ d. No, child participation is not included in the strategy to protect children from violence, but in practice child participation is promoted and implemented.
- ☐ e. No, child participation is not included in the strategy to protect children from violence.
- ☐ f. No information

Question 27.

Implementing actions to prevent violence against children requires funding. Is there specific **funding** allocated to the **prevention and detection** of violence against children in your country?

- ☐ a. Yes, there is specific funding allocated to the prevention and detection of violence against children and it is adequate and sufficient to cover the costs of implementing all activities included in the strategy / aimed to tackle violence against children in a given time frame.
- ☐ b. Yes, there is specific funding allocated to the prevention and detection of violence against children, but it is not sufficient to cover the costs of

implementing all activities included in the strategy / aimed to tackle violence against children in a given time frame.

☐ c. Yes, there is funding allocated to the prevention and detection of violence against children, but it is intended for a broader set of programmes and measures, of which activities aimed at prevention and detection of violence against children from violence form part.

☐ d. No, there is no specific funding allocated to the prevention and detection of violence against children, and actors working on violence against children have to apply for punctual (public) funding or fund raise on their own.

☐ e. There is specific funding allocated that covers part of the activities included in the strategy, but actors working on violence against children have to complement the funding.

☐ f. No, there is no specific funding allocated to the prevention and detection of violence against children.

☐ g. No information.

Question 28.

Implementing actions to protect children from violence requires funding. Is there specific **funding** allocated to the **protection** of children from violence in your country?

☐ a. Yes, there is specific funding allocated to the protection of children from violence and it is adequate and sufficient to cover the costs of implementing all activities included in the strategy / aimed to tackle violence against children in a given time frame.

☐ b. Yes, there is specific funding allocated to the protection of children from violence, but it is not sufficient to cover the costs of implementing all activities included in the strategy / aimed to tackle violence against children in a given time frame.

☐ c. Yes, there is funding allocated to the protection of children from violence, but it is intended for a broader set of programmes and measures, of which activities aimed at protecting children from violence form part.

☐ d. No, there is no specific funding allocated to the protection of children from violence, and actors working on violence against children have to apply for punctual (public) funding or fund raise on their own.

☐ e. There is specific funding allocated that covers part of the activities included in the strategy, but actors working on violence against children have to complement the funding.

☐ f. No, there is no specific funding allocated to the protection of children from violence.

☐ g. No information.

Question 29.

Preventing violence and protecting children from violence requires awareness at all levels of the population. Does the strategy to protect children from violence or any other strategy or policy covering violence against children in your country include **awareness raising and education**?

- ☐ a. Yes, awareness raising and education are included in the strategy to protect children from violence.
- ☐ b. Yes, awareness raising and education are included in the strategy to protect children from violence, but only in a limited manner / in specific areas.
- ☐ c. No, awareness raising and education are not included in the strategy to protect children from violence.
- ☐ d. No information.

Question 30.

The training of professionals working directly and indirectly for and with children represents an important long-term investment for the prevention and protection of children from violence. Does the strategy to protect children from violence or any other strategy or policy covering violence against children in your country include **training** of all relevant professional groups?

- ☐ a. Yes, professional training is included in the strategy to protect children from violence and concerns all relevant professional groups.
- ☐ b. Yes, professional training is included in the strategy to protect children from violence and concerns all relevant professional groups, explicitly including also volunteers working for and with children.
- ☐ c. Yes, professional training is included in the strategy to protect children from violence, but does not concern all relevant professional groups.
- ☐ d. No, professional training is not included in the strategy to protect children from violence.
- ☐ e. No information.

Question 31.

Does the strategy to protect children from violence or any other strategy or policy covering violence against children in your country make mention of the role of the **media** (both online and offline media)?

- ☐ a. Yes, the role of the media is included in the strategy to protect children from violence and concerns both online and offline media.
- ☐ b. Yes, the role of the media is included in the strategy to protect children from violence, but it concerns only online media.
- ☐ c. Yes, the role of the media is included in the strategy to protect children from violence, but it concerns only offline media.
- ☐ d. No, the role of the media is not included in the strategy to protect children from violence.

Question 32.

Does the strategy to protect children from violence or any other strategy or policy covering violence against children in your country foresee / establish adequate **reporting mechanisms** for professionals on violence against children? (Multiple answers possible)

☐ a. Yes, reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist for professionals working **directly** with and for children and it is **mandatory** for them to report such violence.

☐ b. Yes, reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist for professionals working **indirectly** with and for children and it is **mandatory** for them to report such violence.

☐ c. Yes, reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist for professionals working **directly** with and for children but it is **voluntary** for them to report such violence.

☐ d. Yes, reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist for professionals working **indirectly** with and for children but it is **voluntary** for them to report such violence.

☐ e. Yes, reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist for **volunteers** working with and for children and it is **mandatory** for them to report such violence.

☐ f. Yes, reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist for **volunteers** working with and for children but it is **voluntary** for them to report such violence.

☐ g. No information.

Question 33.

Does the strategy to protect children from violence or any other strategy or policy covering violence against children in your country foresee / establish adequate **reporting mechanisms** on violence against children for children and/or the general public? (Multiple answers possible)

☐ a. Yes, child-friendly reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist **for children**.

☐ b. No, child-friendly reporting mechanisms for violence against children do not exist for children, but they are in the process of being set up.

☐ c. Yes, reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist **for the general public** but it is voluntary for them to report such violence.

☐ d. Yes, reporting mechanisms for violence against children exist for the general public and it is mandatory for them to report such violence.

☐ e. No, reporting mechanisms for violence against children do not exist for the general public.

☐ f. No information.

PART II – Qualitative part (open questions)

Question 34.

Could you please expand on the main challenge(s) in your country with regard to the adoption of, implementation of, evaluation of, and/or updating of the national/regional strategy to protect children from violence? (c.f. closed questions 3 and 4 in Part I)

Question 35.

With regard to the prevention, detection and protection of children from violence, could you please describe what you see as the main persisting (long-term) challenges in your country?

Question 36.

With regard to the prevention, detection and protection of children from violence, could you please describe what you see as the main emerging/new challenges in your country?

Question 37.

In what regards do you consider the Strategy (if any) or the work for the prevention, detection and protection of children from violence as effective? Please explain which aspects you consider to be **strengths** and why.

Question 38.

In what regards do you consider the Strategy (if any) or the work for the prevention, detection and protection of children from violence as ineffective? Please explain the **weaknesses** and why this is the case.

Question 39.

The elaboration of an effective strategy for the protection of children from violence depends, among others, on the **availability and proper analysis of data** at national, regional and local levels. Does your country have a national research agenda with regard to violence against children, and is data **collected systematically, analysed and disaggregated** per sex and per different forms of violence? Is such data **made public and disseminated** on a regular basis? Please explain.

Question 40.

How is the work on prevention, detection and protection of children from violence monitored and evaluated in your country? Please explain by whom and how, if it is done by an independent body, how often it is done, and if monitoring and evaluation results are made public.

Question 41.

Underreporting of violence against children is often mentioned as a major challenge.[6] Please explain if violence against children is estimated to be underreported in your country, what the main barriers to reporting violence are, and how they could be overcome. (C.f. for instance questions 32 and 33 in Part I)

Question 42.

Does your country have adequate and well-defined referral mechanisms in place for child victims of violence or children at risk of violence? Please explain any strengths and weaknesses in your country's referral system (e.g. effectiveness, accessibility, etc.).

Question 43.

States should take all appropriate measures to promote physical and psychological recovery and rehabilitation of child victims and witnesses of violence. Which are the services responsible for the recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration of child victims and witnesses of violence in your country? Do such services follow a multidisciplinary and interagency approach? Please explain any strengths and weaknesses in your country's system.

Question 44.

Does the justice system in your country provide sufficient/adequate child-friendly justice measures for child victims and child witnesses of violence?

Question 45.

What is the main **strength** of the justice system in your country with regard to child-friendly justice?

Question 46.

What is the main **weakness** of the justice system in your country with regard to child-friendly justice?

Question 47.

Does your country co-operate effectively with other Council of Europe member states (or more broadly) to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, to protect and assist child victims and witnesses of violence, and to investigate and prosecute criminal offences concerning violence against children? Please explain.

Question 48.

Would you like to add any details to any of the closed questions in Part I of the survey? Please clearly indicate the number(s) of any such question(s) before writing your additional remarks.

[6] See Simona Florescu (2022), Reporting mechanisms and practices concerning violence against children in several Council of Europe Member States, CDENF(2021)19rev.