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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
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Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF)

CDENF workplan 2025-2027

Overview of main activities, priorities and meetings

Information document prepared by the Secretariat

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CDENF workplan: Overview of main activities, priorities and meetings

Introduction

1. This document has been prepared by the CDENF Secretariat to guide the work of the Steering Committee by proposing working methods and timelines for its main activities under its current terms of reference, until end 2027. Under its Terms of Reference (2024-2027), the CDENF is instructed to carry out a number of **main tasks**, including overseeing the implementation of the Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027), and to complete a number of concrete **main deliverables**.

2. In addition to the work to be carried out by the CDENF at plenary level, this workplan also includes the timelines for the work of its subordinate bodies, the Committee of Experts for the prevention of violence (ENF-VAE), and the Committee of Experts on access to child-friendly justice through multidisciplinary and interagency services (ENF-JUS), which will be carrying out its tasks during the years 2025-2026.

3. This workplan will be regularly updated by the Secretariat in line with the progress of the work and any other relevant decisions and developments.

4. The appended table of deliverables and flow-chart are illustrating the achievements and proposed timelines for the work on the different main deliverables.

CDENF Priorities and Workplan for 2025-2027

2025			
Meeting	**Dates**	**Priority themes**	**Main deliverables and themes**
CDENF Bureau meeting	**Online, 5 February 2025**		- Preparation of the CDENF 11th plenary meeting
Ad-hoc ENF-VAE meeting	**Online, 10 February 2025**		- Examination of a preliminary draft recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education and approval for stakeholder consultation
11th CDENF plenary meeting	**Strasbourg 1-2 April 2025**	**AI, child-friendly justice**	- Exchange on the child rights impact assessment tool on artificial intelligence - Examination of the first report of the thematic review of CoE guidelines on child-friendly justice
Mid-term review of the Strategy for the Rights of the Child	**Strasbourg 3-4 April 2025**		- Stock-taking and forward-looking sessions on each of the 6 pillars of the Strategy for the Rights of the child
1st meeting of ENF-JUS	**Strasbourg, 14-15 May 2025**	**Multidisciplinary and interagency services**	- First exchange on elements as a basis for the preparation of a Draft Recommendation on multidisciplinary and interagency services for child-friendly justice, including operational guidelines
5th meeting of ENF-VAE	**Strasbourg, 4-5 June 2025**	**Prevention of Violence against children**	- Presentation of the results of the stakeholder consultation - Examination of the revised draft recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education
Ad-Hoc Bureau Meeting	**Online, 16 July 2025**		- Examination of two official requests for observers to the CDENF and/or its subcommittees - Examination of the state of play of the thematic review on the child-friendly justice guidelines'
CDENF Bureau meeting	**Paris, 25-26 September 2025**		- Preparation of the 12th CDENF plenary meeting
6th meeting of ENF-VAE	**Strasbourg, 7-8 October 2025**	**Prevention of Violence against children**	- Approval of a draft recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education - Examination of Elements for a draft Explanatory memorandum
2nd meeting of ENF-JUS	**Strasbourg, 15-16 October 2025**	**Multidisciplinary and interagency services**	- Examination of Elements for a first draft Recommendation on multidisciplinary and interagency services for child-friendly justice, including operational guidelines
CDENF Bureau meeting	**Online, 14 November 2025**		- Preparation of the 12th CDENF plenary meeting - Appointment of an ENF-VAE member

12th CDENF Plenary meeting	**Strasbourg, 19-21 November 2025**	**Violence against children, AI, child-friendly justice, participation of children**	- Launching of the CM Recommendation on the best interests of the Child in parental separation and in Care proceedings, and implementation tools (jointly with CDCJ) - Examination of the draft recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education - Exchange on the Elements of a draft Recommendation on multidisciplinary and interagency services for child-friendly justice, including operational guidelines - Examination of a draft child rights impact assessment tool on artificial intelligence - Continuation of the review of CoE guidelines on child-friendly justice - Launch of the work on the implementation review of Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on the participation of children and young people under the age of 18 and on the Guidelines for developing a national children's participation strategy - Presentation of the Report of the Mid-term Review Conference and examination and adoption of the draft implementation report of the Strategy for the rights of the child (2022-2027) for the period 2024-2025

2026			
Meeting	**Dates**	**Priority themes**	**Main deliverables and themes**
Ad-Hoc Bureau meeting	**Online, 9 February 2026**		- Preparation of the 13th CDENF plenary meeting - Appointment of an ENF-JUS member
7th meeting of ENF-VAE	**Strasbourg, 19 – 20 March 2026**	**Prevention of Violence against children**	- Examination and review of the draft recommendation and on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education and its explanatory memorandum, in the light of the discussions in the CDENF
CDENF Bureau meeting	**Paris, 9-10 April 2026**		- Preparation of the 13th CDENF plenary meeting
3rd meeting of ENF-JUS	**Strasbourg, 23 – 24 April 2026**	**Multidisciplinary and interagency services**	- Examination of a draft Recommendation on multidisciplinary and interagency services for child-friendly justice, including operational guidelines
13th CDENF Plenary meeting	**Strasbourg, 2 – 4 June 2026**	**Prevention of violence against children, Child-friendly justice, Child participation, Social media and children's mental health**	- Examination and approval of the draft recommendation on the protection of children against violence through age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education and its Explanatory memorandum - Presentation of the state of play on the drafting of a Recommendation on integrated services for children affected by violence. - Presentation of the state of play on the work on child participation - draft implementation review of Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on

			the participation of children and young people under the age of 18 and draft Guidelines for developing a national children's participation strategy - Continuation of the thematic review of the child-friendly justice guidelines - Exchange of views on the next CDENF Terms of Reference and Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2028-2033) - 4th June: thematic dialogue on social media and Children's Mental Health, in view of preparing a guidance note
8th meeting of ENF-VAE	**Strasbourg, 23 – 24 September 2026**	**Prevention of Violence against children**	- Hearing on harmful sexual behaviour by children - First exchange on a draft guidance on the prevention of sexual violence and harmful or risky behaviour by children
CDENF Bureau meeting	**Paris, 12 – 13 October 2026**		- Preparation of the 14th CDENF plenary meeting
4th meeting of ENF-JUS	**Strasbourg, 29 – 30 October 2026**	**Multidisciplinary and interagency services**	- Finalisation and approval of a draft Recommendation on integrated services for children affected by violence.
14th CDENF Plenary meeting	**Strasbourg, 25 – 27 November 2026**	**Violence against children, child-friendly justice, child participation**	- Approval of a recommendation integrated services for children affected by violence, in view of its transmission to the CM; - Review and possible adoption of the Report on the thematic review of the Guidelines on child-friendly justice; - Interactive exchange on child participation to inform the Implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on the participation of children and young people under the age of 18 and of the guidelines for developing a national children's participation strategy; - Presentation of the state of play on a draft guidance on the prevention of sexual violence and harmful or risky behaviour by children; - Presentation of the state of play of a child rights impact assessment tool on artificial intelligence; - Exchange of views on and/or adoption of a guidance note on the impact of Social Media on children.

2027			
Meeting	**Dates**	**Priority themes**	**Main deliverables and themes**
9th meeting of ENF-VAE	**Strasbourg, 9 – 10 March 2027**	**Prevention of Violence against children**	- Exchange on a draft guidance on the prevention of sexual violence and harmful or risky behaviour by children
CDENF Bureau meeting	**15 – 16 April 2027**		- Preparation of the 15th CDENF plenary meeting

15th CDENF Plenary meeting	**Strasbourg, 25-27 May 2027**		- Approval of the new CDENF Terms of Reference for 2028-2031; - Examination of the draft Strategy for the Rights of the Child for 2028 – 2033; - Thematic review of the Guidelines on child-friendly justice (tbc) ; - Examination of the draft implementation review report of Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on the participation of children and young people under the age of 18 and of draft guidelines for developing a national children's participation strategy; - Examination of the draft guidance on the prevention of sexual violence and harmful or risky behaviour by children; - Examination of the draft child rights impact assessment tool on artificial intelligence.
CDENF Bureau meeting	**21 –22 October 2027**		- Preparation of the 16th CDENF plenary meeting
10th meeting of ENF-VAE	**Strasbourg, 22 – 23 September 2027 (tbc)**	**Prevention of Violence against children**	Finalisation and approval of a draft guidance on the prevention of sexual violence and harmful or risky behaviour by children
16th CDENF Plenary meeting	**Strasbourg, 24-26 November 2027**		- Approval of the Strategy for the Rights of the Child for 2028 - 2033 - Adoption of the implementation review report of Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on the participation of children and young people under the age of 18 and of the guidelines for developing a national children's participation strategy - Approval of the guidance on the prevention of sexual violence and harmful or risky behaviour by children - Adoption of the child rights impact assessment tool on artificial intelligence

CDENF · Main deliverables 2024-2027

16 deliverables by deadline and strategic objective of the Strategy for the Rights of the Child

Freedom from violence · Equal opportunities and social inclusion · Safe use of technologies · Child-friendly justice · Giving a voice to every child · Crisis & emergency situations · Strategy implementation (cross-cutting)

Full colour = upcoming · lighter shade = completed · all deadlines on 31 December

2024

completed

No. 4

Feasibility study - age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education

No. 5

Implementation review - Recommendation CM/Rec (2009)10 on policy guidelines on integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence

No. 6

Mapping study - Mapping study on the rights of the child and artificial intelligence

Mapping study - children's access to quality mental health

Guide - Children's participation in decisions about their health

Mapping - Elimination of corporal punishment in Council of Europe member States

Study - Children as defenders of human rights: a study on Council of Europe member states

2025

completed

No. 1

Recommendation CM/Rec (2025)4 on the protection of the rights and best interests of the child in parental separation proceedings and its Explanatory Memorandum

No. 2

Recommendation CM/Rec (2025)5 on the protection of the rights and best interests of the child in care proceedings and its Explanatory Memorandum

No. 3

Implementation review - Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)11 on effective guardianship for unaccompanied and separated children in the context of migration

No. 8 *P2*

Mid-term review of the Strategy (2022 – 2027)

No. 16 *P1*

Thematic guidance note – Safeguarding children from the risks of accessing online pornographic content

2026

now

No. 9

Recommendation to member states on protecting children from violence through comprehensive sexuality education

No. 12

Recommendation on multidisciplinary child-friendly justice services

No. 16

Thematic guidance note on Children and social media

2027

upcoming

No. 14 *P2*

Guidance on preventing harmful behaviour by children

No. 7

Child rights impact assessment tool on AI

No. 13

Thematic review of child-friendly justice guidelines

No. 10 *P2*

Review of Rec (2012)2 on child participation

No. 11 *P2*

Guidelines for national participation strategies

No. 15 *P1*

Final Strategy report & advice on a new Strategy

CDENF deliverables
Flow chart 2025 - 2027

