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COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

CDENF/Bu(2025)PV01
21 February 2025

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CDENF)

14th Bureau meeting

Online, 5 February 2025

Meeting report

1. Opening of the meeting

1. The Chair, Ružica Boškić (Slovenia), opened the meeting and welcomed all Bureau members to the meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business

2. The Bureau adopted the agenda as it appears in Appendix I. The list of participants appears in Appendix II.

3. Information by the Secretariat

3. The Bureau was welcomed by Agnes von Maravić, who will assume the responsibilities of Head of the Children's Rights Division as of 1 March 2025.

4. The Bureau took note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the new online shared space, which aims to facilitate the work processes by allowing the sharing of and collaboration on Bureau documents in a secure online space. Additional shared spaces for the CDENF plenary documents and for the two Committee of Experts are currently being prepared.

5. Bureau members welcomed the development of these tools and expressed their appreciation for the expert technical support provided by the Secretariat and the IT Division in accessing the new shared Bureau space. The Bureau members expressed a preference that the documents of the plenary meetings should remain fully accessible to all CDENF Delegations in the shared space until the end of the current mandate of the CDENF in 2027, before being archived due to the limited storage space available.

4. CDENF workplan: Overview of main activities, priorities and follow-up to the Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027)

6. The Bureau took note of the updated workplan for CDENF for the preparation of deliverables until the end of 2025.

7. The Bureau examined the CDENF's terms of reference (2024-2027), expressed their appreciation of the very substantial progress achieved in 2024, and made suggestions for the possible adjustment of deliverables to be completed during the second biennium (2026-2027). In particular, the Bureau would find beneficial to extend the deadline for deliverable 7 (Child Rights Impact Assessment Tool for AI) by one year, notably to align this work stream with the relevant work of the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI). They further considered that an extension of the deadlines for main deliverables 10 and 11 (relating to the participation of children and young people) until the end of 2027 would allow to take full advantage of synergies created with relevant cooperation activities being implemented in the Children's Rights Division as of 2026. Taking into account the overall work program, the Bureau also proposed to reduce the number of thematic guidance notes to be prepared on topical issues under the Strategy (main deliverable 17) from one guidance note per year to one guidance note per biennium.

8. The Bureau also exchanged on deliverable 15 (Implementation review report on Recommendation Rec(2005)5 on the Rights of Children living in residential institutions) and considered that it might be more appropriate to reframe this work in view of the developments in police and practice in this area, with a view to promoting the rights of children in alternative care more broadly. A reflection on this issue could be held in the process of preparing the next Strategy for the Rights of the Child (main deliverable 16).

9. The Bureau took note of the draft agenda of the [mid-term review conference](#) of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027), hosted by the Luxembourgish Presidency to the Committee of Ministers in Strasbourg on 3-4 April 2025, and appreciated the comprehensive and diverse approach adopted, with thematic sessions covering all six priority areas of the Strategy. The Bureau welcomed the fact that children would be participating in several sessions. Invitations would be sent shortly, and the Secretariat already reached out to national Delegations in view of supporting the arrangement of accommodation, where required.

5. 11th CDENF Plenary meeting (Strasbourg, 1-2 April 2025)

10. The Bureau considered and approved the preliminary draft agenda of the 11th plenary meeting to be held in Strasbourg on 1-2 April 2025.

6. CDENF Subordinate bodies and groups

6.1 Committee of Experts on the prevention of Violence (ENF-VAE)

11. The Bureau took note of the update provided by the Secretariat on ongoing work regarding the drafting of a Recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education to strengthen responses for inter-alia preventing and combating violence against children (CDENF main deliverable 9). A preliminary draft Recommendation would be examined by the Committee of Experts during an online meeting on 10 February 2025, before being sent for written comments to CDENF members, participants, observers, and to other selected stakeholders.

12. The Bureau examined the proposals received from national Delegations following the call for nominations to fill the vacant position in the ENF-VAE, commended the excellent qualifications of all candidates, and, based on the complementarity of expertise already present among ENF-VAE, agreed to propose Marzenka Anne Krejcirik (Luxembourg) as new member of the ENF-VAE. The Bureau instructed

the Secretariat to draw the attention of all CDENF members to the possibility of sending national representatives, at their own expense, to participate in the work of the ENF-VAE.

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

13. The Bureau took note and endorsed the concept note and workplan proposal prepared by the Secretariat for examination by the ENF-JUS during its first plenary meeting (Strasbourg, 13-14 May 2025).

7. Other CDENF main deliverables

7.1 Thematic Guidance Note: Safeguarding children from the risks of accessing online pornographic content

14. The Bureau reviewed the Thematic Guidance Note on Safeguarding children from the risks of accessing online pornographic content in the light of the last comments submitted by Delegations by 15 January 2025 and agreed to submit the revised text to the CDENF for approval in written proceedings.

8. Update on topical issues from Bureau member

15. Bureau members shared information on topical national activities, notably in the area of education (Norway), access to justice for children (Norway, Finland), and child participation (Romania).

9. Follow-up on transversal activities

16. The Bureau welcomed the expression of interest by Célia Chamiça (Portugal) following the call during the 10th plenary meeting and proposed her as the new CDENF reference person for new technologies, including AI.

17. The Bureau welcomed the establishment of a new Committee of Experts on access to origins ([CJ-OR](#)) under the authority of the European Committee on Legal Cooperation (CDCJ), with the [mandate](#) to prepare a new recommendation on access of persons conceived by gamete donation to information on their origins by the end of 2026, to which the CDENF has been granted observer status. The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to launch a call for expression of interest among national CDENF Delegates to follow this important strand of work on behalf of the CDENF and to report back to the CDENF during plenary meetings (two meetings in Strasbourg in 2025: 3-5 June and 28-30 October 2025, and two meetings in 2026).

18. The Bureau took note of the update provided on the state of play of other transversal activities currently carried out within other sectors of the Council of Europe, notably, by the ad-hoc multidisciplinary group on the environment ([GME](#)), the Committee on Artificial Intelligence ([CAI](#)), the CDCJ limited working group on migration ([CDCJ-MIG](#)) and the Committee of Experts on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics ([ADI-SOGIESC](#)).

10. Date and place of next meetings

19. The Bureau took note of the following dates of meetings:

CDENF Bureau meetings:

25-26 September 2025 (Strasbourg or online, to be confirmed)

CDENF Plenary meetings:

- 11th plenary meeting: Strasbourg, 1-2 April 2025 followed by a midterm review conference on 3-4 April 2025
- 12th plenary meeting: Strasbourg, 18-20 November 2025, with a launch of the Recommendations and implementation tools on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings, jointly with the CDCJ, on 18 November 2025 (tbc).

11. Approval of meeting report

20. The meeting report was circulated shortly after the meeting and approved by all Bureau members via written procedure.

Appendix 1 – Agenda

Agenda Item	Working documents Reference documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	CDENF/Bu(2025)OJ1
3. Information by the Secretariat	
<p>4. CDENF workplan: Overview of main activities, priorities and follow-up to the Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027)</p> <p><u>Required action:</u> The Bureau is invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take note of the revised workplan for CDENF submission at the 11th plenary meeting. • Take note of the state of play of the preparation of the Mid-term evaluation Conference of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (Strasbourg, 3-4 April 2024) 	<p><u>Working documents</u> CDENF workplan 2024-2025 - CDENF(2025)01 prov</p> <p><u>Reference documents</u> Terms of Reference of the CDENF for 2024-2027 Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027)</p>
<p>5. 11th CDENF Plenary meeting (Strasbourg, 1-2 April 2025)</p> <p><u>Required action:</u> The Bureau is invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine and approve the draft agenda of the 11th plenary meeting of the CDENF. 	<p><u>Working document</u> Preliminary Draft agenda of the 11th CDENF plenary meeting - CDENF(2025)OJ1prov</p>
6. CDENF Subordinate bodies and groups	
<p>6.1 Committee of Experts on the prevention of Violence (ENF-VAE)</p> <p><u>Required action:</u> The Bureau is invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take note of the update on ongoing work regarding the drafting of a Recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education to strengthen responses for inter-alia preventing and combating violence against children (<i>Main deliverable 9</i>) • Propose one member among the experts proposed by Delegations following the call for nominations to fill the vacant position in the ENF-VAE 	<p><u>Working documents</u> Preliminary draft Recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive Sexuality Education ENF-VAE(2025)02 (restricted)</p> <p>List of nominations for the Committee of Experts on the prevention of violence -CDENF-Bu(2025)01 (restricted)</p> <p><u>Reference documents</u> Terms of reference of the ENF-VAE Working methods and workplan - ENF-VAE(2025)01</p>

6.2	Committee of Experts on access to child-friendly justice through multidisciplinary and interagency services (ENF-JUS)	<p>Reference document Terms of Reference of the ENF-JUS (2025-2026)</p>
	<p><u>Required action:</u> The Bureau is invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat. • To examine and provide possible comments on the draft Concept note and proposed workplan for the ENF-JUS 	<p>Draft Concept note and proposed workplan for ENF-JUS - ENF-JUS(2025)1</p> <p>Barnahus: a European Journey Mapping study on multidisciplinary and interagency child-friendly justice models responding to violence against children in Council of Europe member states</p>
7.	Other CDENF main deliverables	
7.1	<p>Thematic Guidance Note: Safeguarding children from the risks of accessing online pornographic content</p> <p><u>Required action:</u> the Bureau is invited to examine and finalise the Guidance Note in view of last comments and in view of submission to the CDENF for approval in written proceedings.</p>	<p><u>Working documents</u> Compilation of last Comments received on the draft Guidance note following the 10th plenary meeting - CDENF(2025)02 (restricted)</p> <p><u>Reference documents</u> Concept note for a thematic exchange on Safeguarding children from the risks of accessing online pornographic content - CDENF(2024)05 Report of the thematic exchange on Safeguarding children from the risks of accessing online pornographic content - CDENF(2024)11</p>
8.	Update on topical issues from Bureau members	
	<p>The Bureau members are invited to share information of topical activities.</p>	
9.	Follow-up on transversal activities	
	<p>Designation of reference person(s) for transversal issue</p>	
10.	Date and place of the next meeting	
11.	Approval of the meeting report	

APPENDIX II – List of participants

Bureau Members

Ružica Boškić (Chair of CDENF)
Secretary
Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities
Slovenia

Solvor Bäcklund (Vice-Chair of CDENF)
Senior Advisor
The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs
Norway

Alfredo Ferrante
Chief of Service
Department for Family Policies
Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers
Italy

Marjo Malja
Senior Ministerial Adviser, Social Affairs
Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
Finland

Rareș Petru Achiriloaie
President of the National Authority for the Protection of Children Rights and Adoption
Romania

DGII – Directorate General of Democracy – Children's Rights Division

Agnes von Maravić,
Executive Secretary to the Lanzarote Committee, Children's rights division

Secretariat of the Steering Committee for the right of the child - Children's Rights Division

Katrin Uerpmann
Secretary of the CDENF

Anne Kayser-Attuil
Co-Secretary of the CDENF

Justine Vizier
Project officer

Audrey Winum
Project Assistant

Paul Benedict Lee
Trainee