

Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU)

6th plenary meeting, 7-8 July 2025

In-person, Strasbourg

Meeting Room 11, Palais, Council of Europe

Draft Agenda

Monday, 7 July	
9:30 - 10:00	 Opening remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Agnes von Maravić, Head of the Children's Rights Division and CoE Coordinator for the Rights of the Child</i>- <i>Jennifer Schuetze-Reymann, Special Advisor, Council of Europe Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU)</i>
10:00 - 10:30	 Tour de table: <p><i>Members and participants will briefly introduce themselves, share key initiatives undertaken by their country or organisation to support children of Ukraine since the last tour de table in January 2025, and highlight current challenges.</i></p>
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 - 12:00	 Tour de table (continued)

12:00 - 12:15	<p>+ Debrief of the work of the Dialogue Group on Transnational Procedures and Guardianship followed by a discussion on the continuation into the second phase</p> <p><i>Session opened and moderated by Delphine Leneutre, Co-Chair of the Dialogue Group on Transnational Procedures and Guardianship (TPG), Legal Officer UNHCR</i></p>
12:15 - 12:30	<p>+ Debrief of the work of the Dialogue Group on Psychological Support and Trauma-informed Care followed by a discussion on the continuation into the second phase</p> <p><i>Session opened and moderated by Jean-Claude Legrand, CGU Facilitator, Independent Child Rights Expert</i></p>
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 - 14:00	<p>+ Spotlight Presentation: Preventing Trafficking and Online Exploitation of Displaced Children of Ukraine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Petya Nestorova, Head of Division and Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings</i> <p>Followed by a discussion</p> <p><i>Session moderated by TBD.</i></p>
14:00 - 14:30	<p>+ Spotlight Presentation: Access to Education, Information Campaign Packages for Parents and Unity Hubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Nadiia Kuzmychova, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine</i> <p>Followed by a discussion</p> <p><i>Session moderated by TBD.</i></p>
14:30 - 15:00	<p>+ Special Update on Ukraine’s “Better Care Reform” supported by the European Commission and UNICEF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Kateryna Novokhatnia, First Deputy Head of the Coordination Center on Family Upbringing and Childcare</i> <p>Followed by a discussion</p> <p><i>Session moderated by Jean-Claude Legrand, CGU Facilitator, Independent Child Rights Expert</i></p>
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee break

<p>15:30 - 16:30</p>	<p>✚ Workshop: Ethical and Trauma-informed Journalism: Recognising Harm, Human-rights Based Responses and Action Steps</p> <p>Facilitators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Larysa Denysenko, Ukrainian writer, lawyer, human rights activist, TV and radio presenter, member of PEN Ukraine.</i> - <i>Yulia Surkova, freelance Journalist reporting from Ukraine with expertise on trauma-informed reporting.</i>
<p>16:30 - 17:30</p>	<p>Screening of short film: RETURN DATE UNKNOWN</p> <p>Followed by a discussion with the director Tymur Tsaplienko.</p> <p><i>Discussion moderated by TBD.</i></p>
<p>17:45 - 19:00</p>	<p>Cocktail reception – Parliamentarians’ Bar</p>

Tuesday, 8 July

9:30 - 10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Follow-up action to the CGU's Special Hearing on Pre-conditions for Safe Return of Children of Ukraine from CoE Member States<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Iryna Postolovska, Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine for European Integration- Morten Kjaerum, Lead Expert and Moderator of the Special Hearing <p>Session opened and moderated by Morten Kjaerum, Lead Expert and Moderator of the Special Hearing</p>
10:00 - 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Updates On the Idea of Developing a Process to Strengthen Direct Bilateral Cooperation in Return Decisions and Outline of the Work<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Peter McEleavy, Professor, Independent Expert on International Family Law- Aude Fiorini, Independent Expert on EU & Comparative Private International Law & International Family/Child Law <p>Session moderated by Morten Kjaerum, Lead Expert and Moderator of the Special Hearing</p>
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 - 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Final Review of Checklist for Host States<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mariana Ianachevici, Child Protection Consultant, Member of the UN Committee of the Rights of the Child <p>Session moderated by Morten Kjaerum, Lead Expert and Moderator of the Special Hearing</p>
12:00 - 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Presentation of the Mapping Study on the Practice of Establishing Focal Points Coordinating All Actions and Decisions Concerning Children of Ukraine<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ton Liefwaard, Full Professor of Children's Rights, Head of the Department of Child Law and Health Law and the UNICEF Chair in Children's Rights at Leiden University- Laura Sofia Marchetti Cardenas, Education and research staff member at Leiden University <p>Session moderated by Morten Kjaerum, Lead Expert and Moderator of the Special Hearing</p>
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch break

14:00 - 15:00	<p> Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the situation of the children of Ukraine: presentation of her mandate & her first fact-finding mission to Ukraine followed by discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Thórdís Kolbrún Reykfjörð Gylfadóttir</i> <p><i>Session moderated by Jennifer Schuetze-Reymann, Special Advisor to CGU/ Special Envoy.</i></p>
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 - 16:30	<p> Working session: Stock-taking of the work of the CGU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Looking back at the first phase: achievements of the CGU</i> • <i>Looking ahead at the second phase: opportunities and areas for improvements</i> <p><i>Session opened by Jennifer Schuetze-Reymann and moderated by Carsten Schulz and Magali Bernard Partners at KEK - CDC (Analysis, Consulting, Evaluation)</i></p>
16:30 - 17:00	<p> Feedback survey</p>
17:00 - 17:30	<p> Wrapping up: final remarks, concrete takeaways, and proposed way forward</p> <p><i>Session moderated by Jennifer Schuetze-Reymann, Special Advisor to CGU and Jean-Claude Legrand, CGU Facilitator</i></p>

Wednesday, 9 July

9:00 - 17:00	<p><i>A separate agenda will be disseminated for the 1 day Conference composed of two parts:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>High-level stock-taking session on the situation of the children of Ukraine: Council of Europe actions &</i> - <i>Special Thematic Hearing on the impact of war on children with disabilities: risks, challenges and ways to mitigate harm</i>
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