



Strasbourg, 23 May 2024

CJ/ENF-ISE(2024)01

## **Committee of Experts on the Rights and the Best interests of the Child in Parental Separation and in Care Proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE)**

**CJ/ENF-ISE: Working methods and workplan for 2024**

## **CJ/ENF-ISE: WORKING METHODS AND WORKPLAN FOR 2024**

1. The main tasks and deliverables of the Committee of Experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE) are set out in its [terms of reference for 2024](#), as adopted by the Committee of Ministers.
2. Following the approval by the CDCJ and CDEF of the draft Recommendation on the protection of the rights and best interests of the child in parental separation proceedings and the subsequent adoption of its explanatory memorandum on 16 November 2023, the Committee of Experts will focus in 2024 on the elaboration of the draft Recommendation on the protection of the rights and best interests of the child in care proceedings (deliverable 1 of its terms of reference) and the development of implementation tools for practitioners on both parental separation and care proceedings (deliverable 2 of its terms of reference). In addition to the above deliverables which are included in its terms of reference, the CJ/ENF-ISE proposed to also prepare child-friendly materials accompanying both draft Recommendations. The preparation of these additional materials is subject to the completion of the draft Recommendations and of the availability of appropriate funding.
3. Under its mandate, the CJ/ENF-ISE shall hold two three-days meetings in 2024. In accordance with Article 14 (d) of Appendix 1 to Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods, time- and cost-efficiency shall be a guiding principle for committee work, and the committee shall prioritise best possible use of digital technologies including for meetings and written consultations.
4. In line with Article 14 (c) of Appendix 1 to Resolution CM/Res(2021)3, the CJ/ENF-ISE will be supported by consultants, who will provide necessary background research and support in the drafting process, as appropriate.

**Appendix****Workplan  
(last update: 23 May 2024)**

<b>Activities/task</b>	<b>DATES / PLACES</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
- Elaboration of draft implementation tool(s) on parental separation proceedings	January – March 2024	Secretariat/Consultant
<b>9<sup>th</sup> meeting of CJ/ENF-ISE</b> - Review of the draft recommendation on care proceedings and its draft explanatory memorandum - First examination of the preliminary draft implementation tool on parental separation	20-22 March 2024 Strasbourg	CJ/ENF-ISE
- Elaboration of draft implementation tool on care proceedings	April-May 2024	Secretariat/Consultant
- Review of the preliminary draft implementation tool on parental separation proceedings	April – May 2024	Secretariat/Consultant
<b>Written consultation of CJ/ENF-ISE, CDCJ, CDENF and selected stakeholders on the draft recommendation on care proceedings and its draft explanatory memorandum</b>	May– July 2024	CDCJ / CDENF Selected stakeholders
- Progress review	CDENF: 28-30 May CDCJ: 11-13 June 2024 Strasbourg	CDCJ / CDENF (plenary meetings)
<b>Written consultation of CJ/ENF-ISE on the draft implementation tools on parental separation and care proceedings</b>	June – July 2024	CJ/ENF-ISE
- Review of the draft recommendation on care proceedings and its draft explanatory memorandum in light of the comments made by CDCJ and CDENF delegations and selected stakeholders. - Review of the implementation tools on parental separation and care proceedings in light of the comments made by CJ/ENF-ISE	August – Early September 2024	Secretariat/Consultants
<b>10<sup>th</sup> meeting of CJ/ENF-ISE</b> - Review and finalisation of the draft recommendation on care proceedings and its draft explanatory memorandum	14-16 October 2024 Strasbourg	CJ/ENF-ISE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Finalisation of the implementation tools on parental separation and care proceedings</li> <li>- Communication of the finalised documents to the CDCJ and CDENF for approval/adoption</li> </ul>		
<p><b>4<sup>th</sup> CDCJ and CDENF Joint Bureau meeting or CDCJ/CDENF consultation meeting (if necessary)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final review of the draft recommendation on care proceedings</li> </ul>	<p>Mid November 2024 (half day – date to be confirmed) Online</p>	<p>CDCJ and CDENF Bureaus or national Delegations</p>
<p><b>CDCJ and CDENF joint meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Approval of the draft recommendation on care proceedings</li> <li>- Adoption of the draft explanatory memorandum on care proceedings</li> <li>- Adoption of the implementation tools on parental separation and care proceedings</li> </ul>	<p>4 December 2024 Strasbourg (CDENF) and (CDCJ) online</p>	<p>CDCJ and CDENF</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communication of the draft recommendations on parental separation and on care proceedings to the Committee of Ministers adoption</li> <li>- Submission of the explanatory memoranda to the Committee of Ministers for information</li> </ul>	<p>Early 2025</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>