



CONFERENCE OF INGOs  
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

## **Terms of Reference - CINGO Committee Proposal Form**

**approved by the General Assembly on 10 April 2024**

**1. Name of Proposed New Committee:**

**Civil Society Committee on the Rights of the Child in Europe**

***Protecting and promoting the well-being of children of all ages***

**2. Name of proposer/s:**

**Herminio Correa**

**(with Ruth Allen)**

**3. The INGO you represent:**

**Parents International**

**(International Federation of Social Workers)**

**4. Your email address**

[civilsocietycommittee.rc@gmail.com](mailto:civilsocietycommittee.rc@gmail.com)

[herminio.correa@gmail.com](mailto:herminio.correa@gmail.com)

[ruth.allen@basw.co.uk](mailto:ruth.allen@basw.co.uk)

**(Please use all three emails for correspondence)**

**5. Summary of the purpose of the committee: (no more than 100 words)**

To promote children and adolescents' human, social and other rights across Europe through contributing civil society perspectives and influencing relevant workstreams within Council of Europe (CoE).

To ensure children and adolescent rights and voices are raised across the work of CINGO including through joint work with other CINGO committees and INGOs.

To influence policy work of CINGO to be inclusive of the rights and needs of diverse children and adolescents, including those that are most marginalised (e.g. children and adolescents affected by migration, homelessness, unmet health needs, lack of education, discrimination, racism, risk of abuse, violence and war).

6. Date of proposal: 5 March 2024

7. Are you seeking a new/changed mandate for an existing committee? **Yes**

If yes, what is the current name of the committee?

Rights of the Child

8. Proposed Committee Chair Name, INGO and email address

Herminio Correa, Parents International, [herminio.correa@gmail.com](mailto:herminio.correa@gmail.com)

Proposed Committee Vice/Deputy Chair Name, INGO and email address

Dr Ruth Allen, International Federation of Social Workers, [ruth.allen@basw.co.uk](mailto:ruth.allen@basw.co.uk)

9. Every new committee must include members from at least 5 different INGO Heads of Delegation to CINGO and must have at least 7 members in total. Please list below the names and role of INGO representatives and any non-CINGO experts forming the new committee.

Heads of Delegation

Julien Khayat, Eurocef - [khayat.julien@gmail.com](mailto:khayat.julien@gmail.com)

Ioannis Papparigopoulos, International Council on Shared Parenting,  
[ioannispapparigopoulos@gmail.com](mailto:ioannispapparigopoulos@gmail.com)

Andria Neocleous, Hope for Children, [neocleous.a@uncrcpc.org](mailto:neocleous.a@uncrcpc.org)

Herminio Correias, Parents International - [herminio.correa@gmail.com](mailto:herminio.correa@gmail.com)

Ruth Allen, International Federation of Social Workers – [ruth.allen@basw.co.uk](mailto:ruth.allen@basw.co.uk)

Daria Dziewit [daria.dziewit@atd-fourthworld.org](mailto:daria.dziewit@atd-fourthworld.org)

Other experts/committee members

Michel Grangeat – Eurocef [michel.grangeat@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:michel.grangeat@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)

Hugo Roca – Eurocef [hugo.roca.eurocef@gmail.com](mailto:hugo.roca.eurocef@gmail.com)

Tapio Koivula – International Council of Shared Parenting [tapiokoivula@hotmail.com](mailto:tapiokoivula@hotmail.com)

Pierre Klein – ATD Fourth World [pierre.klein@atd-quartmonde.org](mailto:pierre.klein@atd-quartmonde.org)

Alex KAMAROTOS – Defence for children [alex.kamarotos@defenceforchildren.org](mailto:alex.kamarotos@defenceforchildren.org)

Isuf Halimi – Europe Centre for Human Rights [halimisuf@gmail.com](mailto:halimisuf@gmail.com)

Kate Philbrick OBE – Children of Prisoners Europe (COPE) – Scotland –  
[katephilbrick@uwclub.net](mailto:katephilbrick@uwclub.net)

Heleen Jansen, International Alliance of Women (IAW), [heleen.jansen@orange.fr](mailto:heleen.jansen@orange.fr)

Marie-Jeanne Schmitt – Children of Prisoners Europe (COPE), Board Member –

Luxembourg – [majeschmitt@gmail.com](mailto:majeschmitt@gmail.com)  
Margaret Tuite – Defence for Children International (DCI) – [margaret.tuite@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.tuite@gmail.com)

**10. All CINGO committees should relate and contribute to the work of at least one significant workstream within the Council of Europe. Which Council of Europe committee/s of other activity/ies will your committee primarily contribute to?**

**Council of Europe Steering Committee on the Rights of the Child - CDENF**

- **The Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2022-2027**
- **Committee of experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE),**

**Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (the Lanzarote Committee)**

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

**Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and specifically the General Rapporteur on child participation of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development**

**European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) / Advisory Council on Youth Istanbul Convention and GREVIO**

**11. How can new members find out about and join the committee?**

New members can contact the Chair via the following email addresses

[herminio.correa@gmail.com](mailto:herminio.correa@gmail.com) – Chair

[ruth.allen@basw.co.uk](mailto:ruth.allen@basw.co.uk) – vice-Chair

[civilsocietycommittee.rc@gmail.com](mailto:civilsocietycommittee.rc@gmail.com) – Chair

**12. Please summarise how the new committee contribute to and advance the priorities and influence of CINGO and Civil Society within the Council of Europe (CoE)? (no more than 200 words)**

The rights, needs and contributions to society of children and adolescents – particularly those who are most marginalised by poverty, discrimination and other structural disadvantage - need to thread through all the work of CINGO. Access to services, opportunities and civil society participation should be for all ages. Our youngest community members most often have the least power and access to being heard within political and civil society structures. We need to be their advocates.

The proposed CINGO committee builds on the first three years of a children’s rights mandate, extends the ambition of that committee, focuses more on cross-committee and cross-thematic working (for instance, children in relation to migration; technology/AI; sport; environment; gender; social cohesion) and consolidates the progress made in influencing CoE bodies.

The Council of Europe strategy for children and young people’s rights (through CDENF, CJ/ENF, the Lanzarote Committee and a new Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine) has wide ambitions that can only be realised with strong, multi-nation contribution from civil society. CINGO needs to complement the work of individual NGO Experts within these Committees with collective

contribution via this participant CINGO committee.

Finally, having a children and adolescent rights committee is a strong signal within CoE and externally that CINGO is oriented towards creating a better, more just and inclusively democratic Europe for the next generation as well as for this.

### **New committee initial work plan for first year (April 2024 – March 2025)**

**Title: Civil Society Committee on the Rights of the Child in Europe**

***Protecting and promoting the well-being of children of all ages***

#### **Cross cutting themes/ways of working**

Throughout this workplan, the CINGO committee on the rights of the child will adopt principles and ways of working that include:

- Seeking the direct involvement or input of children, young people and/or young adults with recent relevant experiences within our work wherever this is possible and relevant (e.g. through choice of contributors to events or presentations, voice of young people in consultations)
- Focusing on the specific contribution of civil society and its importance in partnership or liaison with statutory and political bodies
- Ensuring the work of the committee focuses on influence, relevant challenge and impact within the Council of Europe (CoE) (particularly but limited to CDENF), but also proposes action where CoE political and formal bodies' priorities have gaps or insufficiency.
- Ensuring the rights, freedoms and voices of children and young people are promoted through liaison with other CINGO committees and relevant other parts of CoE, working in a transversal and collaborative manner.
- Focusing on tangible actions that can make a real difference to children and young people.

<b>Council of Europe and/or CINGO priority topic/area of work</b>	<b>CINGO Committee objective</b>	<b>Summary of activities April – Oct 2024</b>	<b>Summary of activities Nov 2024 – Mar 2025</b>
<b>1. Comité directeur pour les droits de l'enfant/Steering Committee on Children's Rights (CDENF) <sup>1</sup> Strategic Objective 4:</b> Child-friendly justice for all children. Current mandate (to 31 December 2025) includes work of Committee of Experts	To contribute Civil Society expertise to the drafting of the recommendation/s and implementation tool/s produced by CJ/ENF-ISE through committee and wider consultation and through presence in CJ/ENF-ISE sessions x2 in 2024.	To consult CINGO members and contribute views particularly with a focus on the rights and needs of older children subject to care proceeding and in transition to adulthood  To focus also on sub-topic of good practices	To continue to contribute to the final drafting of recommendations to Committee of Ministers by CJ/ENF-ISE set to conclude by 31 12 24  To include organising a webinar on the draft CJ/ENF-ISE Recommendation to

<sup>1</sup> Comité directeur pour les droits de l'enfant (CDENF) est l'organe intergouvernemental du Conseil de l'Europe chargé avec des activités normatives dans le domaine des droits de l'enfant.

<p>on the Rights and the Best Interests of the Child in Parental Separation and in Care Proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE) - under supervision of CDENF, and Comité européen de coopération juridique (CDCJ)</p>	<p>To include consideration of the situation of the child after parental separation, including issues of joint physical custody, domestic abuse and child voice.</p>	<p>in enabling child voice in care proceedings.</p> <p>To liaise with Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and specifically the General Rapporteur on child participation of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development on shared agendas.</p>	<p>finalise CINGO/Civil Society input.</p>
<p><b>2. CDENF Strategic Objective 4.</b> Committee of Experts on access to child-friendly justice through multidisciplinary and interagency services (ENF-JUS)</p>	<p>To contribute Civil Society expertise to Draft Recommendation on multidisciplinary and interagency services for child-friendly justice, including operational guidelines</p>	<p>To gather and provide information on good practice examples of child friendly justice from Civil Society Experts to the drafting ENF-JUS team.</p> <p>To create a report on good practices for the ENF-JUS and for CINGO.</p>	<p>To comment on further drafts through consultation within Committee and beyond.</p>
<p><b>3. CDENF Strategic Objective 1:</b> Freedom from violence for all children (Including The Lanzarote Committee: the Committee of the Parties to the <a href="#">Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse</a>.)</p>	<p>Provide and support CINGO representation to Lanzarote Committee. Promote role, contribution and insights of Civil Society and NGOs in child protection in partnership with statutory authorities, through contribution to this committee.</p>	<p>Consolidate CINGO representation to Lanzarote Committee through bureau member attendance.</p> <p>Develop outline of a CINGO event on issues and actions regarding violence towards children in different countries.</p>	<p>Develop and consolidate reporting process back to the CINGO Standing Committee and to General Assembly.</p>
<p><b>4. CDENF Strategic Objective 6:</b> Children's rights in crisis and emergency situations including thematic exchange on Children's rights and the Environment</p>	<p>Make a connection with CINGO committee/s in respect of the Environment regarding children's rights in respect of (e.g.) environmental and climate crises.</p>	<p>To gather and provide information on civil society good practice examples in respect of promoting children's rights in respect of environment and climate crises.</p>	<p>Start to prepare a joint report on good practice examples about Children's Rights and Climate Justice with ENOC</p>

	Build transversal liaison between CINGO Environment and Children’s rights committees to enrich feedback to CDENF.	To liaise with the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) about their Position Statement on “Children’s Rights and Climate Justice” to propose collaboration and further influence within CoE.	
<b>5 CDENF Strategic Objective 2:</b> Equal opportunities and social inclusion for all children.	<p>Contribute to CDENF mapping study on children’s access to quality mental health care.</p> <p>Develop and start to implement a collaborative way of working within the different committees on intersectional equal opportunities issues (e.g: education, mental health care, transition to adulthood, inclusion in labour market, gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity, migration, disability etc.)</p>	<p>Continue to develop work across themes with other CINGO committees, contribute to committees, report back to CINGO on children’s rights within these transversal themes.</p> <p>Support development of proposal for a new CINGO Committee on Modern Slavery/Trafficking</p>	Propose General Assembly session on child and adolescent inclusion and rights in conjunction with one or more other committees, on a specific inclusion and rights topic.
<b>6 CDENF Strategic Objective 3:</b> Access to and safe use of technologies for all children	<p>Contribute to draft report on the rights of the child and artificial intelligence in development within CDENF (leading to specific AI and child rights impact assessment tool).</p> <p>Contribute the perspective of children’s rights, to the work of other CINGO committees and other bodies of the Council of Europe working on</p>	<p>Consult CINGO committee members on draft documents and feed in perspective of civil society to CDENF drafting group.</p> <p>Involve other CINGO committees and members in consultation as appropriate</p>	Promote CINGO contributions and views and lobby for these to be evident in final drafting.

<p><b>7. Implementation review report on Recommendation CM/Rec(2019) on effective guardianship for unaccompanied and separated children in the context of migration</b></p>	<p>Support/Contribute to the work of the Consultation Group on their children of Ukraine "CGU" on Ukrainian children rights, including children relocated/taken to Russia.</p> <p>Create a "campaign" which aims to fight against discrimination and build awareness of real-life experience of children in migration.</p>	<p>Design and initiate a collaborative, myth-busting campaign of stories of the impact of migration on children in collaboration with other committees and parts of CoE</p>	<p>Build and launch the campaign, working with CINGO and wider stakeholders in CoE and beyond.</p>

**13. Is there anything else you would like to share with CINGO members and/or the CINGO Standing Committee?**