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MIGRANT CHILDREN'S TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD

TRANSNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Thursday, 24 November 2022

Madrid, Spain

Organised by Fundacion Cepaim in the framework of the Project “Building Futures, Sharing Good Practices: Migrant Children's Transition to Adulthood - UACFutures”

This Transnational Workshop is funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the Council of Europe.¹

BACKGROUND

According to the latest estimates, over 23.200 unaccompanied children sought asylum in the European Union in 2021. Most of these children were between 16 to 17 years old.² Transition to adulthood is a crucial period for these youngsters who often face challenges in accessing support services including welfare, education, health care and psychosocial support, as well as accommodation, and legal assistance. Notwithstanding the challenges that unaccompanied migrant and refugee children face when they reach the age of 18, various promising practices have also been developed in many countries to support the transition of these children to adult life.

In this context, the multilateral project “**Building Futures, Sharing Good Practices: Migrant Children's Transition to Adulthood– UACFutures**” aims to facilitate the fruitful exchange of

¹ The content of this concept note represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission and the Council of Europe do not accept any responsibility for the use that may be made of the information it contains.

² Eurostat, [Asylum 2021: asylum decisions and unaccompanied minors](#), 04/05/2022, last accessed on 2 November 2022.

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good practices with a view to fostering practical solutions and contributing to long-term improvements in the quality of support for unaccompanied children during their transition to adulthood. The Project addresses four key areas of particular importance for unaccompanied migrant children during the transition to adulthood: psychological impact and support; legal support and access to basic rights; access to education and the labour market; access to accommodation.

The Project is funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the Council of Europe. It is coordinated by the Council of Europe and jointly implemented with the Special Secretariat for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum of Greece, SolidarityNow (Greece), Stichting Nidos (Netherlands) and Fundacion Cepaim (Spain).

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

In the framework of this Project, Fundacion Cepaim, is organising a Transnational Workshop on 24 November 2022 on "*Migrant Children's Transition to Adulthood*". The aim of the Workshop is to raise awareness and improve the knowledge of relevant professionals in supporting unaccompanied children in their transition to adulthood, *inter alia*, by:

- Discussing the needs and realities of unaccompanied children transitioning to adulthood in Spain and across Europe.
- Fostering national and international exchanges of experiences, promising practices, and know-how in the field.
- Exchanging on approaches and strategies for successfully supporting the transition of unaccompanied migrant children to adulthood.
- Strengthening transnational and multiagency cooperation between EU member States.

The Transnational Workshop will also seek to underline the importance of placing the rights of the child at the heart of every measure taken, including in supporting transition to adulthood, while exploring sustainable solutions and promising practices in the field.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Public authorities, institutions, international organisations, child protection agencies, social and legal professionals, civil society organisations, academia, and other relevant professionals involved in the protection of unaccompanied children and young refugees and migrants.

VENUE

Luz Vallekas, Calle Melquiades Biencinto, Nº 7. Madrid, Spain.

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 24 November 2022	
08:40 – 09:00	Registration of Participants
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <p>Mr Nikolay Yordanov, Director General of Youth, Community of Madrid</p> <p>Mr Ángel Carrasco, Madrid Community Regional Director, Fundacion Cepaim- Convive</p> <p>Dr Gelly Aroni, Head of the Unit for Integration and Support of UAMs, Special Secretariat for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors. Ministry of Migration and Asylum, Greece.</p>
09:30 – 10:00	<p>Video Presentation: “Yesterday I Dreamt of You”</p> <p>Mr Daniel Lavella, Coordinator of Institutional Campaigns, Corporate Image and Audiovisual Content Department, Fundación Cepaim- Convive</p> <p>Discussion with participants</p>
10:00 – 10:25	<p>Council of Europe’s Guidance on Supporting Refugee and Migrant Children in Transition to Adulthood</p> <p>Ms Anne Kayser, Adviser, Office of the Secretary General’s Special Representative on Migration and Refugees, Council of Europe</p>
10:25 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:30	<p>The Participatory Strategy for Supporting Unaccompanied Migrant Children and Youth in Aragón: Promising Practices and Working Table</p> <p>Moderator: Ms Paloma Garrido, Federation of Entities offering Assisted Projects and Apartments (FEPA)</p> <p>Mr Angel Longares, Aragon Institute of Social Services</p> <p>Mr Chabier Gimeno, Professor and social worker, University of Zaragoza</p> <p>Ms Begoña Heras, Department of Public Law, University of Zaragoza</p> <p>Ms Beatriz Serrano, Social Educator. Fundación Cepaim- Convive</p> <p>Mr Adil Chatbi, young participant.</p> <p>Discussion</p>

12:30 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 15:40	<p>Access to Basic Rights and Legal Support: Promising Practices and Working Table</p> <p>Moderator: Mr Adam Mohamed Ariche, International Relations Department, Fundación Cepaim-Convive</p> <p>Ms Remenda Grech, Director, Foundation for Social Welfare Services, Malta.</p> <p>Ms Loraine Buhagiar, Unit Leader, Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers (AWAS), Malta.</p> <p>Ms Alina Kierek, Project Coordinator, Brückensteine Careleaver, Germany</p> <p>Mr Mustafa Hamdosch, young participant, Careleaver Weltweit, Germany</p> <p>Discussion</p>
15:40 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:30	<p>Access to Accommodation: Promising Practices and Working Table</p> <p>Moderator: Ms Fay Koutzoukou Solidarity Now, Greece</p> <p>Ms Maite Luque, Director of Innovation. Housing First for Youth. H4Y Futuro HOGAR SI, Spain</p> <p>Ms Veronica Mora, project Coordinator, Housing Solidarity Network, Fundación Cepaim</p> <p>Ms Lilja Grétarsdóttir, Head of the Cooperation Programmes Division, DGI, Council of Europe</p> <p>Mr Santiago Aranda, Director Horuelo Association. Youth Reception Area</p> <p>Discussion</p>
17:30 – 17:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms Lilja Grétarsdóttir, Head of the Cooperation Programmes Division, DGI, Council of Europe ● Mr Jesús Fernández de Sevilla, Coordination of Transition to Adult Life Programmes. Area of Socio-educational Intervention with Children, Youth and Families. Fundación Cepaim-Convive. ● A Representative from the Madrid Community Regional Government TBC