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COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECT
“PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF UKRAINIAN CHILDREN
DURING AND IN POST-WAR CONTEXT”

Programme

14 March 2023

Kyiv (online)

Registration link:

https://kls-agency-ua.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_d08DBkGwQQ2Jyy0UR9Xfxw

Live streaming link: <https://fb.me/e/12Dpj72Sv>

Background

In April 2022, the Council of Europe, in close cooperation with the Government of Ukraine and relevant stakeholders, adopted amendments to the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine for 2018-2022 in connection with the armed aggression of the Russian Federation, some of these amendments relate to the protection of children's rights in war conditions.

The Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” 2023-2026 has been prepared in close consultation with the Ukrainian authorities, as a response to the determination and resolve of the Ukrainian authorities and people to engage in rebuilding the country. The proposed measures, based on Council of Europe standards, are aimed at accompanying the reconstruction process and economic recovery in Ukraine with support to strengthen the resilience of Ukrainian public institutions, to enhance democratic governance and the rule of law and to protect citizens’ fundamental rights.

As part of the document, a specific chapter was included regarding Protecting the Rights of Children in the war and a post war context.

To support this endeavor, the Council of Europe implements the Project on “Protecting the rights of Ukrainian children during and in post-war context” (1 January 2023 - 31 December 2024), which aims to offer assistance to Ukrainian authorities and relevant stakeholders in strengthening the response to child sexual exploitation, abuse and trafficking within the existing legal framework, including in the war and post-war context, promoting child-friendly practices with focus on ensuring the rights of child victims and witnesses in proceedings and promoting the rights of the child. The project is a direct follow-up of the previous Council of Europe projects "[Combating violence against women and children](#)" (2017-2018), "[Combating violence against children in Ukraine, Phase II](#)" (2020-2021), and "[Combating violence against children in Ukraine, Phase III](#)" (2022). The action will focus on protection and promotion of children’s rights, in view of the particular risks generated by the conflict for internally displaced children, forcibly displaced children, children without parental care, unaccompanied children, in line with Council of Europe standards. It will focus on enhancing the effectiveness of frameworks aimed at child friendly settings and procedures for investigation, as well as improving capacities of multiple categories of professionals working with children. Support for investigation bodies, prosecutors and courts in criminal proceedings involving children will be given in line with the provisions of the *Convention on the protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse* (Lanzarote Convention) and the *Council of Europe Guidelines on child-friendly justice*.

The new [Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child \(2022-2027\)](#) “*Children’s Rights in Action: from continuous implementation to joint innovation*” was adopted by the Committee of Ministers in February 2022. It will guide the work of the Council of Europe over the next six years. Among the six strategic priorities, actions are foreseen towards protection and upholding *Children’s rights in crisis and emergency situations*, such as the one Ukraine faces today.

Format

The conference of the Council of Europe Project “Protecting the rights of Ukrainian children during and in post-war context” is aimed at taking stock of the results achieved in 2022 and discussing the challenges and areas of further support in advancing the rights of children in Ukraine to be protected from violence during the war and post-war context.

The event will be held online in Kyiv. Simultaneous English-Ukrainian-English interpretation is provided.

Register via the link:

https://kls-agency-ua.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dO8DBkGwQQ2Jyy0UR9Xfxw

Conference Programme

14 March 2023	
09:30 – 10:00	<i>Participants joining</i>
<i>Moderator: Ovidiu Măjină, Senior Project Officer, Council of Europe Project “Protecting the rights of Ukrainian children during and in post-war context”</i>	
PLENARY OPENING SESSION	
10:00 – 10:15	Welcome addresses and opening remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Jeroen Schokkenbroek, Director of Anti-Discrimination, Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity of the Council of Europe- Olena Lytvynenko, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Ukraine a.i.- Viktoria Litvinova, Deputy Prosecutor General of Ukraine- Dmytro Lubinets, Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (video message)- Daria Herasymchuk, Adviser - Commissioner of the President of Ukraine for Children's Rights and Rehabilitation
SESSION No. 1	
IDENTIFICATION OF KEY NEEDS FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN THE CONTEXT OF WAR BY NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS	
<i>Moderator: Olga Kalashnyk, Senior Project Officer, Council of Europe Project “Protecting the rights of Ukrainian children during and in post-war context”</i>	
10.15 – 11.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Uliana Tokareva, Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine- Oleksandr Banchuk, Deputy Minister of Justice- Kateryna Pavlichenko, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs (tbc)- Yulia Usenko, Head of the Department for the Protection of Children’s Interests and Combating Violence of the Office of Prosecutor General- Vasyl Bohdan, Deputy Head of Juvenile Department, National Police <p><i>Discussion</i></p>

SESSION No. 2

PRESENTATION OF THE MAIN RESULTS OF THE PROJECT

“COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN UKRAINE” in 2022

Moderator: Olga Kalashnyk, Senior Project Officer, Council of Europe Project “Protecting the rights of Ukrainian children during and in post-war context”

11:00 – 11:30	<p><i>Legal, policy, and institutional framework in the context of the military aggression by the Russian Federation on Ukraine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Guidelines and Methodology for Documenting Child Rights Violations Resulting from Sexual Abuse - <i>Irina Urumova, Council of Europe International Consultant</i>- Peer review and recommendations on assessment tools for Interagency collaboration response in the context of Barnahus - <i>Georgii Popov, Council of Europe National Consultant</i>- Methodological recommendations “Monitoring children's right to protection from violence and abuse during the war” - <i>Kateryna Borozdina, Council of Europe National Consultant</i> <p><i>Questions and Answers</i></p>
11.30 – 11.45	Break
11.45 – 12:30	<p><i>Strengthen capacities of professionals to respond to violence against children and promote child-friendly practices in times of war</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Capacity building for social workers on social support of children, including children without parental care, unaccompanied children, children who have had to leave care institutions, children with disabilities - <i>Kateryna Borozdina, Council of Europe National Consultant</i>- Capacity building for juvenile prosecutors on Documenting child rights violations resulting from sexual violence - <i>Pavlo Parkhomenko, Council of Europe National Consultant</i>- Capacity building for psychologists on psychological support or trauma intervention assistance - <i>Natalia Zavarova, Council of Europe National Consultant</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity building for professionals from non-governmental organisations and hotlines - <i>Katariina Leivo, Council of Europe International consultant</i> <p><i>Questions and Answers</i></p>
12.30– 13.00	<p><i>Support to Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) - national projects for raising awareness and strengthening the capacity of professionals working for and with children</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yulia Malienko, CSO “Child Well Being Fund” - Kateryna Cherepakha, CSO “La Strada-Ukraine” - Darya Kasyanova, CA “Ukrainian Child Rights Network” <p><i>Questions and Answers</i></p>
<p>SESSION No. 3</p> <p>INITIATIVES AND KEY PRIORITIES OF INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN THE CONTEXT OF WAR</p> <p><i>Moderator: Zaruhi Gasparyan, Head of Cooperation Unit, Children’s Rights Division, Council of Europe</i></p>	
13.00 – 13.30	<p>Jean Choi, Chief of Child Protection at UNICEF Ukraine</p> <p>Ivanna Ilchenko, Legal Reform Officer at European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM) Ukraine</p> <p><i>Questions and Answers</i></p>
13.30 – 13.40	<p><i>Closing Remarks</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Ovidiu Majina, Project Manager, Children’s Rights Division, Council of Europe</i></p>