



**Building a Europe
for and with children**

**Construire une Europe
pour et avec les enfants**



**Presidency of Italy
Council of Europe
November 2021 - May 2022**

**Présidence de l'Italie
Conseil de l'Europe
Novembre 2021 - Mai 2022**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

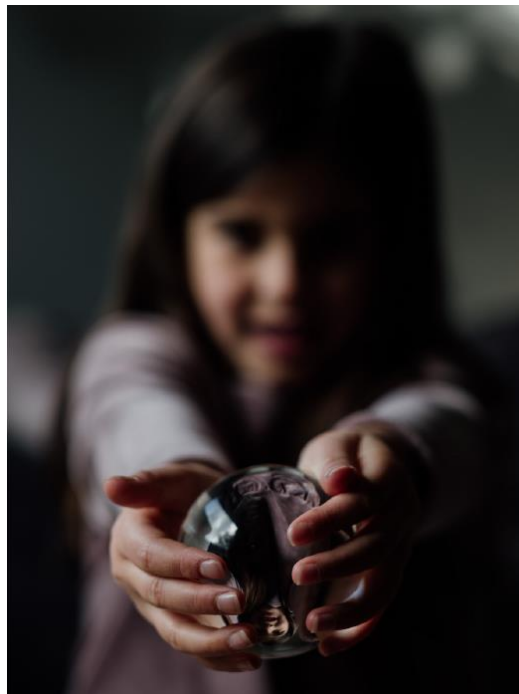


CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

“Beyond the horizon: a new era for the rights of the child”

**High-level Launching Conference for the new Strategy
for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027)**

Draft programme



co-organised by

the Council of Europe and the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers

Ergife Palace Hotel & Conference Center

Rome, 7-8 April 2022

The Conference

It has been 16 years since the Council of Europe set up the Programme “Building a Europe for and with Children” to enhance its commitment to children and their human rights. Since 2009, this work has been guided by three consecutive Strategies for the Rights of the Child: the Stockholm Strategy (2009-2011), the Monaco Strategy (2012-2015) and the Sofia Strategy (2016-2021). The new Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on [...], was, for the first time, formally prepared by the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) which will also oversee the Strategy implementation over the next six years.

The High-Level Conference, “**Beyond the horizon: a new era for the rights of the child**”, will launch the new “Rome Strategy” (2022-2027) as a European instrument guiding the Council of Europe and its 47 member States in delivering the following six strategic objectives for protecting and promoting the rights of the child:

1. **Freedom from violence for all children**
2. **Equal opportunities and social inclusion for all children**
3. **Access to and safe use of technologies for all children**
4. **Child-friendly justice for all children**
5. **Giving a voice to every child**
6. **Children’s rights in crisis and emergency situations**

The Conference is organised in the framework of and hosted by the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, represented by the Department for Family Policies of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. The Conference will provide an opportunity for high-level representatives of member States and other international organisations to express their commitment to the Strategy and present their visions for the implementation of the rights of the child over the next years and exchange with outstanding international experts in this field, as well as a number of young delegates from different Council of Europe member States.

The Conference will propose a number of thematic sessions where participants can “dive into” some of the recent developments and acute challenges impacting the rights of the child and jointly elaborate guidance for governmental and intergovernmental action to be taken over the next years. Like at previous high-level events organised by the Children’s Rights Division, participants will also find opportunities for networking and more personal exchanges through different side events (fair of ideas, exhibitions, bilateral meetings etc.).

Preliminary draft programme (25/01/2022)

Wednesday 6 April				
<i>Throughout the day</i>	<i>Arrival of participants in Rome</i>			
<i>As of 14:00</i>	<i>Early registration for the conference (upon participants' arrival at the hotel)</i>			
<i>19:00</i>	<i>Welcome reception at the hotel</i>			
Thursday 7 April				
<i>8:00</i>	<i>Registration</i>			
9:30-10:00	Opening Ceremony Opening by Secretariat (Council of Europe/Italian Presidency) and moderator (tbc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secretary General of the Council of Europe - High-level representative of the Italian Government - Young delegate (tbc) 			
10:00-10:05	Transition – Strategy video			
10:05-11:00	High-level plenary session I - “Entering a new era of dialogue with children” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High-level representatives of different Council of Europe bodies - High-level representative of the Italian Government - Young delegates in dialogue with high-level representatives 			
<i>11:00-11:30</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>			
11:30-13:00	High-level plenary session II – “Getting ready for a new era for the rights of the child” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High-level representatives of member States - High-level representatives of international organisations 			
<i>13:00-14:30</i>	<i>Lunch break</i>			
14:30-15:30	Plenary session – “Setting the scene for a new era for the rights of the child” Key-note speeches to introduce the four thematic sessions (one adult / one young delegate for each session)			
<i>15:30-16:00</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>			
16:00-17:30	Theme I: Children in crisis and emergency situations - Strengthening child protection systems to safeguard children’s rights			
	“Diving in” (three parallel sessions):			
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">A: Ensuring children’s access to quality mental health services</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">B: Protecting children in the context of migration</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">C: Recognising and enforcing children’s environmental rights</td> </tr> </table>	A: Ensuring children’s access to quality mental health services	B: Protecting children in the context of migration	C: Recognising and enforcing children’s environmental rights
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17:30-18:15	Plenary session – “Uncovering discoveries made behind the horizon” (reporting back from day 1) Impressions by one adult rapporteur and one young delegate			
<i>18:15</i>	<i>End of first conference day</i>			
<i>20:00</i>	<i>Dinner / social programme (venue to be confirmed)</i>			

Friday 8 April

9:00-10:30	Theme II: Child participation –Empowering children and overcoming obstacles to their right to participate		
	<i>“Diving in” (three parallel sessions):</i>		
	A: Empowering children and mainstreaming child participation throughout society	B: Promoting legal clinics as a means of strengthening children’s access to justice	C: Understanding the challenges faced by children as defenders of human rights
<i>10:30-11:00</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>		
11:00-12:30	Theme III: Children and technologies - Ensuring the protection of the rights of the child in a fast-evolving technological context		
	<i>“Diving in” (three parallel sessions):</i>		
	A. Protecting children from online sexual abuse and exploitation	B: Artificial intelligence: maximising opportunities while minimising risks	C: Data protection and privacy: Children playing along adult rules
<i>12:30-14:00</i>	<i>Lunch break</i>		
14:00-15:30	Theme IV: National strategies for the prevention of violence against children - Addressing the blind spots		
	<i>“Diving in” (three parallel sessions):</i>		
	A: Strengthening reporting systems on violence against children	B: Strengthening inter-agency collaboration	C: Empowering children through education
<i>15:30-16:00</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>		
16:00--17:30	Plenary session – “Keeping track of what was found behind the horizon” (reporting back from day 2) Reports presented by adult rapporteurs and young delegates		
17:30-18:00	Closing session – “What do we take along on our journey towards a new era for the rights of the child?” Final conclusions by high-level representatives of the Council of Europe and the Italian government and a young delegate		
<i>18:00</i>	<i>End of the conference</i>		
<i>Late evening and next day</i>	<i>Departure of participants</i>		