



Save the Children

First International Congress

**Comprehensive Approach to Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents
with the Barnahus Model**



When justice meets the needs of children

**An event to share
experiences, knowledge, and
developments on the
Barnahus model in Catalonia,
Spain, and Europe.**

**Friday, 6th February 2026
9.00 to 17.00**



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**Cosmocaixa - Museu de la
Ciència (Barcelona)**

In collaboration with:



"la Caixa" Foundation



**Generalitat de Catalunya
Departament de Drets Socials
i Inclusió**

The Barnahus model — *the Children's House*, in Icelandic — brings together, in a single space, all the professionals involved in cases of child sexual violence, with one shared goal: to provide a coordinated, sensitive and specialized response grounded in an evidence-based model. Under one roof, legal and care professionals work side by side to reduce revictimization and ensure respectful, child-centred support that prioritizes the well-being of children.

Since 2020, when the first Barnahus was inaugurated in Tarragona, Catalonia has established 14 operational centers where children receive comprehensive and coordinated care. The accumulated experience has strengthened good practices and the training of professional teams, ensuring respectful and high-quality support.

How has the theory of the Barnahus model been translated into practice in Catalonia?

What lessons can be drawn from the experience in Catalonia and Europe?

What challenges does the Barnahus model face?

Featuring:



Bragi Guðbrandsson, founder of the Barnahus model and member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.



Emma Harewood, expert in pre-trial therapy for child sexual abuse victims and founder of the first Barnahus project in the United Kingdom, "The Lighthouse."



James Herbert, expert in the interaction between criminal justice and child protection, and in the evaluation of child-friendly justice models.

6TH FEBRUARY 2026

PROGRAM

9:00 a 9:30

Welcome

Arrival of audience and speakers, registration and access to the Auditorium

9:30 a 11:00

State of the Barnahus Model

Opening Address – **Antoni Pérez Francés**, Director of Catalonia Headquarters, Save The Children

Institutional Welcome – **Mònica Martínez Bravo**, Honorable Minister of Social Rights and Inclusion, **Generalitat de Catalunya**

State of the Barnahus Model in Europe – Where do we stand?: **María Asensio Velasco**, Division of the Rights of the Child, Council of Europe

State of the Barnahus Model in Spain – Where do we stand?: **Emilie Rivas**, Save The Children

State of the Barnahus Model in Catalonia – Where do we stand?: **Pilar Aranda**, Catalan Agency for Child Protection, **Generalitat de Catalunya**.

11:00 a 11:30

Break

Coffee break including a light catering service in the Museum terrace.

11:30 a 14:00

Roundtable

*Challenges of comprehensive care, limits of pre-trial intervention, and how to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the Barnahus model, exploring how to combine protection, well-being, and legal safeguards in child-friendly justice. Facilitated by **Save The Children**.*

Barnahus: A child-centered model that improves justice – **Bragi Guðbransson**, **United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child**

Therapeutic support before trial: Is it possible? – **Emma Harewood**, The Bluestar Project

Evaluation of the Barnahus model and child-friendly justice – **James Herbert**, University of South Australia

14:00 to 15:30

Break

Free time for lunch



15:30 a 16:30

Cross-Sector Talks: Voices of the Barnahus Model in Catalonia

Close conversations with professionals from the justice system, psychosocial care, and research in the first region where the Barnahus Model was piloted and implemented in Spain. Parallel sessions with a limited audience. During registration, participants may choose up to two workshops, subject to room capacity limits. No translation services will be available.

Workshops in Catalan (45 minutes):

From Model to Action: Legal practices that protect and support children
Joan Perarnau Moya, President of the Tarragona Provincial Court

The Prosecution challenge: How to combine procedural guarantees with respectful support for children
María José Osuna, Chief Prosecutor, Provincial Prosecutor's Office of Tarragona

Measuring success: Methodologies and criteria to evaluate the effectiveness of the Barnahus model and child-friendly justice

Nuria Torres and Josep Maria Tamarit, Research Teams on Criminal System Evaluation, Universitat Rovira i Virgili and Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (*pending confirmation*)

Workshops in Spanish (1 hour 30 minutes):

First-hand experiences: Challenges, lessons learned, and best practices for piloting and implementing the model in Spain and Europe

Psychosocial Team, Barnahus Tarragona

17:00 a 17:30

Closing Address

Catalina Perazzo, Director of Influence and Territorial Development, Save The Children

Ramón Espadaler Parcerisas, Honorable Minister of Justice and Democratic Quality, Generalitat de Catalunya

How to get here:

Cosmocaixa - Museu de la Ciència
C. d'Isaac Newton, 26 08022 Barcelona

By bus:

Lines H2, H4, V17, V15, V19, V13, 196, 123

By train (FGC)

Line L7, stopping at Av. Tibidabo

By road:

Exits 6 and 7 Ronda de Dalt

Admission to the Congress
includes general entry to the
Museum and guided
activities available from 5:30
PM.

Reserve your spot through
the sign-up form.

MORE DETAILS AND SIGN-UP:

SAVE THE CHILDREN - FORM

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