

LANZAROTE COMMITTEE

Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe
Convention on the protection of children against sexual
exploitation and sexual abuse

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Replies to the thematic questionnaire

“Screening of professionals, volunteers and other
persons in contact with children”

LIECHTENSTEIN

Replies received by the Secretariat on 9 July 2026

Main relevant provisions of the Lanzarote Convention and previous recommendations

Article 5 paragraph 3 of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures, in conformity with their internal law, to ensure that the conditions to accede to those professions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children ensure that the candidates to these professions have not been convicted of acts of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children. The Explanatory Report to the Lanzarote Convention indicates that this obligation can be also applied to voluntary activities (see paragraph 57).

In the 2nd implementation report of the 1st monitoring round (2018), the Lanzarote Committee urged those Parties that limited mandatory screening to certain professionals to extend it to the recruitment of all professionals (public or private) in regular contact with children (R19) and invited Parties to encourage continuous screening of all professionals (R20) and volunteers (R21) in regular contact with children.

Article 27 paragraph 3.b of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to deny the perpetrator, temporarily or permanently, the exercise of professional or voluntary activity involving contact with children in the course of which the offence was committed.

Article 37 paragraph 3 of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the information referred to in paragraph 1 (i.e. data related to the identity and to the genetic profile (DNA) of persons convicted of the offences established in accordance with the Convention) can be transmitted to the competent authority of another Party, in conformity with the conditions established in its internal law and the relevant international instruments.

Whenever the term “screening” is used in this questionnaire, this should be understood as “verification of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children”.

In all your answers, please provide details to the extent possible and refer to specific laws, policies, programmes, measures, etc.

Please describe the legislation, policy and practice which are in force on 27 March 2026 or are in the process of adoption (in this case, please specify the planned date of entry into force).

Please indicate:

- a. State Party in respect of which the questionnaire is submitted

Liechtenstein

- b. Entities and bodies which have been involved in responding to this questionnaire

Office of Social Services (ASD)

Office of Education

Court of Justice

Office of Justice

Office of Public Health

Migration and Passport Office

National Police

Victim counselling Centre (OHS)

Sport Unit

Office of Human Resources and Organization

Office of Economic Affairs

Diverse private associations in the field of sports, civil society, faith and religion child-care and education.

Persons concerned by screening requirements

1. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required as a pre-condition in order to accede to professions, employment or volunteer positions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children? Please specify whether such restrictions apply to professions, employment or volunteer positions in the following sectors or areas of activities (additional details to be inserted below the table):

	Criminal conviction check for employment in public sector?	Criminal conviction check for voluntary activity?	Criminal conviction check for employment in private sector?	Criminal conviction check for self-employed professionals?	Please specify the professionals to whom this requirement applies
Education – Pre-school	Kindergarten: ¹ Yes	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Teachers and special education teachers (school based), school social workers and school psychologists in kindergartens.
Education – Primary	Yes	Love.li: ² yes	Yes	Not applicable	Members of the school board, teachers, special education teachers (school based), teacher assistants, school social workers, school psychologists, voluntary activity such as preventive work in sex education, special education day centre.
Education – Secondary	Yes	Aha: ³ Yes Love.li: Yes	Yes	Not applicable	Members of the school board, teachers, special education teachers (school based), teacher assistants, school social workers, school psychologists, voluntary activity such as preventive work

¹ In Liechtenstein, kindergartens belong to the “education system” and not “childcare”.

² Sexual Education Advisory Centre.

³ Youth Counselling Service.

					in media literacy and sex education, special education day centre.
Education – Tertiary	Yes	Not applicable	Not applicable ⁴	Not applicable	Members of the rectorate, individuals listed in the commercial register, employees in IT, finance and accounting, cash handling processes, payroll accounting, legal and compliance functions, as well as full professors and associate professors.
Education – Extracurricular (e.g. language schools)	Music School: No Art School: No Special Education Day Centre: Yes	No general requirement	No general requirement	Yes, if regulated by GewG	
Childcare (e.g. kindergartens, crèches, childminders)	Regarding Kindergarten: Please see question to “pre-school” Childcare: Not applicable		Childcare: Not implemented consistently	Childcare: Not implemented consistently	There are no government-run childcare facilities. Private childcare facilities, such as daycare centres and after-school programs, and their management are required to request criminal background checks for their employees. However, there are some types of childcares, such as playgroups, where this is not done.

⁴ There is only one private university in Liechtenstein, which offers only ISCED 7 & 8 and continuing education programs for adults.

Institutional or residential care (e.g. foster homes, orphanages, closed residential facilities)	Yes	Not applicable	Yes	Not applicable	Foster families are chosen and children are placed through the Office of Social Services (ASD) and must submit a criminal record check.
Detention	Yes	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	All officers of the state prison
Migration facilities (e.g. reception centres)	Not applicable	No	No	No	The reception centre is managed by a “private” NGO, the Refugee Aid Liechtenstein. This NGO is mandated by the Government with the accommodation and care of asylum applicants, temporarily admitted and temporarily protected persons
Sport	Yes	It is recommended but depends on the association	No specific requirement. It is handled differently	No general regulations but checks are carried out for instance for trainers/coaches in the Football and the Ski Association as well as the Special Olympics Liechtenstein	Coaches, Trainers, Instructors, Sports teachers

Culture and leisure activities	Not applicable	This differs among the associations/institutions. ⁵	No, but differs from association/institution in question	Aha: No	
Entertainment sector	Not applicable	No information available	No information available	No information available	
Faith and religion	Not applicable	No	No general regulations	No general regulations	
Healthcare (including psychological and psychiatric services)	Yes In Liechtenstein, healthcare professions are subject to a uniform licensing system under the Medical Practitioners Act (Ärztegesetz; ÄrzteG) and the Health Act (Gesundheitsgesetz, GesG). This applies to medical doctors (including psychiatric services) as well as other healthcare professionals and covers public and private employment as well as self-employed practice. While there is no separate rule explicitly requiring the absence of criminal convictions, access to these professions is	n/a	Yes	Yes	Medical doctors (ÄrzteG) and Health professions requiring a licence (Art. 6 para. 1 GesG), including: • Pharmacist • Optician • Chiropractor • Dental hygienist • Druggist • Occupational therapist • Nutritionist / Dietitian • Midwife • Medical laboratory diagnostician • Speech and language therapist • Medical masseur / Massage therapist • Naturopath • Osteopath • Nurse / Registered nurse • Physiotherapist

⁵ Criminal Record checks are required for instance at the “Aha” for certain programmes (Erasmus+, ESK and Youth Camps) and for Youth Work.

	conditional upon obtaining prior authorisation. As part of the licensing procedure, applicants must demonstrate good repute (Leumund), typically by submitting a criminal record certificate. As a result, persons with relevant criminal convictions may be refused authorisation, effectively ensuring that only suitable individuals may exercise healthcare professions involving regular contact with patients, including children.				• Psychologist • Psychotherapist • Dentist The license is required where these professions are exercised independently, i.e. under one's own professional responsibility (e.g. in self-employed practice or in an employed position with independent professional responsibility).
Social protection services	No	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	All activities of the social protection services are carried out by the public sector – the ASD
Law enforcement	Yes	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	There is no voluntary activity, private sector or self-employment in law enforcement.
Judicial	Yes	Not applicable	Yes	Yes	Lawyers, Judges, State Attorneys
Civil society organisations	Not applicable	No	No	No	

Victim services (including Barnahus, domestic violence services)	No	Yes	Yes	Not applicable	
Migration Authority	Yes	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	The Migration Authority does not work with voluntary personnel.

Here you can insert additional details or specify any exceptions.

Some of the civil society organisations that currently do not foresee screening have indicated to change their practice or to take up screening requirements in their internal procedures during the work on this questionnaire. Not applicable is used when there is no self-employment or voluntary activity in the respective field.

In accordance with the Gewerbegesetz (GewG), the Arbeitsvermittlungsgesetz (AVG) all self-employed professionals who require the entitlement to operate a business are subject to a criminal conviction check. The management level of legal entities (e.g. directors and operation managers) is also subject to a criminal conviction check. Based on the GewG even simple business activities which may involve contact with children require a criminal record check.

2. In requiring the verification of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children in order to accede to the positions listed in question 1, does your State:
- a. define the level or threshold of contact with children (one-off, regular, etc.) which necessitates such a verification

The legal provisions demanding screening for certain professions do not distinguish between the level of contact or define a threshold that necessitates the verification.

- b. distinguish between direct, indirect or online contact with children?
- There is no explicit distinction between different forms of contact.

If yes, please provide details.

3. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required to become:
- a. an adoptive parent

Yes, within the suitability assessment procedure carried out by the ASD. Prospective adoptive parents are subject to a suitability assessment by the ASD. This assessment covers, inter alia, the applicants' good repute, health, personality, parenting suitability, financial situation and living conditions. In practice, this means that relevant criminal convictions, including convictions for sexual offences against children, have to be taken into account when assessing suitability for adoption.

- b. a foster parent

Yes, within the authorisation procedure for foster care/out-of-home care. For foster care and comparable private out-of-home care arrangements, authorisation by the ASD is required. The applicable legal framework allows the competent authority to request a criminal record extract not only from the foster or care person, but also from all persons living in the same household. The ASD requests a criminal record extract for all persons living in the same household. The basis for this is the Children and Youth Act (Kinder- und Jugendgesetz, KJG) and the Ordinance on childcare as well as internal guidelines.

- c. a child's legal guardian (including for unaccompanied children)?

There is no explicit statutory requirement for the absence of criminal convictions to become a child's legal guardian. Nevertheless, decisions are governed primarily by the best interest of the child assessment as enshrined in § 259 of the Civil Code (Allgemeines Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch, ABGB). It must be considered whether the child's physical and emotional integrity is protected and whether the risk of violence is avoided. Also, with regard to legal guardianship, the primary consideration must be the best possible promotion of the child's best interests. Case law likewise emphasises that, in custody decisions, the child's best interests are the sole determining factor and that the suitability of the person concerned carries particular weight.

4. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required for the household members of:
- a. persons carrying out professional activity in their home who are in contact with children

Yes, in case of professional childminders. In other cases, no.

- b. persons carrying out volunteering activity in their home who are in contact with children

No.

- c. persons wishing to become an adoptive parent, a foster parent, or a child's legal guardian?

According to Article 36 (1) of the KJG the prospective adoptive parents as well as the people in their households have to prove their good reputation, health, personality, educational stability, financial circumstances, living conditions, provide assurance of proper care, upbringing, education, and maintenance of the child or young person, and if the welfare of other children and young persons living in the household is not endangered. The ASD is responsible to examine the fulfilment of these requirements, and the prospective adoptive parents are required to provide the ASD with the necessary information and to submit the required documents according to Article 36 (2a) of the KJG.

For adoption, foster care and comparable private out-of-home care arrangements, authorisation by the ASD is required, and the applicable legal framework, the KJG, expressly allows the competent authority to request a criminal record extract not only from the foster or care person, but also from all persons living in the same household. Accordingly, a screening possibility is expressly provided for household members in the foster-care context.

- 5. Does the requirement to verify the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children also apply to:

- a. children applying for professional or volunteer positions

Yes, if the child applies for a regulated profession.

- b. adults in respect of criminal convictions received before the age of 18?

Yes, if the conviction is not expunged.

Please provide details.

- 6. If a person legally changes their name, how does your State ensure that their criminal record remains linked to their new name?

When a case file is opened at the Court of Justice and the individual is registered, the suspect's or defendant's personal details are checked against the central register of persons held by the national administration; any change of name is thus identified and subsequently recorded in the case file. The same applies when issuing a criminal record extract. However, the name change is not automatically transferred from the civil registry to the database of the Court of Justice.

7. Is access to public funds for projects implying contact with children conditional on the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children for persons employed in or volunteering for such projects?

The Act on Sports (Sportgesetz) and the Ordinance on Sports Promotion (Sportförderungsverordnung) regulate the granting of public subsidies and sports funding but contain no provision requiring the above-mentioned criminal record check prior to a decision on funding of the projects. This does not exclude that sector-specific requirements, organisational conditions or contractual safeguards may apply in individual funding schemes or institutions.

Similarly, in the case of child and youth support (Kinder- und Jugendförderung), which is provided by the ASD based on the KJG and the Child and Youth Support Contribution Ordinance (KJFBV), there is no obligation to request a criminal record check for individuals involved in the funded projects.

Information included in screening

8. Does the criminal record check include criminal convictions for:

- a. sexual abuse of a child (Article 18 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Yes.

- b. sexual exploitation of a child ("child prostitution" Article 19 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Yes.

- c. acts involving child sexual abuse material ("child pornography" Article 20 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Yes.

- d. offences related to the participation of children in pornographic performances (Article 21 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Yes.

- e. corruption of a child (causing a child to witness sexual activities) (Article 22 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Yes.

- f. solicitation of a child for sexual purposes ("grooming"), including online (Article 23 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Yes.

- g. aiding and abetting or attempting the above offences (Article 24 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Yes.

h. any other convictions (please specify)?

Please provide details.

According to Article 2 of the Act on the Criminal Register and the Expungement of Judicial Convictions (StRegG), all final convictions for felonies or misdemeanours must be entered in the criminal register. The offences referred to in points (a) to (g) must in any event be entered in the criminal register, since all offences under Chapter 10 of the Criminal Code (criminal offences against sexual self-determination and other sexual offences) are classified either as misdemeanours or as felonies.

9. Does the screening of persons applying for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3 above extend beyond criminal convictions for sexual offences against children to:

a. relevant administrative or disciplinary sanctions

The ASD and the Office for Education only check criminal records. Liechtenstein does not maintain any other relevant registers, such as a specific registry for convicted sex offenders.

b. other information available to the authorities (e.g. judicial decisions in civil proceedings)?

No.

Please provide details.

The National Police review their own employees pursuant to the Ordinance on the Operation and Organisation of the National Police (PolDOV) Art. 56 (1)(c). In the future, this review will be repeated regularly for employees in critical functions. The review includes checks of the criminal record and the debt enforcement register, entries in police systems and an OSINT (open-source intelligence) investigation.

10. If restrictions on the exercise of the relevant activities apply as a result of a criminal conviction for sexual offences against children, in line with Article 27 paragraph 3.b:

a. are they life-long?

Usually, the duration is one to five years according to § 220 (1) Criminal Code. In certain cases, they are life-long according to § 220 (2) Criminal Code.

b. if they are not life-long, please specify the time-limits applicable

Please see § 220 (1) Criminal code and the answer to question 10a above.

c. are they applied only to activities in the public sector?

No, the ban applies to gainful employment or another activity within an association or another institution that involves the education, training or supervision of minors or otherwise entails intensive contact with minors or similar activities.

Please provide details.

11. Does the criminal record check verify the existence of an expunged or spent criminal conviction for sexual offences against children for persons applying for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3?

No.

Please provide details.

Pursuant to Article 12 of the StReG, convictions for a criminal offence designated in Chapter 10 of the Special Part of the Criminal Code that resulted in a custodial sentence of more than five years are not expunged. The expungement of convictions is governed by Article 11 of the StRegG. Article 11a of the StRegG provides for correspondingly longer expungement periods in cases of sexual offences.

Screening procedure

12. How is the screening procedure set out in your legal framework (in a single piece of legislation, sector-specific legislation, or other)?

Please provide details.

The screening procedure is not laid down in a single comprehensive piece of legislation. It is organised through a combination of general criminal-record legislation, sector-specific access and licensing rules, and child protection authorisation procedures. The general legal basis for the registration, disclosure and expungement of convictions is the StRegG. According to Article 2 StRegG, final convictions for felonies and misdemeanours are entered in the criminal register; Articles 11, 11a and 12 govern expungement and the continued disclosure of certain convictions, including longer retention effects for sexual offences. This general framework determines what information can be verified when a criminal-record extract is requested. In addition, restrictions on the exercise of activities may arise under the Criminal Code, including occupational bans under § 220 StGB.

Whether screening is required, and in what form, is then determined by the relevant sectoral framework. In regulated professions, especially in the health sector as well as the GewG, access to practice depends on prior authorisation or licensing under laws such as the Medical Practitioners Act (ÄrzteG) and the Health Act (GesG) and the GewG. As part of these procedures, applicants must demonstrate good repute (Leumund), which requires the submission of a criminal-record extract.

Within the education sector, all publicly employed individuals undergo systematic screening as part of the recruitment process. In the case of teaching staff, this process is complemented by a cross-reference check against a registry maintained by the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Directors of Education (EDK). In addition to the legal provisions mentioned above, the criminal record check for all teachers is foreseen in a policy decision by the Government of Liechtenstein. This policy decision is relevant for all persons employed by the national administration.

In the field of child protection, adoption and foster-care arrangements are governed through suitability and authorisation procedures administered by the ASD under the child protection framework; in the foster-care context, the applicable rules expressly allow the authority to request criminal-record extracts also from persons living in the same household. In practice, therefore, the ASD verifies this as part of the approval process for care arrangements.

Similarly, when approving childcare facilities that require authorization, an extract from the criminal record is required from the facility directors. The responsibility for requesting criminal record extracts from staff at childcare facilities lies with the respective facility directors, since these are not state-run facilities but rather private-sector facilities, and the state therefore has no legal basis to conduct such checks.

13. If screening is required, who is required to act?

- a. the employer, volunteer recruiter or child protection authority is expected to obtain the necessary information directly from the authorities

No.

- b. the candidate must provide proof of absence of convictions

There is no single rule applicable to all screening situations. In practice, the person concerned will generally have to provide the necessary proof, most commonly in the form of a criminal-record extract. This follows from the general structure of the legal framework and the lack of a uniform statute governing all screening situations and requirements as explained above. The StRegG provides the basis for criminal-record information, while the concrete duty to produce such information is laid down in the relevant sector-specific procedure. In regulated professions, the applicant must submit the documents required to demonstrate the statutory conditions for authorisation to the competent authority.

In child protection procedures, prospective adoptive parents and foster carers are likewise assessed by the ASD in the context of suitability or authorisation proceedings, and the persons concerned must cooperate with that assessment. At the same time, the competent authority or recruiting body remains responsible for examining whether the legal requirements are fulfilled within its own decision-making procedure. Accordingly, Liechtenstein follows a mixed but predominantly candidate-driven model. As a general rule, the candidate submits the relevant extract or supporting documentation, and the competent authority, employer or child protection authority assesses that material in the light of the applicable statutory framework. In certain procedures, for instance the foster care context, the law expressly empowers the authority to obtain or request additional information directly. The same functional logic also applies in public-sector security and integrity checks, where the responsible authority carries out the review within the framework established by the applicable legislation.

- c. another scenario. Please specify

14. If screening is required, who bears the costs of screening procedures?

Please provide details.

There is no single uniform rule governing the allocation of costs for screening procedures across all sectors. In practice, where screening is carried out through the submission of a criminal-record extract by the person concerned, the costs are generally borne by that person. This follows from the general structure of the system: the national criminal-record extract must be requested by the individual and is subject to a fee of CHF 20 (for record extracts in Liechtenstein). In regulated professions and other applicant-driven procedures, such as licensing, authorisation or suitability assessments, the applicant therefore ordinarily bears at least the direct cost of obtaining the required extract and submitting the supporting documentation.

At the same time, the broader administrative costs of assessing whether the legal requirements are met are normally absorbed within the competent authority's decision-making procedure under the applicable sector-specific framework.

15. How does your State monitor that employers, volunteer recruiters or child protection authorities comply with the relevant regulations on screening?

Please provide details.

Compliance with screening-related obligations is not monitored through one single centralised control mechanism. Rather, monitoring follows the same decentralised and sector-specific structure as the screening framework itself. In regulated sectors, compliance is supervised within the respective authorisation, licensing and oversight procedures of the competent authority. This means that the relevant authority, for example the ASD or the Office of Economic Affairs or the Office of Public Health, verifies, at the stage of recruitment, appointment, licensing or authorisation, whether the documents and conditions required by the applicable legal framework have been submitted and fulfilled. In the health sector, for example, the competent authority examines whether the statutory requirements for professional authorisation are met and may refuse, withdraw or otherwise affect authorisation where the legal conditions are not satisfied. In child protection contexts, the ASD monitors compliance within the framework of suitability assessments, authorisation procedures and statutory supervision over out-of-home care arrangements.

Monitoring takes place through ordinary supervisory powers, including the examination of applications, on-site verification in certain child-care and foster-care settings, continuing oversight of authorised activities and, where applicable, the possibility of refusing, restricting or withdrawing an authorisation or permit. In the field of out-of-home childcare, this supervisory structure is expressly reflected in the KJG and the related Childcare Ordinance, which provide for authorisation and supervision by the ASD. A comparable logic applies in other regulated areas, such as the health professions and certain public-sector integrity checks, where compliance is reviewed by the competent authority within its statutory mandate.

16. If screening is required, are there sanctions foreseen for failure to comply with it? If yes, what type of sanctions?

Please provide details.

There is no clear regulatory framework governing sanctions. For example, although private schools are required to obtain criminal record extracts, compliance with this requirement is not systematically monitored or enforced.

If criminal record extracts are not submitted as part of the approval process for out-of-home childcare or foster care arrangements, approval will be denied. If there are personnel changes in management positions at out-of-home childcare facilities, these managers must be re-approved. If criminal record extracts are missing, or if they are submitted but contain problematic entries, the person will be rejected for the position; if the person is nevertheless hired by an employer, the authorization granted may be revoked. The law does not provide for specific fines or other legal consequences.

17. Is regular screening, beyond the initial recruitment process, required, for:

a. professionals in contact with children

No, screening is required at the recruitment stage of access to professions involving regular contact with children in line with Art. 5(3) of the Lanzarote Convention and as explained in the legal bill for the accession to the Lanzarote Convention (BuA 2015/56).

b. volunteers in contact with children

No.

c. foster parents and legal guardians?

No regular screening requirement but ongoing supervision by the ASD. The ASD must visit the foster household as often as necessary and at least once a year under Art. 9 KBV. For legal guardians there is no specific legal obligation for a re-screening.

If regular screening is required, please specify its frequency and provide other details.

For foster parents, there is no periodic criminal re-screening, but there is ongoing supervision by the ASD that includes visits to the household.

18. Where a person working or volunteering in contact with children is under investigation for a sexual offence against a child, are law enforcement or other authorities allowed to inform the employer or volunteer organisation about the ongoing investigation? If yes, what is the consequence?

Please provide details.

There is no general rule allowing law enforcement authorities to inform any employer or volunteer organisation whenever a person working or volunteering with children is under investigation for a sexual offence against a child. As a rule, ongoing criminal investigations are subject to confidentiality, and disclosure may be restricted where informing third parties could jeopardise the investigation.

There is a specific statutory notification duty for teachers. Article 48b (2) Teaching Personnel Act (Lehrpersonalgesetz, LPersG) states that if a teacher is criminally prosecuted for an offence that may impair his or her trustworthiness or suitability as a teacher, the public prosecutor must notify the Office of Education of the opening or discontinuation of criminal proceedings, and the Court of Justice must notify it of the judgment. The consequence of such notification is that the competent school authorities may assess the teacher's suitability and take appropriate measures under the applicable law; in serious cases, this may ultimately lead to a prohibition on exercising the profession. More generally, criminal law also allows activity bans for persons who have committed sexual offences against minors.

Cross-border screening

19. If the candidate for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3 has previously resided or worked in different countries, is it required to verify the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children in each of those countries in respect of:

a. Professionals

Besides the acts already mentioned above like the GesG and the ÄrzteG, this is regulated by the Act on the recognition of professional qualifications (Professional Qualifications Recognition Act; BQAG). This act governs the recognition of professional qualifications

with regard to regulated professions in Liechtenstein and is – among others - based on the Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications.

According to Article 19 of the BQAG the competent authority can request a criminal record extract of the candidate. If there is serious doubt on the certification provided, the competent authority can request the competent authority of the respective EEA member state for confirmation of the documents provided.

In addition, Liechtenstein implemented the alert mechanism according to Article 56a of the Directive 2005/36/EG in Art. 27 ff BQAG, which provides for an exchange of information between states.

- b. persons wishing to become an adoptive parent, a foster parent or a child's legal guardian?

Please provide details.

If prospective foster parents have lived abroad in the past, the ASD may, on a case-by-case basis, request documents from abroad in addition to the criminal record check in Liechtenstein. However, there is no explicit legal basis for this; rather, it is a matter of established practice.

20. Is there a mechanism to:

- a. request data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children from the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings⁶ (please specify)

Yes, but only in cases according to Article 19 para 2 BQAG, but only when the competent authority in Liechtenstein has serious doubts about the documents provided by the applicant.

- b. provide data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children to the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings (please specify)?

No. Nevertheless, there is the above-mentioned mechanism according to Article 19 para 2 BQAG that would allow the competent authority in Liechtenstein to provide or confirm the necessary information to the competent authority of another state.

21. Is there an obligation to provide data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children at the request of the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings?

No.

Additional details and reflections

22. Please add any further details regarding the modalities of the screening procedures applicable in your State, if relevant.

No further information.

⁶ For purposes of recruitment, volunteering, adoption, foster care or guardianship.

23. What challenges related to the screening for criminal convictions for sexual offences against children of professionals, volunteers and persons wishing to become adoptive parents, foster parents or a child's legal guardian exist in your State in practice (e.g. administrative costs, delays, cross-border co-operation)?

Regular Screening is not foreseen in most cases (after the 1st screening).

Please provide details.

Currently, no specific challenges have been identified.

24. What promising practices, if any, would your State like to highlight in the screening of professionals, volunteers and other persons in contact with children?

Please provide details.

As a promising practice, the Special Education Day Centre (HPZ) requires persons in contact with children to sign an additional self-declaration confirming that no criminal, administrative criminal or investigative proceedings are pending against them which would be relevant to the position, in particular in relation to sexual offences. This requirement also applies to interns, volunteers and persons carrying out short-term observation or work-shadowing placements.