



T-ES(2024)07\_en final

24 June 2024

## **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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**List of decisions**

**42<sup>nd</sup> meeting**

**Venue: Strasbourg**

11-13 June 2024

Adopted by the Lanzarote Committee on 24 June 2024

The Committee of the Parties (hereinafter referred to as “the Lanzarote Committee” or “the Committee”) to the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (hereinafter referred to as “the Lanzarote Convention” or “the Convention”) held its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 11-13 June 2024 in Strasbourg.

**During this meeting, the Lanzarote Committee:**

1. Adopted its agenda.

***As regards monitoring the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention***

2. Took note of the preliminary analysis presented by Rapporteurs concerning replies received from State Parties and additional information received from civil society representatives in relation to questions 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the [thematic questionnaire](#) on legal frameworks in the context of the Committee’s third monitoring round on the protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust and agreed to reply to the requests for additional information and to submit comments on the presentations, if any, by 4 July 2024.

3. Agreed to continue examining the remaining questions of the [thematic questionnaire](#) on legal frameworks using the same methodology at the next meeting (see Appendix, point 2).

4. Agreed to postpone work on the next phase of the current monitoring round according to the timeline as set out in the Appendix [point 3] to this list of decisions.

5. Took note of the number of Parties that have replied to the Survey of data collection mechanisms regarding child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and agreed to extend the deadline for the submission of replies to this survey, which should be submitted by 2 July 2024 to [lanzarote.committee@coe.int](mailto:lanzarote.committee@coe.int).

***As regards capacity building, exchange of information, experiences and good practices***

6. Adopted an [Opinion on Article 33 of the Lanzarote Convention](#): Requirements of the provision on statute of limitations and recommendations on its implementation, with its explanatory note (T-ES(2023)20\_en final).

7. Took note of the information shared by the European Commission regarding progress on the recast [Directive on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child sexual abuse material and replacing Council Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA](#), the [proposal for a regulation laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse](#), and the [Help seeker and Perpetrator Prevention Initiatives - Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation](#), and agreed to continue the exchange of information with the European Commission in this regard.

8. Following an update about the [Global Ministerial Conference on ending violence against children](#) (Bogota, 7-8 November 2024) from the European Regional Office of the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Committee:
  - a. welcomed the organisation of the Global Ministerial Conference;
  - b. recalled that the Lanzarote Convention, the most comprehensive international agreement on protecting children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, is open for ratification or accession by any country;
  - c. agreed to convey a call to the Governments participating in the Global Conference to include an invitation for States globally to step up their fight against child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, online and offline, by ratifying the Lanzarote Convention or acceding to it;
  - d. invited the Secretariat, subject to available resources, to consider organising a side event on the margins of the Global Conference to further States' understanding of the Lanzarote Convention and the advantages of participating in the work of the Lanzarote Committee.
  
9. Following an update from the Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) of the Council of Europe, the Committee:
  - a. took note of the PACE Resolution 2547 (2024) and Recommendation 2274 (2024) on "The protection of children against online violence";
  - b. recalled that in 2022 the Lanzarote Committee adopted an implementation report on the [Protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies](#) which specifically addressed the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos;
  - c. further recalled that the Lanzarote Convention requires States to educate children about the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in a way that is adapted to their evolving capacity (Article 6), raise awareness among the general public about the phenomenon of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children and on the preventive measures which can be taken (Article 8), as well as to encourage reporting of these offences (Article 12) and provide helplines (Article 13) and assistance to victims of these crimes (Article 14);
  - d. agreed to continue raising awareness about the issues raised in these documents in the context of the 2024 edition of the Day for the Protection of children against child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (18 November) taking into account that the thematic focus will be on emerging technologies: opportunities and risks for the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse;
  - e. invited the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and its parliamentarians at national level to consider using the occasion of the 2024 edition of the Day for the Protection of children against child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse to take actions to raise awareness about these issues and to promote the Lanzarote Convention more widely for ratification or accession by States around the world.
  
10. Welcomed the news that the [Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence](#) has been opened for signature.

***As to procedural matters***

11. Decided to grant observer status to [Protect Children \(suojellaanlapsia.fi\)](https://www.suojellaanlapsia.fi).
12. Decided to adopt *ad referendum* this list of decisions.

## Appendix

### Next meeting dates and monitoring procedures indicative timeline

#### 1. Dates of the next meeting

- **43<sup>rd</sup> meeting:** 12-15 November 2024 (if in Strasbourg, otherwise exact dates and venue tbc)

#### 2. Timeline for the analysis of replies to the questionnaire [“Protecting children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust: legal frameworks”](#)

Meeting	41 <sup>st</sup> meeting (13-15/02/2024)	42 <sup>nd</sup> meeting (11-13/06/2024)	43 <sup>rd</sup> meeting (November 2024 TBC)	44 <sup>th</sup> meeting (2025)
<b>Questions &amp; themes</b>	<b>Questions 1-6 and 10</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key notions (Q1)</li> <li>• Victim’s age (Q2)</li> <li>• Scope of offence (Q3 and 4)</li> <li>• Ex officio prosecution (Q5)</li> <li>• Measures in respect of children who sexually offend and children displaying risky and harmful sexual behaviour (Q6)</li> <li>• Guarantees of protection for persons reporting suspected offences (Q10)</li> </ul>	<b>Questions 7-9, and 11-16</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child victims’ rights to protection and parental rights (Q7, 8, and 9)</li> <li>• Assistance to third parties (Q11 and 12)</li> <li>• Monitoring of offenders (Q13)</li> <li>• Monitoring of offenders (Q14)</li> <li>• Special representatives (Q15 and 16)</li> </ul>	<b>Questions 17-20</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for child victims in investigative and judicial proceedings (Q17 and 18)</li> <li>• Investigation (Q19)</li> <li>• Judicial proceedings (Q20)</li> </ul>	Examination of preliminary draft full report

### 3. Indicative timeline for the continuation of the monitoring round on the protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust

41 <sup>st</sup> meeting (13-15 February 2024)	Agreement on the methodology for the next questionnaire to assess the policies and strategies in place to protect children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust, with an emphasis on specific dimensions of the circle of trust.
44 <sup>th</sup> meeting (February/March 2025)	Discussion/adoption of a draft policy frameworks questionnaire to be addressed to State Parties Examination (and possible adoption) of the legal frameworks implementation report
June 2025	Deadline for State Parties to submit information on policy frameworks
September 2025	Deadline for other relevant stakeholders to submit additional information on policy frameworks
45 <sup>th</sup> meeting (June 2025)	Continued (if necessary) examination and adoption of the legal frameworks implementation report
46 <sup>th</sup> meeting (October/November 2025)	Analysis of replies submitted to the policy frameworks questionnaire
47 <sup>th</sup> meeting (February/March 2026)	Continued analysis of replies submitted to the policy frameworks questionnaire
48 <sup>th</sup> meeting (June 2026)	Continued analysis of replies submitted to the policy frameworks questionnaire
49 <sup>th</sup> meeting (October/November 2026)	Examination and possible adoption of the policy frameworks implementation report