

CINGO Committee Report for the General Assembly (short format)

Version 3: Spring 2026 – to be returned by Friday, 10 April

Committee name: Civil Society Committee on the Rights of the Child in Europe - Protecting and promoting the well-being of children of all ages

Date of report: April 8, 2026

Report author name and contact details: Herminio Corrêa and Ruth Allen.

Date committee was approved by CINGO General Assembly: April 10, 2024

N.B. If this committee was approved in Spring 2024 it will come to the end of its mandate at the 2026 Spring Session of the General Assembly. Please be sure to complete section 5 to request a mandate for another year. Please keep answers short and focused on priorities and actions

1. Committee Chair/Vice Chair name/s and contact emails

Herminio Corrêa – herminio.correa@gmail.com

Ruth Allen - ruthallenonline@gmail.com

2. Which INGOs are represented on the committee?

Eurocef

International Council on Shared Parenting

Hope for Children

Parents International

International Federation of Social Workers

ATD& Fourth World

Defence for Children International

Europe Center for Human Rights

Children of Prisoners in Europe

International Alliance of Women

Pax Romana

Alliance ELIANT

3. Which Council of Europe committees and other activities is this committee mainly involved in? Steering Committee on the Rights of the Child and Lanzarote Committee.
We also worked with the Pompidou Group, participating as speakers at the Launch

Conference of the project “Promoting the Mental Health of Children and Youth by Addressing the Risks of Online Gambling and Gaming” and in the organization of a joint event “Healthier Youth – Addressing the Risks of Online Gambling and Video Gaming,” which also included the Youth Group.

4. How has this committee linked with other CINGO committees in the last year?
- Our committee worked together with the Committee on Migration Issues. NGOs as advocates for gender equality and women's rights, Sport and Human Rights Committee - Access to sport for all is a fundamental right, and Committee for the European Social Charter and its monitoring mechanisms, issuing opinions, from the perspective of Children's Rights, on documents and participating in some of their meetings and events.

5. If your committee is at the end of its two-year mandate at the 2026 Spring Session of the General Assembly, please answer the following questions:

- a. Does the committee wish to continue its mandate for another year? Yes
- b. If 'yes', please describe your objectives over the next 12 months up to Spring 2027 (no more than 250 words). If you have a workplan for the year, please add it to the bottom of this form.

These main objectives remain the same:

To promote children and adolescents' human, social, and other rights across Europe through contributing civil society perspectives and influencing relevant workstreams within the Council of Europe (CoE).

To ensure children and adolescent rights and voices are raised across the work of CINGO, including through joint work with other CINGO committees and INGOs.

To influence the policy work of CINGO to be inclusive of the rights and needs of diverse children and adolescents, including those that are most marginalized (e.g., children and adolescents affected by migration, homelessness, unmet health needs, lack of education, discrimination, racism, risk of abuse, violence, and war).

In addition, we will use the year to

- Mark 50 years of advancing children's rights in CoE through a joint event with the Children's Rights Steering Committee and associated bodies in the second half of 2026
 - Disseminate the CoE work on children's rights in parental separation and care proceedings which CINGO significantly contributed through an online event
 - Review the representation of (I)NGOs in all bodies of CoE and their work streams dealing with children's rights and propose priorities for ongoing CINGO representation for 2027 onwards.
 - Further streamline links between child rights and CINGO youth theme to inform future work
- c. Who is proposed as Chair for the extension of the committee's mandate? Herminio Corrêa and Ruth Allen.

6. Activity and Outcomes Report – please choose up to 6 main activities and outcomes.
Please add links to any online resources created and published in the last 12 months.

Topic	Summary of activities/impact in last year.	Current key issues/concerns	Plans for next 6 – 12 months
1. Risks of Online Gambling and Gaming and Children's Mental Health.	Participating as speakers at the Launch Conference of the project "Promoting the Mental Health of Children and Youth by Addressing the Risks of Online Gambling and Gaming."	The committee had the opportunity, based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, to express its opinion on the conference theme and to make some recommendations that should be taken into account in the development of the project.	Continue to actively monitor the project's progress.
2. Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) guarantees that every child capable of forming views has the right to express them freely in all matters affecting them	Joint event in the Autumn session "Healthier Youth – Addressing the Risks of Online Gambling and Video Gaming," which also included the Youth Group.	Ten young people from different countries and backgrounds had the opportunity to express their views on this issue freely.	
3. Child-Friendly Justice	Participation in the 7th International Conference on Shared Parenting (ICSP) Challenges and Opportunities held in Lisbon between December 3rd and 6th, 2025.	The conference gathered an international and multidisciplinary group of experts to discuss shared parenting and children's rights. Key themes included legal and psychological perspectives, parental conflict, gender issues, and evidence-based policy. Emerging topics such as parental alienation, domestic violence, and AI in family law	Webinar on the European Shared Parenting Map - This initiative, developed by the International Council on Shared Parenting (ICSP), provides a structured overview of national legislation on shared parenting across Europe.

		were also addressed.	
4. Contribution to and dissemination of CoE) child rights and parental separation intergovernmental guidance	Ongoing contributions to the guidance and its potential impact through consultation responses and participation in Children's Rights Steering Committee. Publication on CINGO website	This important legal and practice guidance requires ongoing dissemination support and ensuring its relevance to civil society organisations as well as public service entities is recognised	Online event scheduled for June 2026
5. Regular CINGO participation in key Children's Rights committees and liaison with the relevant secretariats.	Children's Rights Steering Committee (CDENF) and mid-term strategy review (Ruth Allen). Contribution on key workstreams included: child rights, digital tech and AI; child friendly justice; children in migration; child rights and New Democratic Pact Lanzarote Committee (Katerina Melissari) Contribution on key workstreams included: Protecting children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust; data collection on child abuse; promising practices against child abuse; risks to children of Ukraine	Sustaining meaningful representation in person or, where necessary, online in these committees and ensuring prioritisation of CINGO resources on key topics. Building alliances with other INGOs/NGOs represented in the committees to strengthen civil society voice..	Sustaining representation for the next 12 months Reviewing representation opportunities and where CINGO can make the most useful/powerful impact. Keeping CINGO members better updated on the work of the CoE child rights bodies.

6. Comprehensive age appropriate sexuality education for children and young people	Cooperation with CINGO member IGLYO within CDENF to ensure draft guidance was fully inclusive and non-discriminatory with regard to LGBTQI		
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7. Is there anything else you would like to share with CINGO members and/or the CINGO Standing Committee? (max 200 words) -
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