



ROAD TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE RECOMMENDATION ON AGE-APPROPRIATE COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

What is the Council of Europe?

The Council of Europe is a European organisation of 46 countries, called member States, based in Strasbourg, France. It was set up to make sure that all these countries protect human rights, including children's rights, by supporting children and young people like you to develop their full potential, and by preventing any harm. To better organise and focus this work, the Council of Europe adopted the Strategy for the Rights of the Child covering the period of 2022 – 2027.



You can read the everyone-friendly version of the Strategy [here](#)!

What is the Recommendation about?



It will be a document guiding the members states on how to design, provide and monitor age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education with the aim to prevent and combat violence against children. All these in consultation with children.

It will be based on a child-rights approach which means that it will recognise children's right to life, right to health, right to education, right to equality, including gender equality and the right to be free from all forms of violence.

It will be formally issued by the Committee of Ministers which is the highest body of the Council of Europe.

How is the Recommendation going to be drafted?

The drafting of such document takes time because it involves state officials from the member states, experts, civil society organisations and children and young people too! Below you can see the tentative timeline which might change a bit.

April 2022

Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022–2027) was launched and a body was set up to implement it (called Steering Committee on the Rights of the Child).

July 2024

The expert group published a study on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education.

February 2025

The expert group finishes the first draft of the recommendation and send it to the Steering Committee.

April 2025

The outcomes and report of the child consultations are shared at the Mid-term Review Conference in Strasbourg.

End of 2026

The Steering Committee, then the Committee of Ministers adopts the recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education.

January 2023

The Steering Committee set up an expert group to work on objective of the Strategy “Keeping children safe from violence”.

November 2024 - January 2025

Child consultations are organised in Europe to inform the expert group on the content of the recommendation.

February - March 2025

More consultations are happening on the draft recommendation involving actors inside and outside of the Council of Europe.

November 2025

The Steering Committee discuss the draft of the recommendation and considers all the consultations which took place.

End of 2026

The recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education is published and widely shared.

