

INVESTING IN CHILDREN IN EUROPE

THE EUROPEAN UNION
IS A GROUP OF
28 COUNTRIES
THAT WORK
TOGETHER



ONE OF ITS
JOBS IS TO
PROVIDE ADVICE
TO EUROPEAN
GOVERNMENTS
ON IMPORTANT
ISSUES.

The EU has recently
provided guidance on
how governments
should spend money
for children. This
is because it is
concerned about child
poverty in Europe.


To tackle the problem, the European Union has given advice that:

- reminds countries about the promises they have made to promote and protect children's rights. e.g., all children have the right to be educated and get health care if they need it.
- And it explains what they should do about child poverty.

HOW SHOULD
GOVERNMENTS
GO ABOUT
DOING THIS?



Countries should remember
their children's rights promises
when making decisions
about spending money
for children.



THE RECOMMENDATION INCLUDES 3 SETS OF PROMISES...

When children don't have the proper essentials to live they are often not as healthy and don't usually do as well in school as other children.

1 CHILD IN
4 IS AT RISK
OF POVERTY AND
SOCIAL EXCLUSION



1



2



3



4

INVOLVE CHILDREN IN THESE DECISIONS



1

FIRST SET OF PROMISES

Governments should work hard to make sure that children and their families get the support that they need...

SO...

Parents should get enough money to meet the families' needs.

Families should have childcare they can afford and that suits them



PLAN FOR THE FUTURE



PARENTS AND
GUARDIANS SHOULD
HAVE A GOOD BALANCE
BETWEEN WORK AND
FAMILY.



For example
parents should get enough
time off work
to spend with their children.

**MAKE SURE
EVERYONE IS
WORKING
TOGETHER AND
CO-OPERATING**



2

SECOND SET OF PROMISES

Governments should work hard to make sure that children and their families get the support that they need...

SO...

All children should benefit equally from health services (doctors, nurses, hospitals, dentists, medicine)

Children should be helped to learn and develop from an early age.

Children should have a safe place to live and have their needs met if they cannot stay with their families. For example, they might need to go to fostercare.



MAKE
DECISIONS
BASED ON
GOOD
INFORMATION



3

THIRD SET OF PROMISES

Governments should work hard to make sure
that all children can take part in activities, no
matter what their background...

for example

The cost of
after-school clubs
should not be so high that
children can't afford to
take part.

Children should have
a say when decisions are
made. For example, a decision
to build a new play park or
change the location of a
school.



ASK FOR MONEY AND
SUPPORT FROM THE
EUROPEAN UNION
IF THEY NEED HELP
TO KEEP THESE PROMISES



WHY DOES THIS MATTER TO YOU?

It is important for you to know the promises your government has made for children.

If you think your government isn't keeping its promises, you might want to write to your local politician to remind them and ask them to work harder on this.





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***This is the European Recommendation
“Investing in children: breaking the cycle
of disadvantage” launched in 2013.***

Thanks to Laura Lundy, Centre for Children's Rights at Queen's University Belfast and to the children (aged 10-14) who contributed with their advice.



This publication is supported by the European Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) 2014-2020. The views expressed by Eurochild do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Commission. The European Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) 2014-2020 is a European-level financing instrument managed directly by the European Commission to contribute to the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy. For more information see: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>