

Croatia - Child Guarantee National Action Plan Overview

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This overview presents highlights extracted from the National Action Plan (NAP) from Croatia published on 16/08/2022. It is not exhaustive nor does it evaluate the NAP and uses the same terms as those in the NAP. It is intended to summarise key elements & to signpost stakeholders to other relevant analyses.

Children in need

Children at risk of poverty and social exclusion	18.4% (126,000 children)
Child beneficiaries of the Guaranteed Minimum Benefit (GMB)	13,977 children
Children in underdeveloped, especially rural, areas	No data provided
Children with disabilities	8.2% of children (0-19 yrs.)
Children with a migrant background	3,849 (385 are unaccompanied)
Children from Ukraine and all other displaced children	No data provided
Children in alternative care and care leavers	3,487 children in care (250-290 leaving per year)
Children whose parents are imprisoned	1,320 averaged over the last 5 years
Roma children	12,920 (<16)



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Planned key services and actions

- **Early Childhood Education and Care:** Invest in infrastructure; Improve care services in smaller areas (i.e., rural); Improve the funding model and strengthen the role of the central government.
- **Education:** address hidden costs of education and provide further financial support for vulnerable children; Promote extracurricular for children at risk of poverty and Roma children.
- **Nutrition:** Monitor of the percentage of exclusively breastfed children aged 0-5 months; provide meals at primary school for children in poverty and social exclusion.
- **Health:** Establish an early detection system for children aged 0-5 years; Improve health services at home and in local communities, especially in remote, rural and underdeveloped areas; Adopt a national framework for the protection of children's mental health.
- **Children in Alternative Care:** Improve care as housing for children and expand the network of foster housing; Ensure housing allowance for care leavers and offer them a social mentor.

Designated Funding

The funds for the implementation of the NAP will be provided from the State Budget and from the European funds in the financial perspective of the European Union for the period 2021-2027. No figures provided.

**Croatia is one the EU Member States bound for 5% earmarking of the ESF+ for lifting Children out of poverty.*

Stakeholder Engagement

- Working group with civil society (UNICEF, the Ombudsperson for Children, Association Children First and the Study Centre of Social Work).
- 183 young people (16-25) through an online survey; 60 adolescents and young people (12-25) through group discussions; children through the 16+Forum organised by the Ombudsperson.
- Further consultation with children will be organised bi-annually.

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- [Data Care Country Overview](#)

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

External evaluation planned every two years starting in 2024.

A committee will be set up, responsible for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the NAP, which will report annually to the Croatian parliament, bi-annually to European Commission.

Read the full NAP

