



# Setting the Scene

Measuring progress in deinstitutionalisation and improving data availability, quality and comparability on children in alternative care

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# The 'Why'?

## Why is it important to produce statistics on children in alternative care?

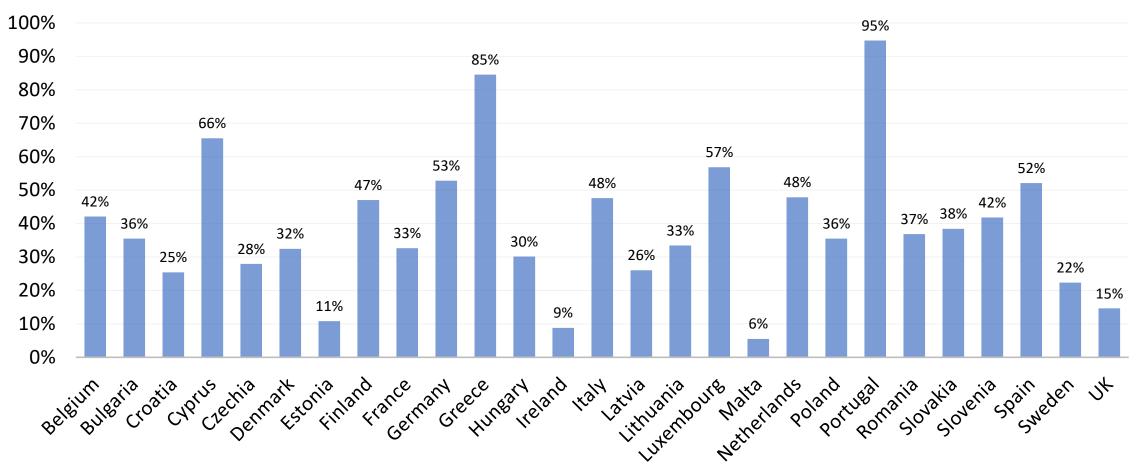
- Measuring progress and results of existing policy commitments
- > Among the most excluded groups of children
- ➤ Often overlooked in national statistics, surveys and census
- Missing from international reporting frameworks
- ➤ Absence of internationally agreed standards and definitions

# Why is it important to have comparable statistics on this group of children?

- ✓ Helps identify national data gaps
- ✓ Supports evidence-based policymaking and analysis, and the assessment of public policies
- ✓ Prompts improvements in collection, measurement, and reporting, improving quality of data for international and national purposes



#### PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN IN RESIDENTIAL CARE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN ALTERNATIVE CARE AT A SPECIFIC POINT IN TIME (EU + UK)



Percentage of children in residential care





Preliminary analysis of the integration of indicators on children in alternative care into Child Guarantee National Action Plans

- 19 National Action Plans submitted all 19 refer to children in alternative care
- 15 refer to available data on children in alternative care
- 9 have monitoring frameworks including selected indicators on children in alternative care
- 2 include an action to carry out specific surveys on children in alternative until 2030

#### The 'What'?



## Global, Regional and National Frameworks





#### **Prevention**



#### **Entry indicators (inflow)**

Other quantitative and qualitative indicators (some countries only)





## Stock indicators (type, profile): #, %, rate

System performance indicators Other quantitative and qualitative indicators (some countries only)

Reunification and reintegration

Safe transitioning to

adulthood



### Exit data (outflow) by destination

System performance indicators
Other quantitative and qualitative indicators (some countries only)

**RED:** Available data from a critical mass of countries

## **Outcomes for children**

in care and care leavers (some countries only)





Global leve

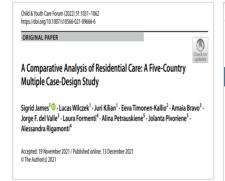
#### A flavour of the growing evidence and knowledge base



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR FUROPE

Spotlight on children exposed to violence,

Statistics on Children























### **Key Findings**

National definitions and classifications vary and reflect diversity of systems

No internationally accepted standard definitions

The population of children in alternative care is not fully captured in all countries – exclusion of groups of children and specific types of care

Disaggregation variables are not standardized

**Commonly used variables:** age, sex, disability status

Some statistics on children in alternative care are available in most countries (Residential and Family-based)

Issues concerning data
availability (gaps),
comparability (methodological
work needed), quality (data
systems strengthening)

Issues are recognized at national level – high interest in improving data

Good practices exist

International work required



#### Main Recommendations

For the European
Commission and in
particular the Social
Protection Committee Indicator Sub-Group to:

#### **Develop guidance**

on monitoring progress in EU child policy implementation and evaluating outcomes for children

Use the available data from national sources

on children in alternative care to fill in the gaps in EU-level data collection in this area

Invest in the methodological work required to allow more comparable results

For Eurostat and National Statistical Offices to continue

supporting and

actively engaging

in the follow-up
work to the
Guidance on
Statistics on
Children > Expert
meeting in 2024

For the European Commission to

continue
supporting
Member States
through the
Technical Support
Instrument in the
implementation
and monitoring of
their national
action plans
(children's rights,
European Child
Guarantee)

**For Governments** 

to seize the available policy instruments and support mechanisms and work with national statistical offices on assessing the quality of their data systems on children in alternative care. and develop and implement data improvement plans - engaging also civil society and children in these processes





#### **THANK YOU!**

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