

# Using children's rights to recover from the Global Pandemic: The closing conference for the Building Children's Futures project

**Date:** 3 July 2024.

**Time:** 9:00am – 11:45 am Central European Time / 8:00am – 10:45am Irish time.

**Location:** In-person at the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Valletta Malta, and online.

**Register by completing this form**

## **Summary:**

As part of the EU-funded Building Children's Futures project, Eurochild is organising an international **hybrid** conference on the importance of using child rights impact assessments to develop public policies with children and youth representatives across Europe in Malta, July 3 2024.

This conference targets institutions, representatives, and other key stakeholders to ensure children's participation in decision-making processes in emergency situations.

The conference will present the results and findings created through the Building Children's Futures project to a European audience.

This event will take place as part of Eurochild's larger Networking Convention, ***Fostering Rights-Based Solutions to Tackle Child Poverty and Social Exclusion across Europe***, which takes place July 2-3 2024 in Valletta, Malta at the Grand Excelsior Hotel.

**Attendees:** Approximately 200 people in total, in person and online, made up of civil society organisations and decision-makers in the field of children's rights, and children and young people themselves.

Contact Ciaran O'Donnell at the Eurochild Secretariat if you have any questions.

## **Event Programme**

09:00-09:15	<b>Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conference host: <b>Mieke Schuurman, Director of Children's Rights and Capacity Building, Eurochild;</b></li><li>Welcoming remarks: <b>Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Eurochild and President of Malta Foundation of Wellbeing in Society MFWS, and former President of Malta.</b></li></ul>
09:15-10:15	<b>Presentations of the development of child rights impact assessments in Ireland: Key results from the Building Children's Futures project</b>  Moderated by <b>Mieke Schuurman, Eurochild.</b>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rayaa, Eurochild Children Council and Building Children's Futures Child and Youth Advisory Group (CYPAG)</b> - Presenting the CYPAG's involvement and reflections on child rights impact assessments, supported by Foróige;</li> <li>• <b>Dr Danielle Kennan, UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre at the University of Galway</b> - Sharing the impact of Covid-19 on children and learning for child rights impact assessments;</li> <li>• <b>Karla Charles, EU Programmes and Know Your Rights Project Manager, Children's Rights Alliance</b> - Sharing best practices of responses to the pandemic using child rights impact assessments for children and young people – Children's Rights Alliance;</li> <li>• <b>Linda O'Sullivan, Child Rights Policy Unit, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration, and Youth, Government of Ireland</b> – Reflecting on a Pathway to Child Rights Impact Assessment in Ireland.</li> </ul> <p>Followed by Q&amp;A with the audience.</p> <p><b>Reflections on the role child rights impact assessments can play in the EU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marie-Cécile Rouillon, Coordinator on the Rights of the Child for the European Commission</b> (online).</li> </ul>
<b>10:15-10:20: Comfort break during stage re-organising. Refreshments will be available outside.</b>	
10:20-11:10	<p><b>Roundtable panel – Expert perspectives and reflections on the role of child rights impact assessments (CRIA) across Europe</b></p> <p>Moderated by <b>Julie Ahern, Director of Legal, Policy and Services, Children's Rights Alliance Ireland.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Colma Nic Lughadha, National Co-ordinator for Children and Young People's Services Committees, Tusla Child and Family Agency in Ireland</b> – reflecting on implementation of CRIAs in Ireland;</li> <li>• <b>Professor Cath Larkins, University of Central Lancashire</b> – the Council of Europe's Child Participation Assessment Tool;</li> <li>• <b>Professor Bruce Adamson, University of Glasgow</b>, and former Children and Young People's Commissioner for Scotland – integrating CRIAs in Scotland;</li> <li>• <b>Véronique Lerch, Independent Human Rights Consultant</b> – sharing findings from the ENOC-UNICEF study <i>State measures on children's rights during the Covid-19 pandemic: Multi-country impact assessment: Synthesis report.</i></li> </ul> <p>Featuring an interactive discussion with the audience.</p>
11:10-11:30	<p><b>Discussion with the audience and panellists on how CRIAs can work in practice and on best practice examples across Europe and the Eurochild network</b></p> <p>Roundtable discussion for in-person participants and sharing of key audience takeaways.</p>
11:35-11:40	<p><b>Concluding remarks by Julie Ahern, Children's Rights Alliance</b></p>
<b>11:40-11:45: Conference close</b>	



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