

Lithuania - 2024 Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee

This summary provides key highlights from the first Biennial report on the Child Guarantee implementation in Lithuania. It is not exhaustive or evaluative.

Roll-out of key services

Early childhood education and care: Family outreach, inclusive teaching, increased care allowances, and broader pre-school access for vulnerable groups to ensure socially excluded children receive education. Specific support is provided to Roma children.

Education and school-based activities: Financial support, inclusive and accessible learning, digital tools, teacher training, targeted support for vulnerable groups, and expanded school-based activities, while promoting equal opportunities and social inclusion.

Healthy meals each school day and healthy nutrition: Entitlement to free school meals for children in low-income households, with requirements for school meals to follow a healthy diet.

Healthcare: The 2021-2030 National Progress Plan includes health indicators like reducing alcohol consumption per person over 15 and increasing the number of vaccinated children. *The Multidimensional Family Therapy Programme* is an evidence-based, family-centred behavioural change initiative for children with complex behavioural issues.

Adequate housing: Increase in housing support for young families with children and for families with three or more children. The *2024 Social Housing Fund* projects would limit the period to three years for families with three or more children.

Resources

- [Full Biennial Report on the Implementation of the Child Guarantee](#)

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Ministry of Social Security and Labour directs the coordination of the Child Guarantee with support from the Ministries of Health and Education, Science and Sport. NGOs, academia, municipalities, and children's representatives were involved in the preparatory analysis and continue to contribute through consultations and monitoring structures. *The Inter-agency Council for Child Welfare*, which involves ministries, NGOs, and children, plays a key role in overseeing the plan, ensuring cross-sectoral and participatory governance.

Funding to implement the Child Guarantee

Lithuania's implementation of the Child Guarantee is financed through EU funds, including ESF+ funds (€ 98.98 million), EU funds investment programmes for 2021-2027, as well as State and municipal budget.

Target groups

The target groups have been listed in the National Action Plan and Eurochild's overview.

Lessons learnt and further development

The European Commission's feedback highlighted positive indicators aligned with EU goals and others needing improvement, which will guide revisions. Additional measures may be considered to better support vulnerable children. A comprehensive review is planned for 2025 to refine the National Action Plan, address comments, and possibly add new measures before submitting the updated plan to the European Commission.

Relevant trends

- In 2023, 19.9% of children under the age of 3 was participating in early childhood education and care.
- In 2024, there were 6,076 children in alternative care in Lithuania: 1,348 in temporary care (including 511 from Ukraine) and 4,728 in permanent care.
- In 2023, children with disabilities increased slightly to 2,023, with 1,651 living in families.
- In 2023, 677 children were suspected or accused of offences.
- By October 2024, Lithuania had received 27,094 children from Ukraine.