

Daphne-CHILD High Level Conference

Date: Thursday 1 October 2026: 09:15-16:00 CET.

Location: European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), Room: VMA 22, Rue Van Maerlant 2, 1000 Brussels.

Arrival, registration and welcome coffee open from 9:15-10:00.

Programme agenda

SESSION 1 – Strengthening integrated child protection systems: Insights from practice and policy

- **10:00-10:10: Welcome remarks**, by Ciaran O'Donnell, Eurochild and conference host, Bruce Adamson, Eurochild Vice President, and Kinga Joó, Member of the EESC's Civil Society Organisations' Group.
- **10:10-10:55: Addressing violence against children – insights from practice**
 - Moderated by Zsolia Karetka, Communications Lead for Daphne-CHILD and Terre des hommes. Grantee partners sharing insights from addressing violence against children:
 - Tom O'Brien, Community Afterschool Project (CASPr), Ireland
 - Kids Colleagues representatives, Hintalovon Foundation, Hungary
 - Tatjana Nikolić, Centar for Girls (Centar za Devojke), Serbia
- **10:55-11:40: Strengthening integrated child protection systems to address violence against children – insights from policy**
 - Moderated by Mieke Schuurman, Director of Child Rights and Capacity Building, Eurochild
 - Marie-Cecile Rouillon, Coordinator for the Rights of the Child, European Commission
 - Kinga Joó, Member of the EESC's Civil Society Organisations' Group, National Association of Large Families, Hungary
 - Sandra Aigner-Accardo, Project Manager, EU Agency for Fundamental Rights
 - Nessa McKeivitt, Representative of the Irish EU Presidency
- **11:40-11:45: Closing remarks** from Rita Skrebiškienė, Representative of the Lithuanian EU Presidency
- **11:45-11:50: Group photo, followed by a ten minute break.**

SESSION 2 – Peer exchange and learning

Human Library: The Daphne-CHILD programme funded 48 civil society organisations to address violence against children in their local contexts. Through a Human Library peer exchange, attendees have the chance to meet and hear directly from the 48 grantees, to learn more about their local challenges, and take inspiration for designing interventions addressing violence against children across Europe.

- **12:00-12:35: Human Library – Round 1**
- **12:35-13:45: LUNCH**
- **13:45-14:30: Human Library – Round 2**
- **14:35-15:20: Human Library – Round 3**, followed by a ten minute break

SESSION 3 – Concluding reflections

- **15:30-16:20: Reflections roundtable: The importance of re-granting to support local CSOs address violence against children – Lessons from the CERV-Daphne programme**
 - Moderated by Raluca Verweijen-Slarnescu, independent expert and member of the Daphne-CHILD Advisory Board
 - Chrisoula Arcoudis, Policy Officer, Rights of the Child Team, DG Justice and Consumers, European Commission
 - Learning shared from representatives from CERV Daphne re-grantors: Athina Alexiou, Bodossaki Foundation - Greece; Macarena Céspedes, Educo - Spain, Ciaran O'Donnell, Eurochild and Sasha Stefanovic, MODS - Serbia; and Ioan Tanase, World Vision - Romania
 - Open floor for reflections from participants
- **16:20-16:30: Closing remarks** from Eurochild and Terre des hommes.
- **16:30:** Event closure.

Evening programme

18:30-21:30: WOLF Sharing Food Market (Rue du Fossé aux Loups 50, 1000 Bruxelles)



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Terre des hommes
Helping children worldwide.

Event programme concept

Daphne-CHILD (daphne.childhub.org) is a 3-year sub-granting and capacity-building programme, delivered by Eurochild and Terre des hommes. The programme has supported 48 grassroots civil society organisations across 9 countries in Europe address violence against children, with children meaningfully participating throughout each project from design to finish.

Join us in Brussels on 1 October, as we mark this year's International Day of Non-Violence, celebrate the work of the grantee partners in this programme, and amplify the importance of addressing violence against children across Europe, within the [EU's Recommendation on developing and strengthening integrated child protection systems in the best interests of the child](#).

We look forward to welcoming you for a day of high-level discussions with policymakers and civil society professionals, to listen, to share, and to create commitments and collaborations that can take the learnings from these inspirational civil society efforts to realise children's right to live a life free from any form of violence, and grow up in a safe, peaceful, and nurturing environment.

Further information: The Daphne-CHILD programme is active in nine European countries: Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain, and Ukraine. We are distributing €1.3 million in sub-grants to support local interventions addressing violence against children and young people. The 48 projects funded under this programme aim to support 23,000 children, 3,200 families, and 1,800 professionals.

Contact for info: [Ciaran O'Donnell](#), Programme Manager for the Daphne-CHILD programme, Eurochild.

This event is organised by Eurochild *and* Terre des hommes, *in partnership with the EESC's Civil Society Organisations' Group*, with financial support from the EU's Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme.

Human Library overview

Session breakdown		Table assignment for each Human Library presenter							
Round	Time	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Round 1		Early years	Safeguarding	Vuln groups	Art based	Education	Child-led	Online hotlines	Community
First book	12:05-12:20	Karin Dom Foundation	Fundatia FARA	Center for Girls	Rescue Now	Dignity Online	Nexus Vranje	PrevenSI	Instituto de Apoio à Criança
Second book	12:20-12:35	For Our Children Foundation	Concordia Bulgaria Foundation	Foundation Za Nadejda	Revma	ELIX	Hintalovon Foundation	Aoibhneas	Community After Schools Project
Round 2		Child friendly justice	Community	Community	Education	Vuln groups	Alt care	Vuln groups	Community
First book	13:50-14:10	UA Mental Help	Cruz Vermelha Braga	Fundació la Salut Alta	Almada Mundo	Háttér Társaság	Roots Research Center	Rosa Parks	Champions Factory
Second book	14:10-14:30	Nyolckézláb Assistance Dog Foundation	Childhood Development Initiative	Rainbow of Knowledge Association	Juvenil CodigAtómiko	XY Spectrum	Acercando Realidades	Open Cultural Center	NGO 3.5 percent
Round 3		Vuln groups	Education	Child friendly justice	School	Community	Vuln groups	Child-led	Vuln groups
First book	14:40-15:00	APPDA-Algarve	Child Rights Centre	Child Rescue	PLAN B	Akto	Vela	Pomoc deci	Council of Refugee Women
Second book	15:00-15:20	Sindrome de Down de Valencia	Fundatia Serviciilor Sociale Bethany	Kerry Community Youth Service	Asociación ITE	Asociația UNIC	Feminist Workshop	ISPC	StartHub