

JUST-JACC- AG-2019

Action grants to support transnational projects to enhance the  
rights of victims of crime

**JUSTICE PROGRAMME**

GA No. 878593

Enhancing PROfessionals' capaciTy to  
dEal with Child – vicTims  
**E-PROTECT II**

**WP3: Capacity Building - online**

**D3.1 E-PROTECT II Virtual Events**

**WP3 Leader: Law and Internet Foundation**



<b>Dissemination Level:</b>		
<b>PU</b>	Public	X
<b>CO</b>	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
<b>EU-RES</b>	Classified Information: RESTREINT UE (Commission Decision 2005/444/EC)	
<b>EU-CON</b>	Classified Information: CONFIDENTIEL UE (Commission Decision 2005/444/EC)	
<b>EU-SEC</b>	Classified Information: SECRET UE (Commission Decision 2005/444/EC)	
<b>Document version control:</b>		
<b>Version</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Version 1</b>	Developed by: Ruxandra Popescu (CRPE)	09/02/2022
<b>Version 1</b>	Reviewed & updated by: Snezhana Krumova (LIF)	11/02/2022
<b>Version 2</b>	Updated by: Ruxandra Popescu (CRPE)	03/03/2022
<b>Version 2</b>	Reviewed by: Daniela Ilieva (LIF)	08/03/2022



## Table of contents

<b>1. Abbreviations Executyiv .....</b>	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>- 5 -</b>
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – CHILD-FRIENDLY JUSTICE IN TIME OF PANDEMIC – JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 .....</b>	<b>- 5 -</b>
AGENDA OF THE EVENT .....	- 5 -
PARTICIPANTS .....	- 6 -
SPEAKERS .....	- 6 -
FEEDBACK .....	- 7 -
PHOTOS .....	- 10 -
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – COOPERATION AS KEY FACTOR IN CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES – SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 .....</b>	<b>- 12 -</b>
AGENDA OF THE EVENT .....	- 12 -
PARTICIPANTS .....	- 13 -
SPEAKERS .....	- 13 -
FEEDBACK .....	- 14 -
PHOTOS .....	- 17 -
<b>3<sup>RD</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS IN APPROACHING CHILD VICTIMS – FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 .....</b>	<b>- 18 -</b>
AGENDA OF THE EVENT .....	- 19 -
PARTICIPANTS .....	- 19 -
SPEAKERS .....	- 19 -
FEEDBACK .....	- 20 -
PHOTOS .....	- 21 -
<b>4<sup>TH</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – DETERMINING THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD VICTIM OF CRIME WHILST IMPLEMENTING CHILD FRIENDLY JUSTICE – SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 .....</b>	<b>- 23 -</b>



AGENDA OF THE EVENT .....	- 24 -
PARTICIPANTS .....	- 24 -
SPEAKERS .....	- 25 -
FEEDBACK .....	- 25 -
PHOTOS .....	- 27 -
5 <sup>TH</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – TRAINING NEEDS OF OFFICIALS AND PROFESSIONALS INVOLVED IN THE INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN VICTIMS OF CRIME – DECEMBER 16 <sup>TH</sup> , 2021 .....	- 30 -
AGENDA OF THE EVENT .....	- 30 -
PARTICIPANTS .....	- 31 -
SPEAKERS .....	- 31 -
FEEDBACK .....	- 32 -
PHOTOS .....	- 35 -
CONCLUSIONS .....	- 36 -
2. Heading 1 title .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.1 Heading 2 title .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.1.1 Heading 3 title .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report provides an overview of the 5 virtual events organised and carried out by CRPE within the E-PROTECT II project (<http://childprotect.eu>), with the tremendous support of all of the consortium partners. Each virtual event/webinar was organised following the five chapters of the Individual Needs Assessment Methodology (IAMs) previously developed within the first phase of the project – E-PROTECT I. At such, the virtual events aimed at promoting the methodology whilst shedding light on national experiences and achievements during the implementation of different standards, specifically in times of pandemic, since the start of the project coincided with the global pandemic of COVID-19. All of the 5 virtual events were organised using Zoom platform and targeted different professionals and institutions across Europe, but gathered mainly participants from Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Italy. The following target groups were reached: professionals working in the field of child justice (social workers, police officers, judges, lawyers, psychologists), representatives from Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Labour and Social Justice, representatives from National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child relevant NGOs, academia representatives and experts in the field. In total, **160 participants** have attended all five events.

### 1<sup>ST</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – CHILD-FRIENDLY JUSTICE IN TIME OF PANDEMIC – JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

The first virtual event of the project took place on **June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020** and was held using CRPE's Zoom Platform. The event aimed to promote the first chapter of the methodology, focusing on different standards of child-friendly justice, whilst providing a brief overview of the actions of child protection services from different countries of the project in times of pandemic. At such, the agenda of the event was structured as follows: (1) Presenting the concept of the event and objectives (as this was the first event of this kind within the project); (2) Providing a brief introduction to child-friendly justice and to the project's methodology (IAMs); (3) Providing a general overview on the specific situation of each country since the start of the pandemic (Romania, Italy, Greece and Bulgaria) and (4) Q&A session and final remarks. Throughout the event, the following topics were addressed: Child protection services throughout Europe: Are they operating at a reduced level? The children at risk are monitored even less frequently than before the pandemic – long term solutions were debated and discussed. Quality assurance in the field of social services during the COVID-19 pandemic and ways of reporting cases of child abuse in times of COVID-19 pandemic.

## AGENDA OF THE EVENT

### **“Enhancing Protection of Children – victims of crime” E-PROTECT – Webinar- Child-friendly justice in time of pandemic**



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

**E-PROTECT II: concept, objectives; Introduction in child-friendly justice and the project's methodology (30 minutes)**

**Ruxandra Popescu**, Programme Director, Romanian Center for European Policies

**General overview on each country (Romania, Italy, Greece and Bulgaria) situation during the pandemic (10/15 minutes each)**

Potential topics of discussion:

- Child protection services: Is operating at a reduced level? The children at risk are monitored even less frequently than before the pandemic. What are the long term solutions?
- Quality assurance in the field of social services during the COVID-19 pandemic/ Reporting cases of child abuse in times of COVID-19 pandemic: obstacles and recommendations

**Gelu Duminica**, Expert Romania

**Petya Peteva**, Expert Bulgaria

**Dr Stella Karapa**, Expert Greece

**Julia Pamias**, Expert Italy

**Q&A session from chat/comments gathered live**

**Final conclusions and what's next? (10 minutes)**

**Ruxandra Popescu**, Programme Director, Romanian Center for European Policies

## PARTICIPANTS

As this was the first virtual event of the project, the CRPE team has decided to stream live the event on the E-PROTECT Facebook page, with the overall purpose of ensuring that different professionals from around Europe will be able to attend or follow the event. Direct invitations to attend the virtual event were also sent and, in this regard, **16 participants** have attended the event directly from the Zoom platform. Interested professionals had also the opportunity to view live the event from the E-PROTECT Facebook page and to address questions in the chat section of the event. In the end, the 1<sup>st</sup> virtual event had over 850 views and was shared to 10 other social media accounts/platforms.

## SPEAKERS



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

For the first virtual event of the project, CRPE kindly requested from all partners to propose some potential speakers, either staff members that were part of the partner's team or affiliated experts of the consortium organisations in this particular field. On behalf of CRPE, as coordinator of this task, Mrs Ruxandra Popescu was responsible for both moderating the event and presenting the first chapter of the methodology. On behalf of Greece, Italy, Romania and Bulgaria, the following speakers have attended the event and have presented an overview of how the child protection services were impacted by the pandemic context: (1) Ms Petya Peteva – legal projects' expert at the Law and Internet Foundation with an European and International law background, with a special focus on human rights, including children's rights. Ms Peteva contributed as well to the first installment of the E-PROTECT project and was at the time taking part in the development of E-PROTECT II; (2) Dr. Stella Karapa - psychologist and child psychologist, expert at Forensic Psychology. She has also been trained as a psychotherapist, a forensic treatment addiction counsellor and is currently working in various cases as a forensic expert witness. Mrs Karapa is an honorary lecturer at the International Faculty of University of Sheffield, City college of Thessaloniki and collaborates with SEERC; (3) Mrs Julia Pàmias - research coordinator, DCI Italy. She is a political scientist and holds a master's in International Relations. Along the years she has been involved in different European projects. She has dealt with coordination, research, training and advocacy activities mainly in the fields of migration, juvenile justice and protection against violence from a child rights-based perspective. She participated in the first phase of the E-PROTECT project and coordinated the implementation of the second edition of the project in Italy; (4) Mr Gelu Duminica – affiliated expert for CRPE (extensive expertise for dealing with child minority victims)

---

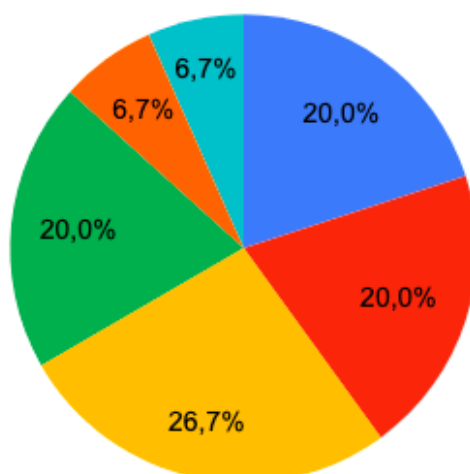
## FEEDBACK

With the purpose of gathering useful feedback from participants after each virtual event, CRPE has developed a feedback survey (using google form) that was disseminated during the final Q&A sessions each time. The feedback form was compliant with the one (developed by the external evaluator) used for other type of events during the project implementation. In total for the first event, 23 participants have responded with overall positive feedback. The same survey format was used for all of the upcoming events.



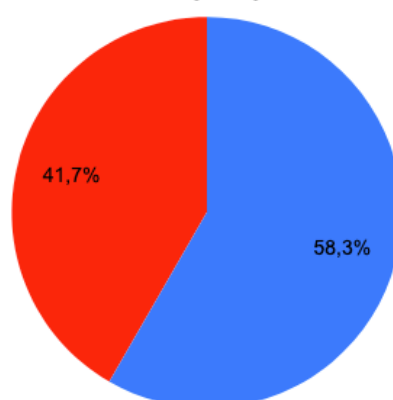
You are a representative of one of the following groups of professionals, that are involved in the topic of protection of children victims of crime

- Social workers
- Psychologists
- Judiciary
- Service provider in social services or child protection
- State agency or public authority at central, regional, or local level
- International organisation



To me the topic, discussions and the content were relevant and helpful. During the event I learned novel and interesting information

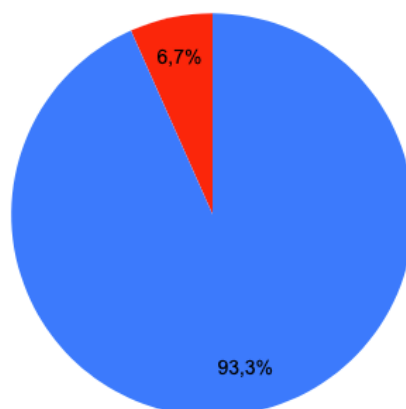
- Yes
- Agree to great extent





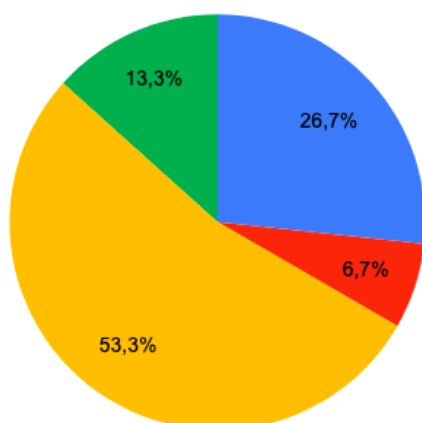
The event met my expectations

● Yes ● Agree to great extent



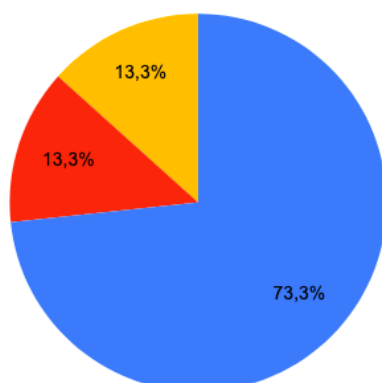
My understanding of the child's rights as defined by Directive 2012/29 has increased

● Partially agree ● Agree to great extent ● Yes ● No



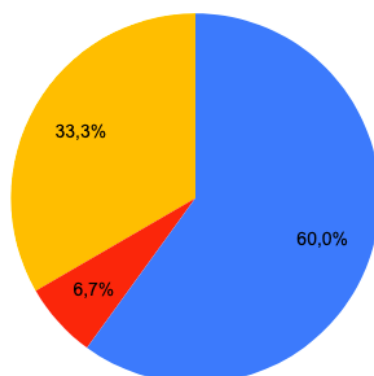
I will embed Directive 2012/29 in my daily work

● Yes ● Agree to great extent ● Partially agree



I will apply the content of the session/meeting in my day-to-day work

● Yes ● Agree to great extent ● Partially agree



## PHOTOS





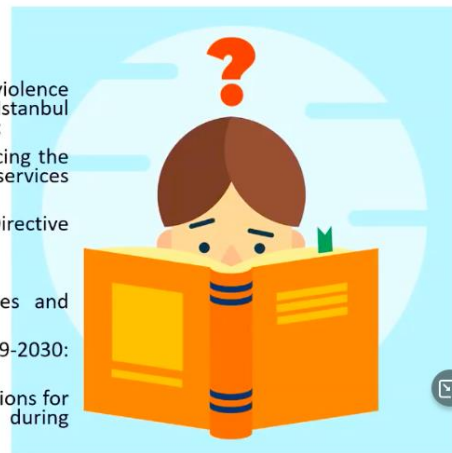
## Child sensitive justice

- Child sensitive justice;
- Concepts and standards;
- Individual assessments and special protection measures;
- Quality standards for individual assessment of victims's needs and the application of special protection measures;

zoom

### Remaining Issues

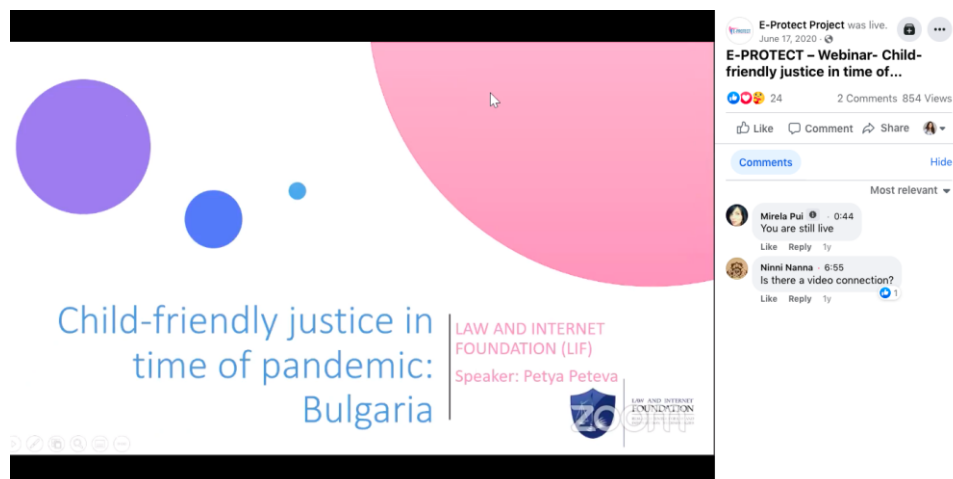
- CoE Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) still not adopted in national legislation;
- No additional measures introduced towards enforcing the children's rights to information to receiving of services during times of pandemic (Lanzarote Committee);
- Lack of full synchronization of the Victims' rights Directive (Directive 2012/29);
- On national level:
  - The Bulgarian Social Services Act-false narratives and disinformation;
  - Bulgaria's National Strategy for the Child 2019-2030: postponed indefinitely;
  - No sufficient cooperation between national institutions for the protection of the mental health of children during COVID-19.



 This project is funded by the EU. This presentation has been produced with the financial support of the Justice Programme (2014-2020) of the European Union. The contents of this presentation are the sole responsibility of the authors and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.



## 2<sup>ND</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – COOPERATION AS KEY FACTOR IN CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES – SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

The second virtual event of the project took place on **September 17th, 2020** and was held using CRPE's Zoom Platform. The event aimed to promote the second chapter of the methodology, focusing on multi-disciplinary and interagency cooperation during the individual assessment of a child victim of crime. During the event, the need of international/European standards and inter-institutional and transnational cooperation was also tackled. At such, the agenda of the event was structured as follows: (1) Presenting the concept of the event and objectives (2) Providing a brief introduction to the second chapter of the project's methodology (IAMs); (3) Providing an overview of the state-level cooperation that takes place in Italy; (4) Providing different perspectives and challenges in multidisciplinary and interagency collaboration on behalf of representatives from different NGOs from in Romania, Bulgaria and Moldova and lastly, expert from Greece.

### AGENDA OF THE EVENT

#### **“Enhancing Protection of Children – victims of crime” E-PROTECT II – Webinar- Cooperation as key in child protective services**

<b>10:00 – 10:10</b>	<b>Welcome! Presenting the participants and the core-topics of the webinar</b>  <b>Ms. Ruxandra Popescu</b> , Program Director, Romanian Center for European Policies
<b>10:10 – 10:40</b>	<b>Introducing the methodology, with an emphasis on Chapter II</b>  <b>Ms. Ruxandra Popescu</b> , Program Director, Romanian Center for European Policies



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

**10:40 – 11:00**

**State-level cooperation: Italy study-case**

**Ms. Claudia De Luca**, Public Prosecutor, Italy

**11:00 – 12:00**

**Challenges and best practices in multidisciplinary and interagency collaboration**

**Ms. Dumitrița Bologan**, Project Manager, Terre des hommes Foundation, Romania

**Ms. Petya Dimitrova**, Programs and Project Expert, Social Activities and Practice Institute (SAPI), Bulgaria

**Ms. Iulia Gheorghies**, Coordinator, Child Friendly Justice Program, National Center for Child Abuse Prevention, Republic of Moldova

**Ms. Stella Karapa**, Psychologist- Child Psychologist (MSc, PhD) Addiction Treatment Counsellor Forensic expert witness Lecturer, Department of Psychology International Faculty of the University of Sheffield, City College

**12:00 – 12:30**

**Q&A and closing discussions**

## PARTICIPANTS

Following the feedback from the first virtual event, CRPE has decided to organise the second virtual event solely on the Zoom platform, thus ensuring a better interaction between speakers and interested participants. In the end, **31 professionals** have attended the virtual event.

## SPEAKERS

For the second virtual event of the project, Mrs Ruxandra Popescu was responsible for both moderating the event and for presenting the second chapter of the methodology. On behalf of Greece, Italy, Romania, Bulgaria and Moldova, the following speakers have attended the event and have presented study-cases of state level cooperation and challenges and best practices that appear in multidisciplinary and interagency collaboration: (1) **Mrs Claudia Da Luca** - public



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

prosecutor (for the last four years - Prosecutor's Office for Minors in Naples). Mrs Da luca has worked in various Italian judicial offices and has dealt with various crimes (against property and against the person and also of criminal organisations). As juvenile prosecutor, Mrs Da Luca has visited numerous communities in the area and has identified well what are the shortcomings that compromise the reintegration of the young person who made a mistake and/or of the injured person in society (2) **Mrs Dumitrița Bologan**, Project Manager, Terre des hommes Foundation, Joint efforts for a child friendly approach for the child victim. With a PhD in law and a specialisation in human rights protection, she has over 10 years of experience in implementing projects in the penitentiary field, access to justice, legal empowerment and fighting corruption. Mrs Bologan worked as a lawyer in the filtering section of the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights and carried out various research in consulting projects. She joined Tdh Romania team in June 2020, as manager of the i-RESTORE and Precision projects and is glad to contribute to improving the situation of children in contact and in conflict with the law; (3) **Dr. Stella Karapa** - psychologist and child psychologist, expert at Forensic Psychology. She has also been trained as a psychotherapist, a forensic treatment addiction counsellor and is currently working in various cases as a forensic expert witness. Mrs Karapa is an honorary lecturer at the International Faculty of University of Sheffield, City college of Thessaloniki and collaborates with SEERC; (3) **Ms. Iulia Gheorghies**, Coordinator, Child Friendly Justice Program, National Center for Child Abuse Prevention, Republic of Moldova - 10 years of experience in the field of human rights protection. Worked for the Ministry of Justice, dealing with cases before the European Court for Human Rights (Governmental Agent Department). Legal adviser in the Moldo-Norwegian project "The Norwegian Mission of Rule of Law Advisors to Moldova" (NORLAM).

---

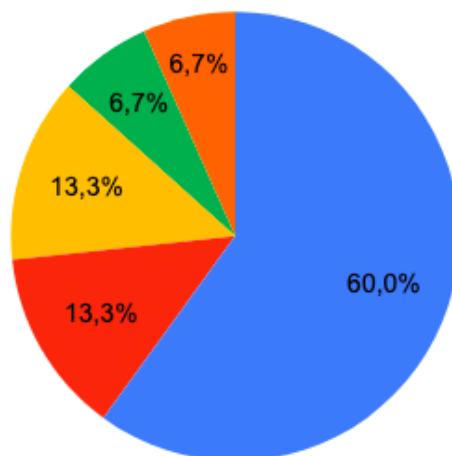
## FEEDBACK

The same feedback form was also sent during the last session of Q&A of this event. In total, 10 participants have responded with overall positive feedback.



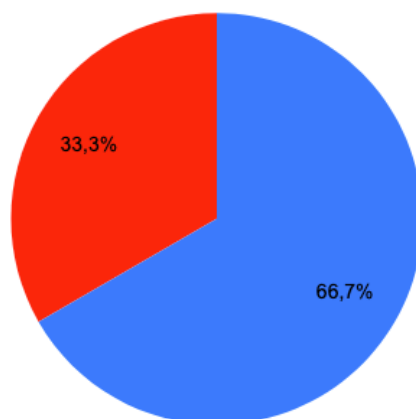
You are a representative of one of the following groups of professionals, that are involved in the topic of protection of children victims of crime

- Social workers
- Psychologists
- Judiciary
- Service provider in social services or child protection
- State agency or public authority at central, regional, or local level



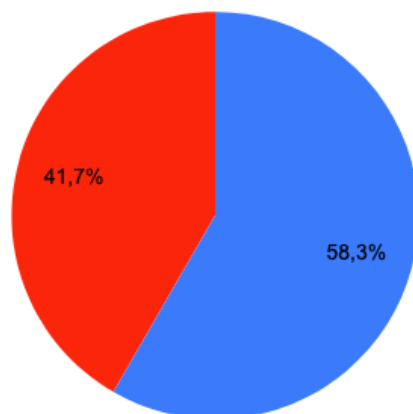
The event met my expectations

- Yes
- Agree to great extent



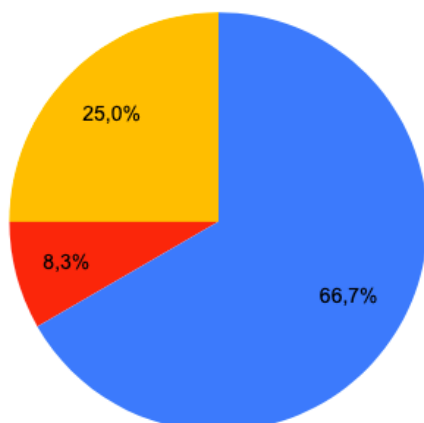
To me the topic, discussions and the content were relevant and helpful. During the event I learned novel and interesting information

● Yes ● Agree to great extent



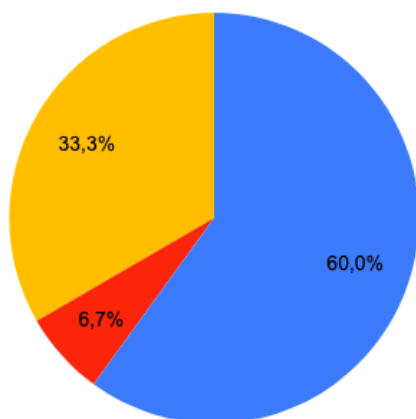
I will apply the content of the session/meeting in my day-to-day work

● Yes ● Agree to great extent ● Partially agree



I will apply the content of the session/meeting in my day-to-day work

● Yes ● Agree to great extent ● Partially agree





## PHOTOS



### E-PROTECT – “Enhancing Protection of Children – victims of crime”

**Webinar - Cooperation as key in child protective services**  
**17<sup>th</sup> of September 2020**

This project is funded by the EU. This presentation was produced with the financial support of the Justice Program (2014-2020) of the European Union. The content of this presentation is the sole responsibility of the authors and cannot be reflected in any way by the views of the European Commission.



## CNPAC

NATIONAL CENTER  
FOR CHILD ABUSE  
PREVENTION OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

## 1997

- Prevention
- Advocacy
- Assistance
- Capacity building
- Awareness raising
- Research



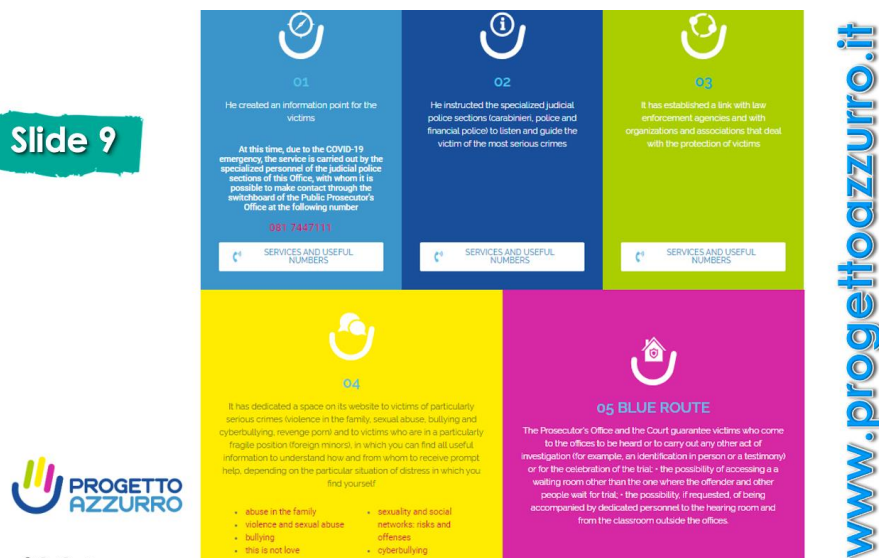
## Joint efforts for a child friendly approach towards the child victim



**Dumitrița Bologan**  
Project Manager



This deliverable was funded by the European Union’s Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.



## 3<sup>RD</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS IN APPROACHING CHILD VICTIMS – FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

The third virtual event of the project took place on **February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021** and was held using CRPE's Zoom Platform. The event aimed to promote the third chapter of the methodology, focusing on procedural safeguards in approaching child victims of crime. At such, the agenda of the event was structured as follows: (1) Presenting the concept of the event and objectives (2) Providing a brief to the safeguarding principles and to the project's methodology (IAMs); (3) Presenting an Austrian study case – how courts function in Austria and (4) Introduction to right to information and privacy and transparency during the court process in Romania (5) Q&A session and final remarks.



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

## AGENDA OF THE EVENT

### “Enhancing Protection of Children – victims of crime” E-PROTECT II – Webinar- Procedural safeguards in approaching child victims

<b>10:00 – 10:10</b>	<b>Welcome! Presenting the participants and the core-topics of the webinar</b>  <b>Ms. Ruxandra Popescu</b> , Program Director, Romanian Center for European Policies
<b>10:10 – 10:40</b>	<b>Introducing the methodology, with an emphasis on Chapter III</b>  <b>What are the safeguarding principles?</b>  <b>Ms. Ruxandra Popescu</b> , Program Director, Romanian Center for European Policies
<b>10:40 – 11:00</b>	<b>Court assistance to children – Austrian Case</b>  <b>Ms. Barbara Neudecker</b> , Fachstelle
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>	<b>Right to information – Privacy and transparency during the process</b>  <b>Ms. Mihaela Dinu</b> , Salvati Copiii
<b>11:30 – 12:00</b>	<b>Final conclusions and what’s next? (10 minutes)</b>  <b>Ruxandra Popescu</b> , Programme Director, Romanian Center for European Policies

## PARTICIPANTS

CRPE organised the third virtual event of the project following the same format and platform (Zoom) as the first two of the project, thus aiming at ensuring a better interaction between speakers and participants. The event was attended by **45 professionals** from different countries, mainly Romania, Italy, Greece and Bulgaria.

## SPEAKERS



This deliverable was funded by the European Union’s Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

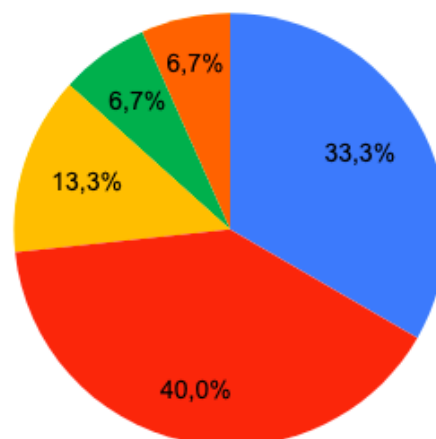
For the third virtual event of the project, Mrs Ruxandra Popescu was responsible for both moderating the event and for presenting the 3rd chapter of the methodology. On behalf of Austria and Romania, the following speakers have attended the event and have presented study-cases of state procedural safeguards in approaching child victims: (1) **Mrs Barbara Neudecker** – she manages the Agency for Court Assistance for Children and Adolescents which is part of the Austrian Association of Child Protection Centres. Her agency coordinates the work in the field of Court Assistance performed in the Child Protection Centres throughout Austria. They try to inform children and professionals about Court Assistance, and they also try to raise awareness for the needs of child victims at the police, courts, and politics. She has been working in the field of Child Protection for over 20 years now and she is also a psychotherapist and also lecture at the University of Vienna; (2) **Ms. Mihaela Dinu** – Coordinator of Salvati Copiii, Romania.

## FEEDBACK

A feedback form was also sent during the last session of Q&A of the event. In total, 7 participants have responded with overall positive feedback.

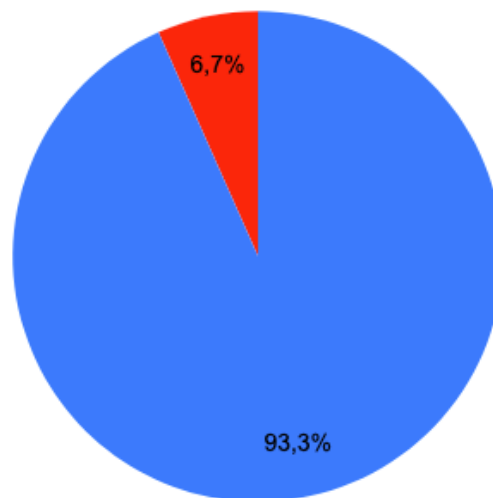
You are a representative of one of the following groups of professionals, that are involved in the topic of protection of children victims of crime

- Social workers
- Psychologists
- Judiciary
- Service provider in social services or child protection
- State agency or public authority at central, regional, or local level



The event met my expectations

● Yes ● Agree to great extent



## PHOTOS



### E-PROTECT – “Enhancing Protection of Children – victims of crime”

**Webinar - Procedural safeguards in approaching child victims**

**4<sup>th</sup> of February 2021**

This project is funded by the EU. This presentation was produced with the financial support of the Justice Program (2014-2020) of the European Union. The content of this presentation is the sole responsibility of the authors and cannot be reflected in any way by the views of the European Commission.

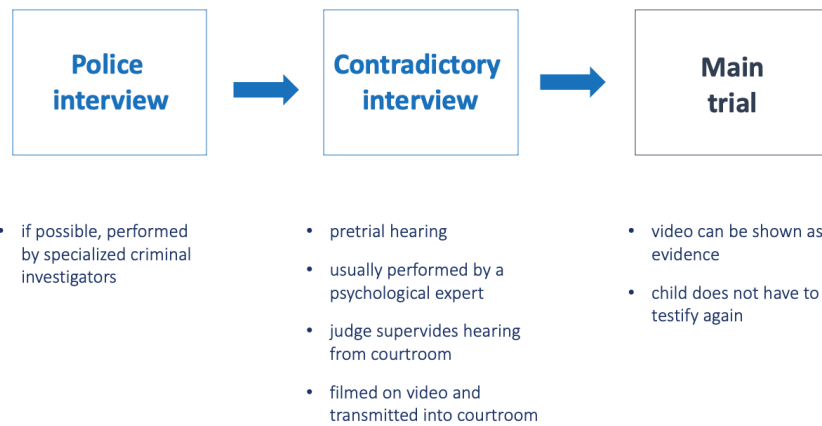


This deliverable was funded by the European Union’s Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

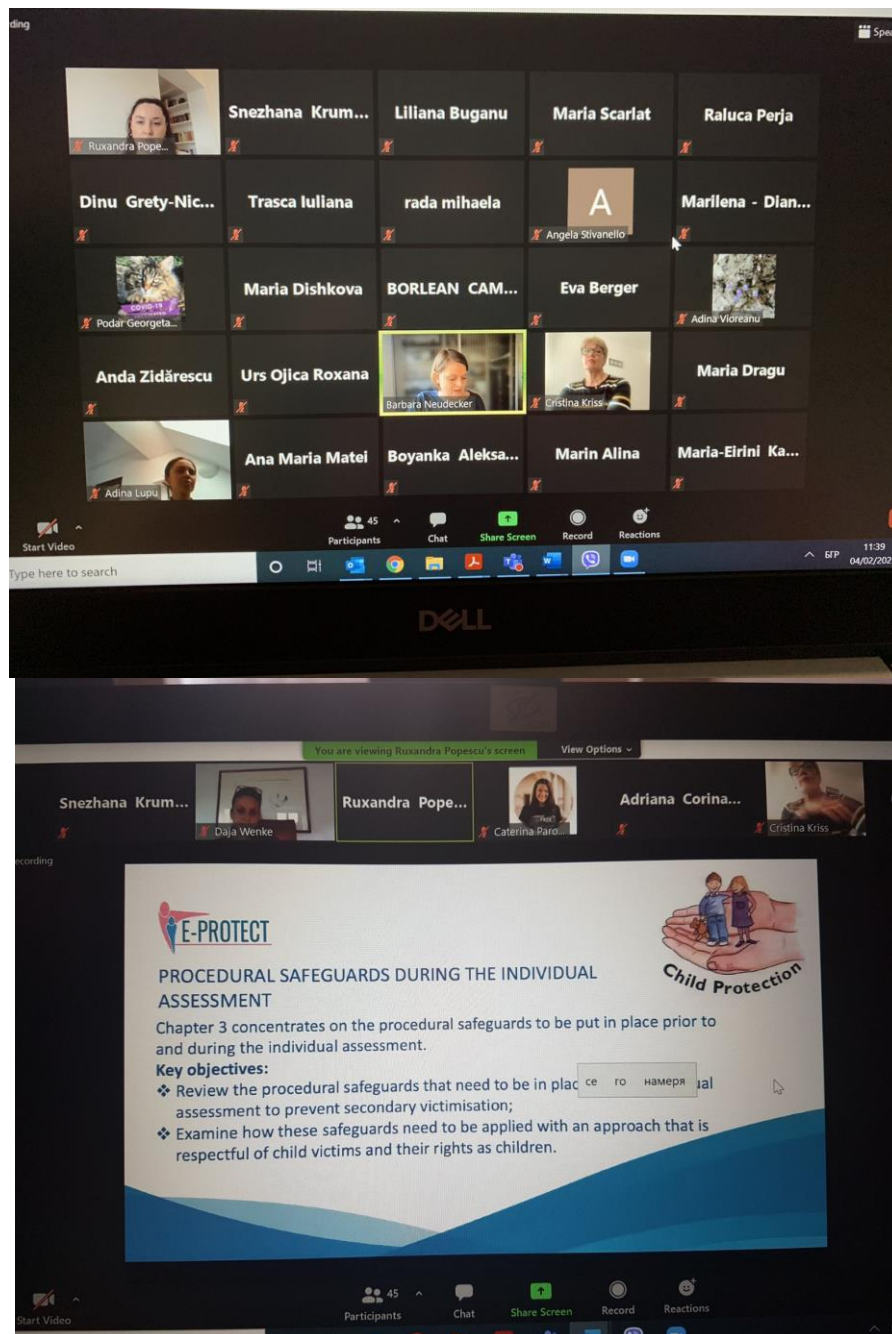


## Court Assistance for children and adolescents in Austria

Barbara Neudecker







#### 4<sup>TH</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – DETERMINING THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD VICTIM OF CRIME WHILST IMPLEMENTING CHILD FRIENDLY JUSTICE – SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

The fourth virtual event of the project took place on **September 16th, 2021** and was held using CRPE's Zoom Platform. The event aimed to promote the 4th chapter of the methodology, focusing on ways of determining the best interests of the child victim of crime whilst



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

implementing child friendly justice. At such, the agenda of the event was structured as follows: (1) Presenting the concept of the event and objectives (2) Providing a brief introduction to the 4th chapter of the project's methodology (IAMs); (3) Presenting the case study of Portugal for implementing child friendly justice; (4) Introduction to The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Investigative Interview Protocol as best practice to conduct investigative interviews with children victims of crime.

## AGENDA OF THE EVENT

### E-PROTECT 4<sup>TH</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT

#### Determining the best interests of the child victim of crime whilst implementing child friendly justice

10:00 – 10:10	<p><b>Welcome! Presenting the participants, the core-topics of the webinar and the aimed added value</b></p> <p><b>Ruxandra Popescu</b>, Programme Director, Romanian Center for European Policies</p>
10:10 – 10:30	<p><b>Presenting chapter VI of the E-PROTECT Methodology for a rights-based individual assessment of the needs of child victims of crime</b></p> <p><b>Main topics addressed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determinants of best interests of the child;</li> <li>• Concept of vulnerability;</li> <li>• Child-friendly justice;</li> <li>• Identification of specific protection needs;</li> <li>• Outcome and follow-up of the individual assessment;</li> <li>• Management of the case</li> </ul> <p><b>Ruxandra Popescu</b>, Programme Director, Romanian Center for European Policies</p>
10:30 – 10:50	<p><b>Implementing child-friendly justice – Case of Portugal</b></p> <p><b>Joana Alexandre</b>, Lecturer of the Department of Social and Organizational Psychology, ISCTE-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa and co-author of two books prepared for and adapted to children on what to expect during court proceedings</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A session from chat/comments/input from participants</b></p>
10:50 – 11:20	<p><b>The NICHD PROTOCOL – A best practice to conduct investigative interviews with children victims of crime</b></p> <p><b>Presentation of the protocol</b></p> <p><b>Catarina Ribeiro</b>, Professor of Psychology in the Catholic University of Portugal – Porto ; Forensic Psychologist in National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences</p>
11:20 – 11:40	<p><b>Final Q&amp;A and closing discussions</b></p> <p><b>Feedback gathered from participants</b></p>

## PARTICIPANTS



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.



CRPE organised the fourth virtual event of the project following the same format and platform (Zoom) as the first three of the project, thus aiming at ensuring a better interaction between speakers and participants. The event was attended by **35 professionals** from different countries, mainly Romania, Italy, Greece and Bulgaria.

## SPEAKERS

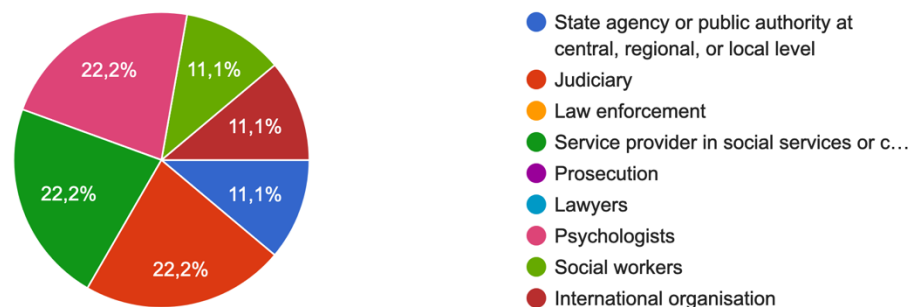
For the 4th virtual event of the project, on behalf of CRPE, Mrs Ruxandra Popescu was responsible for both moderating the event and for presenting the 4th chapter of the methodology. The second session of the event was hosted by Mrs Joana Alexandre – as lecturer of the Department of Social and Organizational Psychology, ISCTE-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa and co-author of two books prepared for and adapted to children on what to expect during court proceedings. She was director of the Masters in Community Psychology and Youth at Risk, at ISCTE, and currently she is the President of the Pedagogical Council of this university. Research interests turned to the field of social psychology (master at ISCTE and PhD at ISCTE with an internship in Adelaide, Australia). Her link with local communities took her to a greater interest in community social psychology and on the evaluation of social projects. The last session of the event was hosted by Mrs Catarina Ribeiro as senior Researcher at the Center for Human Development Studies of the Portuguese Catholic University, where he has coordinated Research Projects related to Psychology and Mental Health, Forensic Interview and Justice. Author and co-author of several scientific publications in the field of Forensic Psychology, psychological evaluation, forensic interview, child abuse, conflict and family violence and psychology of judicial decision.

## FEEDBACK

A feedback form was also sent during the last session of Q&A of the event. In total, 9 participants have responded with overall positive feedback.

You are a representative of one of the following groups of professionals, that are involved in the topic of protection of children victims of crime

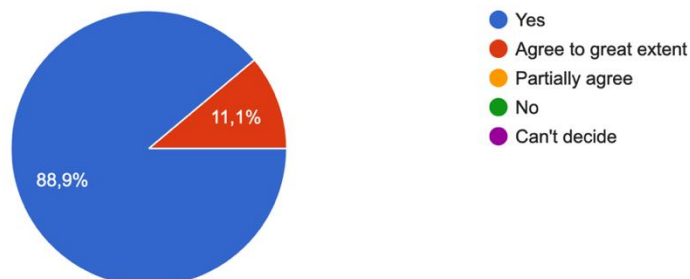
9 răspunsuri



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

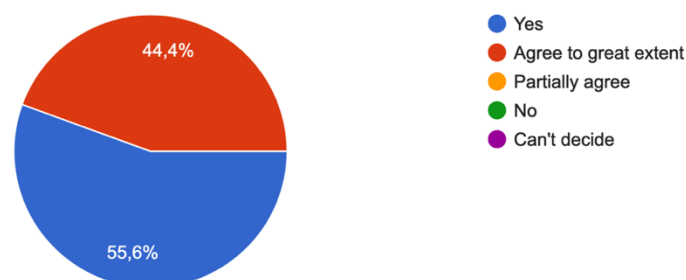
### The event met my expectations

9 răspunsuri



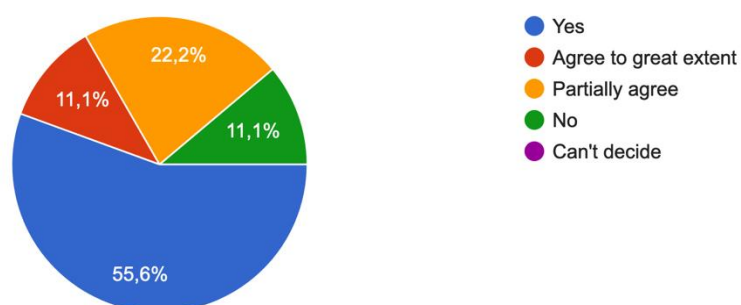
### 4. To me the topic, discussions and the content were relevant and helpful. During the event I learned novel and interesting information

9 răspunsuri



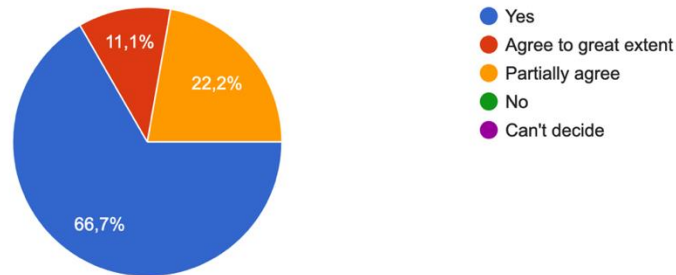
### My understanding of the child's rights as defined by Directive 2012/29 has increased

9 răspunsuri



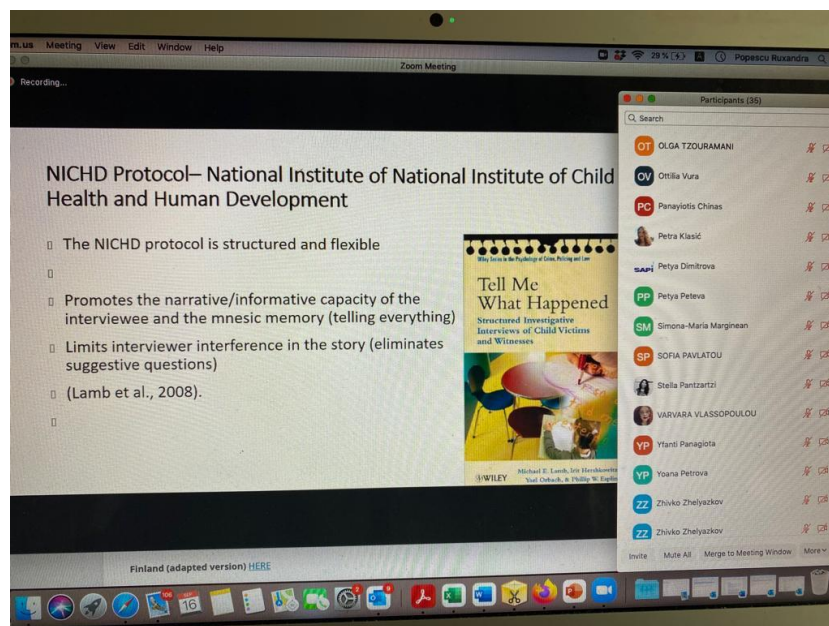
I will apply the content of the session/meeting in my day-to-day work

9 răspunsuri



## PHOTOS





**iscte** INSTITUTO  
UNIVERSITÁRIO  
DE LISBOA

## IMPLEMENTING CHILD-FRIENDLY JUSTICE – CASE OF PORTUGAL

Joana Alexandre, Iscte- Lisbon University Institute

E-PROTECT 4TH VIRTUAL EVENT

Determining the best interests of the child victim of crime whilst implementing child friendly justice

16th of September 2021 -



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.



## 5<sup>TH</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT – TRAINING NEEDS OF OFFICIALS AND PROFESSIONALS INVOLVED IN THE INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN VICTIMS OF CRIME – DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

The fifth virtual event of the project took place on **16<sup>th</sup> of December, 2021** and was held using CRPE's Zoom Platform. The event aimed to promote the last chapter of the methodology, thus focusing on the training needs of officials and professionals involved in the individual assessment of children victims of crime. At such, the agenda of the event was structured as follows: (1) Presenting the concept of the event and objectives (2) Providing a brief introduction to final chapter of the project's methodology (IAMs); (3) Presenting the Barnahus Quality Standards – Guidance for Multidisciplinary and Interagency Response to Child Victims and Witnesses of Violence; (4) Introducing the PROMISE tracking tool as self-evaluation tool for tracking progress towards meeting the Barnahus Quality Standards and lastly (5) Presenting information on how to improve understanding and practice in relation to working with children who live in alternative care setting and who may experienced trauma - **SOS Children's Villages International project**.

### AGENDA OF THE EVENT

#### E-PROTECT 5<sup>TH</sup> VIRTUAL EVENT

#### Training needs of officials and professionals involved in the individual assessment of children victims of crime

<b>10:00 – 10:10</b>	<p><b>Welcome! Presenting the participants, the core-topics of the webinar and the aimed added value</b></p> <p><b>Ruxandra Popescu</b>, Programme Director, Romanian Center for European Policies</p>
<b>10:10 – 10:30</b>	<p><b>Presenting chapter V of the E-PROTECT Methodology for a rights-based individual assessment of the needs of child victims of crime</b></p> <p><b>Main topics addressed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance of training of officials and professionals working with and for children;</li> <li>• Practical options for ensuring ongoing training;</li> <li>• Collaboration with civil society;</li> <li>• Identification of specific protection needs;</li> </ul> <p><b>Ruxandra Popescu</b>, Programme Director, Romanian Center for European Policies</p>





<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>The Barnahus Quality Standards – Guidance for Multidisciplinary and Interagency Response to Child Victims and Witnesses of Violence</b>  <b>Olivia Lind Haldorsson</b> – Senior Adviser & Head of Children at Risk Unit, Author of the Barnahus Quality Standards  <b>Q&amp;A session from chat/comments/input from participants</b>
<b>11:00 – 11:20</b>	<b>The PROMISE tracking tool – presenting the self-evaluation tool for tracking progress towards meeting the Barnahus Quality Standards</b>  <b>Shawwna von Blixen</b> – Coordinator PROMISE Barnahus Network  <b>Q&amp;A session from chat/comments/input from participants</b>
<b>11:20 – 11:40</b>	<b>Improving understanding and practice in relation to working with children who live in alternative care setting and who may experienced trauma</b>  <b>Florence Treyvaud Nemtzov</b> – Senior Project manager, SOS Children’s Villages International  <b>Nina Todorova</b> – Head of the SOS training center, SOS Children’s villages Bulgaria, National focal person for Child Safeguarding and Master trainer
<b>11:40 – 12:00</b>	<b>Final Q&amp;A and closing discussions</b> <b>Feedback gathered from participants</b>

## PARTICIPANTS

CRPE organised the final virtual event of the project following the same format and platform (Zoom) as the four virtual events of the project, thus aiming at ensuring a better interaction between speakers and participants. The event was attended by **33 professionals** from different countries, mainly Romania, Greece and Bulgaria.

## SPEAKERS

For the last virtual event of the project, on behalf of CRPE, Mrs Ruxandra Popescu was responsible for both moderating the event and for presenting the final chapter of the methodology. The second session of the event was hosted by Mrs Olivia Lind Haldersson as Senior Adviser and Head of the Children at Risk Unit at the Council of Baltic Sea States Secretariat ([childrenatrisk.cbss.org](http://childrenatrisk.cbss.org)). In 2014 she co-founded ‘Child Circle’, a Brussels-based NGO focusing on strengthening national child protection systems. Mrs Haldersson has also played a central role in the Promise project, which promotes the establishment of Barnahus and excellence in practice to hear, assist and support child victims and witnesses of violence



This deliverable was funded by the European Union’s Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

([www.barnahus.eu](http://www.barnahus.eu)). She has also worked as an independent expert with a wide range of stakeholders on strategic advocacy initiatives and regional projects in the field of children's rights and child protection. Prior to that she worked with Save the Children International EU Office. Following the intervention of our first guest speaker, Mrs Shawнна von Blixen presented the PROMISE tracking tool for tracking progress towards meeting the Barnahus Quality Standards. **Mrs Shawнна von Blixen** serves as the PROMISE Barnahus Network Coordinator, in addition to her role as Adviser for the Children at Risk Unit at the Council of the Baltic Sea States Secretariat. In her role as the PROMISE Barnahus Network coordinator, Mrs Shawнна von Blixen has extensive knowledge of how the Barnahus model has been adapted in different national contexts, and plays a leading role in coordinating and providing advice through bilateral and network exchange. She has played a central role in developing and coordinating training in the context of the PROMISE projects and the Barnahus network. Finally, the last session of the event was hosted by two guest speakers: **Mrs Florence Treyvaud Nemtzov as - Senior Project manager, SOS Children's Villages International with the aim** at building the capacity of child and youth care professionals in order for them to be able to embed child rights in their daily practice when working with children and young people growing up in alternative care and in the process of leaving alternative care. Holder of an MA in International Relations from the Geneva Institute of International and Development Studies, she has been focusing on child rights over the last 20 years, and specifically on the deinstitutionalisation process and the advancement of alternative care services. Ms. Treyvaud Nemtzov has a rich advocacy and project management experience with complementary skills in strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation, group facilitation as well as event management – and **Mrs Nina Todorova** as head of the SOS training centre, SOS Children's villages Bulgaria, National focal person for Child Safeguarding and Master trainer. Mrs Nina Todorova graduated from Sofia University on pedagogy and social management, and she has extensive experience in social work with children and families at risk and support of young people leaving care. She participated in the construction and strengthening of the child protection system in Bulgaria as an expert in the last 20 years, conducts trainings on the rights of the child, foster care, youth care, trauma oriented care with more than 2000 training hours of experience, author of the Concept for foster care and Concept for support of young people in SOS Children's Villages Bulgaria.

---

## FEEDBACK

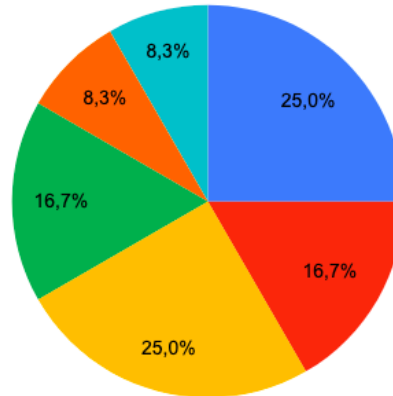
The same feedback form was also sent during the last session of Q&A of this event. In total, 8 participants have responded with overall positive feedback.





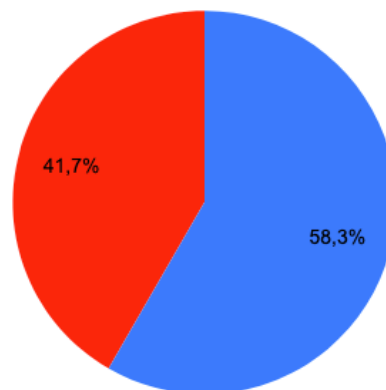
You are a representative of one of the following groups of professionals, that are involved in the topic of protection of children victims of crime

- Social workers
- Psychologists
- Judiciary
- Service provider in social services or child protection
- State agency or public authority at central, regional, or local level
- International organisation



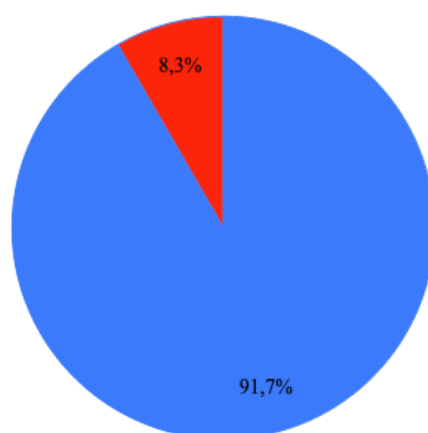
To me the topic, discussions and the content were relevant and helpful. During the event I learned novel and interesting information

- Yes
- Agree to great extent



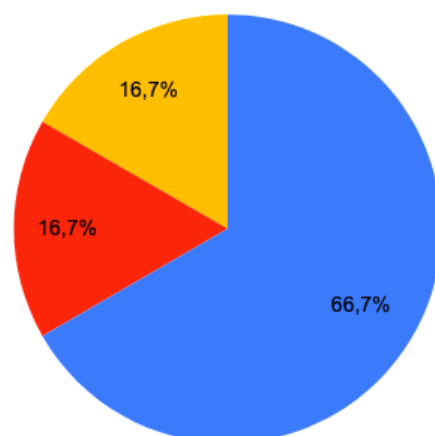
The event met my expectations

● Yes ● Agree to great extent



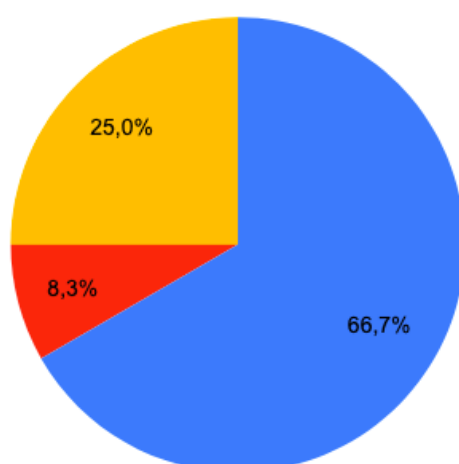
I will embed Directive 2012/29 in my daily work

● Yes ● Agree to great extent ● Partially agree



I will apply the content of the session/meeting in my day-to-day work

● Yes ● Agree to great extent ● Partially agree





## E-PROTECT – “Enhancing Protection of Children – victims of crime”

## Webinar - Training needs of officials and professionals involved in the individual assessment of children victims of crime

**16<sup>th</sup> of December 2021**



## Key findings from scoping

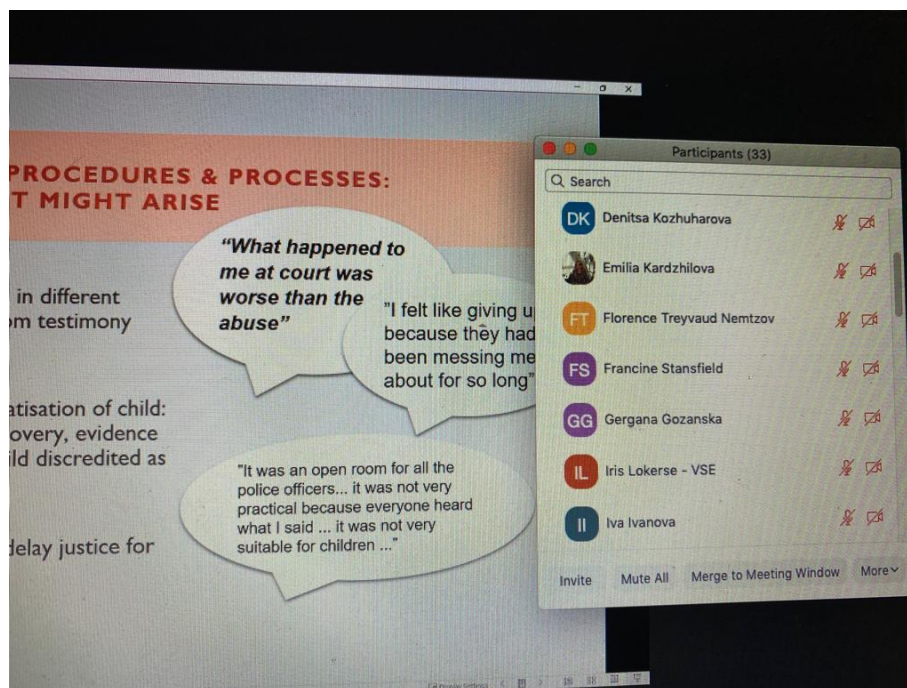
"A traumatised child is extra vulnerable. Understand this."  
(Quote from young person, scoping exercise, 2020)

"In my training, I was never told how childhood trauma has an impact on the child's development and adult life."  
(Quote from professional, scoping exercise, 2020)

"This topic seems to be avoided by social workers. It seemed irrelevant to them, even though as a young person this is always haunting you."

(Quote from young person, scoping exercise, 2020)





## National trainings Bulgaria – needs of Trauma trainings



Understanding trauma within the child protection and alternative care system:

- ✦ Narrow conceptualization with little in-depth knowledge or understanding of the impact, consequences, or behavior that may result from trauma;
- ✦ Terminology is used, but without established definitions or shared understanding and consensus on their meaning



SAFE CHILDREN'S VILLAGES

CELCIS

Co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union

## CONCLUSIONS

Overall, all five virtual events organized within the project were successful and provided insightful information to all 160 participants that have attended the events. Some of the main conclusions gathered both from interventions of participants during the events but also from the feedback form, revealed that the majority of the participants will apply the information obtained during their day-to day work. More so, almost all participants have emphasized the



This deliverable was funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement 878593. The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

importance of organizing additional trainings in this field, being, for some of them, the only chance they have to obtain training and useful information in this particular field.

