

## PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE

### I. ASSESING PROGRESS

The field of abuse and neglect of the child has a wide range of manifestations, justified by the fast evolution of the society and the complexity of the social and economic context, which might lead to the appearance of a number of situations that might favor the vulnerability of a child toward an adult.

For such a reason providing an adequate framework for this field was always o point of interest on the agenda of the Romanian authorities with competencies in the field of child's rights protection against any form of abuse, exploitation and violence.

Romania is one of the few states that has adopted since 2008, through a Government decision, a national strategy in the field of children rights protection and promotion, referring to the period between 2008 – 2013 together with an Operational Plan for its implementation. One of its main objectives is referring to the area of protecting children against all forms of violence, the document above mentioned having clear measures that should be adopted by the national authorities in order to be accomplished.

More than this in order to provide a more adequate and elaborated legal framework addressing the area of interest, at the end of 2010 Romania has approved a **Framework Methodology regarding the prevention and intervention in a multidisciplinary team and in network in situations of violence against children and domestic violence** and a Methodology of multidisciplinary and interinstitutional intervention aimed at children exploited through labor or at risk of being exploited, victims of trafficking in human beings and migrant Romanian children victims of other forms of violence on the territory of other states.

The legal act establishes a common methodological frame that should be used by all the responsible authorities in the child and family protection field, services suppliers and professionals working directly with children, their families and possible perpetrators/aggressors.

These working methodologies support a better organization of the working methods used by the competent authorities, thus coming to offer a better support to the children affected by the phenomena of violence, under its various forms of manifestations, contributing in this way to a better quality of the social services offered to the child and his family and the prevention of child separation from his/her family.

Still in 2010, Romania has approved the Law no. 252/2010 concerning the ratification by our country of the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuses, adopted at Lanzarotte at the 25th of October and signed by Romania at the same date.

## **II. IDENTIFY NEED FOR FUTURE ACTIONS**

Nowadays in Romania there is still a need regarding the development of services aimed at preventing children separation from their families but also the children victims of all forms of violence.

Promoting adequate services which aim at delivering child oriented services based on their particular needs will still represent a goal for all the competent decision makers authorities in the field.

Also providing continuous training of the specialists working in this field should remain an objective of significant importance.

Another future objective of the Romanian authorities resides in continuing to promote zero tolerance for all forms of violence against children, considering important to keep on developing the implementation of other awareness campaigns for the public and civil society, having as objective to help them get more familiar with regard to the danger of such a phenomena on the children future development.

Regarding the possible implication of the Council of Europe in improving this area in regard to the new strategy in this field for 2012-2015, we consider useful and necessary to continue and support programs of transnational cooperation, which should provide a common framework for the intervention of such cases as well as the creation of new working tools available and applicable at the level of all member states.

In the same time, we consider of major importance to identify new ways of supporting such initiatives, even from a financial point of view, as well as the exchange of good practice example or the setting up of expert groups who should contribute to the enriching of the rules and regulations within this field.