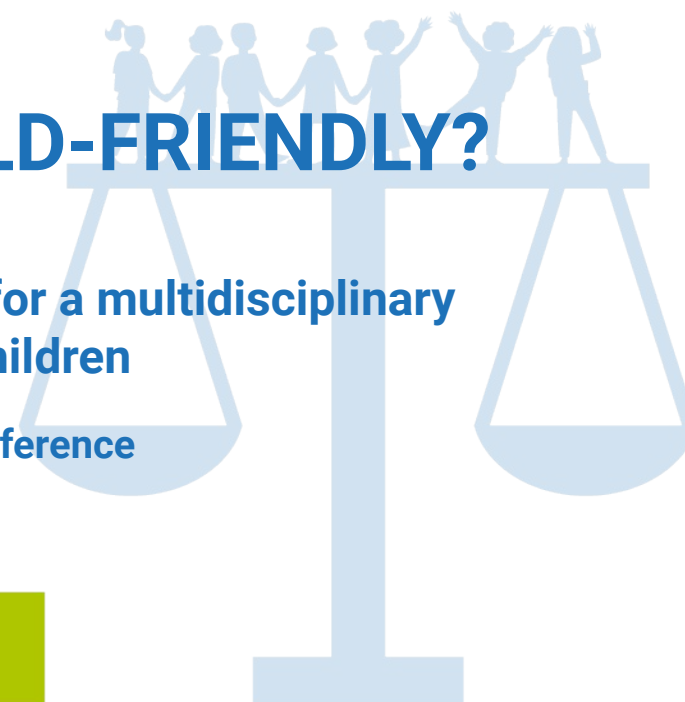


CAN JUSTICE BE CHILD-FRIENDLY?



European and national perspectives for a multidisciplinary approach towards unaccompanied children

11-12 October 2021 international online conference
09.30 – 13.30 CET

Registration open now at bit.ly/Child_Friendly_Justice

Which features shall a model for individual assessment have?

How important is ensuring a multidisciplinary approach for the justice system?

Are unaccompanied migrant children receiving the same treatment as local children when involved in criminal proceedings?

This 2-half days international online conference aims at exchanging experiences and practices about child-friendly regulations and law implementations to ensure the child's best interest within the justice system in Italy. Special focus on legal support to unaccompanied children involved in legal procedures as suspects and/or victims with judicial approaches and practices in three EU member states, namely Bulgaria, Italy and Romania.

The 2-half days international online conference will offer broad international participation with the aims to:

- **identify the approaches** taken in Italy to protect unaccompanied children involved in criminal proceedings as victims or suspects of crime, in line with Directive (EU) 2016/800 and Directive (EU) 2012/29
- **share existing "promising practices"** in terms of protecting the child's best interest, in particular, the right to an individual assessment and the outcomes thereof for children in migration
- **raise awareness**, through the sharing of real experiences, about the impact of the regulations and practices on children's lives
- **address the challenges at national and international levels** in the direction of a child-friendly justice system.
- **share common grounds** on the three EU member states.

This international online conference is the second of a series, with the purpose to raise awareness on how to benefit from the existing regulations and practices and how to transpose them in different contexts. It gives a constructive point of view to create child-friendly courts, where human rights are effectively guaranteed. The experiences of the children on migration and the professionals working with them will be shared with the purpose to identify some of the related challenges but also proposing some concrete solutions in the justice system.

The international online conference **Can Justice be child-friendly? European and national perspectives for a multidisciplinary approach towards unaccompanied children** is organized within the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020 co-funded project Child-Friendly Justice: Developing the Concept of Social Court Practices (grant number: REC-AG-2019/REC-RCHI-PROF-AG-2019-878552) which aims to improve access to justice for children with enhanced vulnerabilities in the criminal justice system by developing and disseminating specialised models of individualised assessment of their needs in line with international and European law.

For more information: <https://www.prismonline.eu/can-justice-be-child-friendly/>



This conference is co-funded by
the European Union's Rights,
Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020





11th October 2021

A better individual assessment for a Child-Friendly and inclusive Justice: from best international standards to national reforms

09:30 Introduction of the Conference, presentation of the agenda and project's overview

- Alessandro Melillo, PRISM Impresa sociale s.r.l.
- Anthinea Interbartolo, PRISM Impresa sociale s.r.l.
- Bruno Monteiro, Validity Foundation

09:45 Sharing the real stories of unaccompanied children

10.00 Session 1 - Latest developments in the international framework regarding unaccompanied child's rights in the child justice systems

A) Early identification and support of unaccompanied minors victims of trafficking: from the border to the territory

B) International legal framework and challenges of individual assessment of children in conflict with the law. Preliminary results of the PRACTICE project (implemented in Czechia and Slovakia)

- Alessia Cassia, IOM, Italy
- Karolína Babická, ICJ

11.00 Questions & Answers

11.15 Break time

11.30 Session 2 - Promising practises from Italy about protection of children in migration upon the criminal justice systems: views of practitioners

A) Criminal protection of unaccompanied children victims of crime: the multiagency approach in Catania

B) The USSM experience with unaccompanied children upon juvenile criminal proceedings

C) Unaccompanied children and criminal proceedings: the CLEDU experience

- Elisa Bruno, Lawyer
- Carmela Polizzi and Francesca Paola Di Maria, USSM
- Serena Romano, CLEDU

13.00 Questions & Answers

13.30 Closure



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12th October 2021

The multidisciplinary approach adopted in the EU models for individual assessment

09:30 Welcome and wrap up first day

09:45 **Session 1** - Challenges, from an international and national perspectives, faced by unaccompanied children victims and suspects or accused of committing a crime

A) Unaccompanied children and justice: perspectives on a critical relation
B) Risks faced by unaccompanied children in the Italian criminal justice system
C) Psychological implications and risks faced by unaccompanied foreign children victims of crime involved in individual assessment procedures

- Pippo Costella, Defence for Children Italy
- Alberto Pasquero, Lawyer
- Sebastiano Vinci, Psychologist

10.45 Questions & Answers

11.00 Break time

11.15 **Session 2** - EU models for Child-Friendly Courts
Presentation of three partners' countries - Italy, Bulgaria, Romania- models of individual assessment

A) Safeguarding children rights and best interest through effective and respectful participation and interdisciplinarity
B) The Italian experiences: a model to support and help legal professionals to assess vulnerabilities of young unaccompanied migrants, victims or offenders, involved in criminal proceedings
C) Individual assessment - more than just a tool for providing a child-friendly justice?
(At the end of each presentation partners will collect feedback from participants to enhance the capacities of multidisciplinary teams)

- Nadia Shabani, BCNL
- Giuseppe Di Vita, PRISM Impresa sociale s.r.l.
- Oana Dodu, CLR

13.30 Closure

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