



Pediatric Nurses Association of Europe
34th October 2019 Zadar

Protection & Safeguarding children and young people

The role of paediatric nurses/nurses working with children and young people



Aim to identify good practice

1. Goal

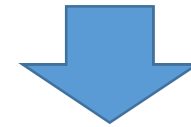
‘support and promote the protection and safeguarding of children and young people in Europe’

- General information about participant
- Protection of children and young people
- Safeguarding of children and young people

A. Countries

- Croatia
- Belgium
- Netherlands
- Ireland
- Denmark
- United Kingdom
- Czech Republic
- Iceland
- Greece
- Portugal
- Italy
- Norway

12 countries/20 countries



Representitive?

B. Professional Nursing Organisation

- Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland
- Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation
- INMO
- Danisch Nurse Organisation
- Nationaal Verbond van Katholieke Vlaamse Verpleegkundigen en Vroedvrouwen
- NSF
- The pediatric section of the Icelandic Nurses Association
- Ordem dos enfermeiros
- Croatia Nurses association
- Czech Nursing National Association
- FNOPI
- ..

1. Protection of children and young people

Regulations, law and policies defined 'Rights of the child'

- Yes: 12
- No: /

A lot of information websites in each country => **GOVERNMENT**

- www.oco.ie; www.citizensinformation.ie; www.HSE.ie
- Belgium.be; Vlaanderen.be; justitie.belgium.be; action.unicef.be
- www.government.nl
- www.gov.uk/government
- www.unicef.org.uk
- www.althingi.is
- www.tusl.ie
- ...

Good practices

Ireland

- => Tusla: Child & Family Agency
- => The Children Act 2015
- => e-learning programme 2017 'child protection training'

Denmark

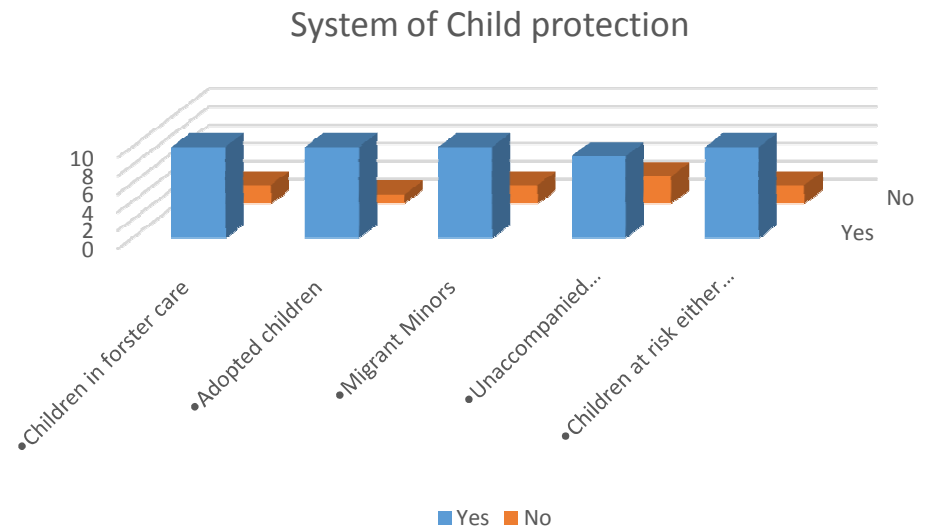
- => A child certificate: criminal record containing information about certain offenses committed against children under 15 year.

Netherlands

- => Every child is recognised,: According to Humanium: The Netherlands is one of the most child-protective countries. They respect the majority of principles outlined in the Child Rights Convention and guarantee an optimal implementation. Ref: <https://www.humanium.org/en/netherlands/>

Structured system of Child Protection

- Children in forster care
- Adopted children
- Migrant Minors
- Unaccompanied migrant minors
- Children at risk either due to poverty/illness



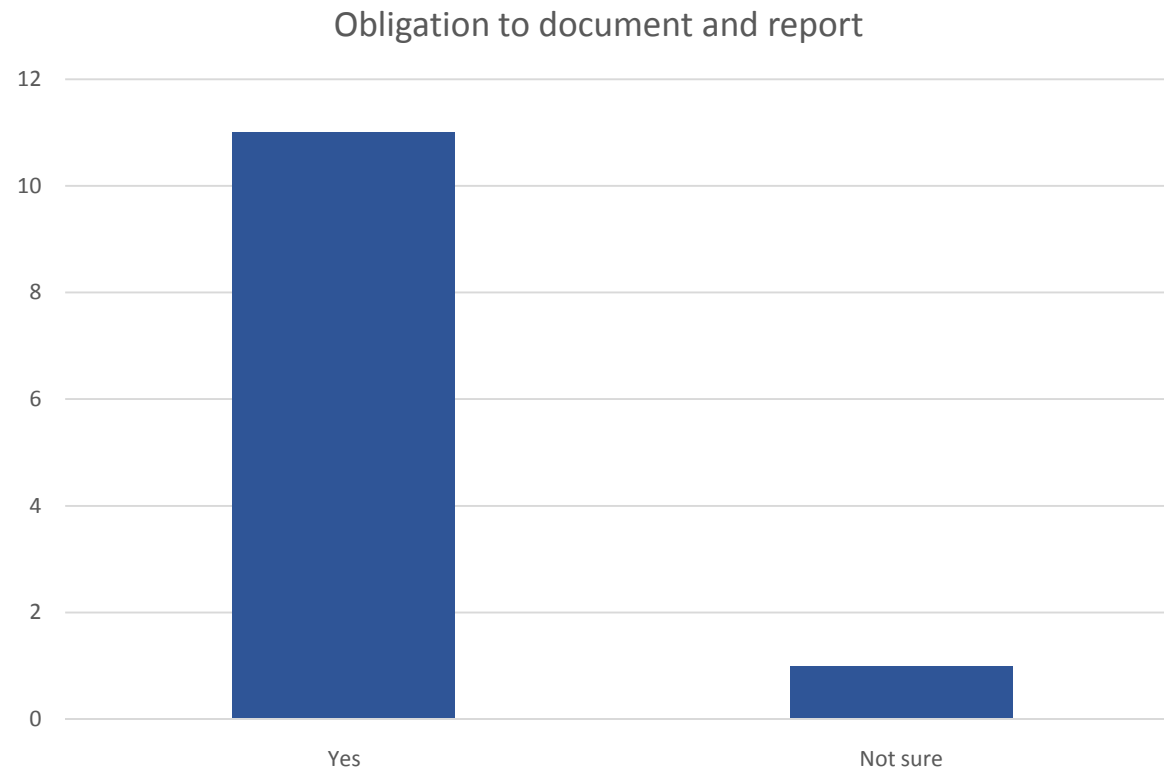
Financial funding for child protection

Government

Business plan available

Child protection budget

Obligation to document and report



Qualifications

Hospital

Post graduate course neonatal intensive care
Training for all
RGN/RSCN
Registered General Nursing & Paediatric Children Nurses
Professional bachelor's degree in

Registered General Nurses
Post graduate diploma
Registered Children Nurses

Institution

Post graduate courses
General nurses
Professional bachelor's degree in nursing

Home care

Registered children nurses
General nurses
Professional bachelor's degree in nursing

Primary health care

Practice nurse
Community nurse
Public Health Nurse
Professional bachelor's degree in nursing

Registration responsibility

	registration report		
	Yes	No	Not sure
Parents	8	3	1
Family Members	7	3	2
Teachers	9	0	2
Professionals caring for healthy children	8	1	2
Professionals caring for sick children	8	1	2
Others	8	0	4

Mostly every person in every country has a duty to report

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System to check the suitability of applicants

All countries =>

staff who work with children has to provide that the staff do not have a criminal record

Good practices in Ireland => Certificate
'training in the area of child protection'

Principles for child protection systems

- Every Child is recognised, respected and protected as a rights holder, with non-negotiable rights to protection
- No child is discriminated against
- Child protection systems include prevention measures
- Families are supported in their role as primary caregiver
- Societies are aware and supportive of the child's right to freedom from all forms of violence
- Child protection systems ensure adequate care with regard to
 - Professionals are committed and competent
 - Information is shared on certification and training to promote trust
 - Standards, indicators and tools, systems of monitoring and evaluations are in place, under the auspices of a national coordinating framework
 - Within organisations working directly for and with children, child protection policies and reporting mechanisms are in place
- Child protection systems have transnational and cross-border mechanisms in place
- The child has support and protection
- Training on identification of risks for children in potentially vulnerable
- There are safe, well-publicised, confidential and accessible reporting mechanisms in place

Safeguarding of children and young people

programme to promote the welfare and safeguard children and young people

YES

No (2)

Not sure (2)

Conclusion

Although there are differences across the countries of Europe

Learn from the good practices => the staff in the countries who works well and sharing the best practice and fully implementing legislation to protect and safeguard all children, including the unborn child.

Brilliant key => WORKING TOGETHER

Passive important chanel => MEDIA!

What next?

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2015/mapping-child-protection-systems-eu/body-monitoring>

Similar survey => following?

The screenshot shows the FRA (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights) website. The header includes the FRA logo and the tagline "Helping to make fundamental rights a reality for everyone in the European Union". The main navigation menu includes "Publications & resources", "Research & projects", "Themes", "Cooperation", "News & events", "Media", "About FRA", and "About fundamental rights". The breadcrumb trail reads: "Home > Publications & resources > Publications > publications related pages en (menu position rule) > Monitoring performance of national child protection system".

The page content features a sidebar with a yellow background and a blue border, containing a list of topics under "Mapping child protection systems in the EU":

- National legislative framework
- National policy framework (action plan or strategy)
- Decentralised child protection

The main content area has a large heading: "Monitoring performance of national child protection system". Below the heading is a sub-heading: "An effective accountability mechanism should include data collection and analysis, indicator construction, monitoring and evaluation, and support for independent human rights institutions." The text below reads: "In most EU Member States monitoring responsibilities are assigned to different national, regional and local authorities."

What next?

- In the majority of EU Member States, reporting obligations exist for professionals who are in contact with children. They do not, however, always apply to all professionals groups.
- Only a few Member States have specific reporting obligations addressing civilians.
- In some Member States there is a comprehensive referral mechanism. However, in many the lack of clear reporting procedures and protocols creates further delays or leads to the under-reporting of cases
- The lack of a comprehensive document outlining the roles and responsibilities of each of the actors involved has resulted in fragmented responses
- An important challenge identified in tackling child protection is the need to understand and fulfil their professional role and to address a great need of training on the signs of abuse and how to respond when in contact with children.

In 15 Member States (**Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom**), reporting obligations are in place for all professionals.

In 10 Member States (**Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czechia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, and Slovakia**) existing obligations only address professionals.

In **Germany, Malta** and the **Netherlands**, no reporting obligations exist. In the new draft Child Protection Act (Out of Home Care) reporting obligations will be introduced for professionals and volunteers.

In many Member States, the anonymity of reporting is not guaranteed. This is the case in **Lithuania**, for example. This lack of anonymity may sometimes discourage professionals from reporting a case of a presumed victim.

Child protection systems

Child protection has historically focused on particular issues or on specific groups of vulnerable children. Although this approach can serve the needs of a targeted group, it also has important limitations. Children may have multiple child protection problems. Fragmented child protection responses may deal with a single problem but fail to provide a comprehensive solution for the diverse needs of children. Focusing on selected issues alone, or on particular groups of children, is neither sustainable nor effective.

An **integrated child protection system** places the child at the system's centre and endorses and promotes the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). It ensures that all essential actors and systems – education, health, welfare, justice, civil society, community and family – work in concert to **prevent** abuse, exploitation, neglect and other forms of violence against children and to protect and **assist** children in these situations.

The UN Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children recommends that "all States develop a multi-faceted and systematic framework in response to violence against children which is integrated into national planning and implementation. This framework should be based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and should include measures to prevent violence against children, to protect children from violence, and to assist children who have been victims of violence. It should also include measures to address the underlying causes of violence against children and to promote the rights of children." This framework should be based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and should include measures to prevent violence against children, to protect children from violence, and to assist children who have been victims of violence. It should also include measures to address the underlying causes of violence against children and to promote the rights of children.





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