

Goals and Purposes of PNAE

A Position Statement by the Paediatric Nursing Associations of Europe (PNAE).

June 2026

Scope

The Paediatric Nursing Associations of Europe (PNAE) members have updated the position statement of the PNAE to clarify the core goals of PNAE.

Introduction

The Paediatric Nursing Associations of Europe (PNAE) is a collaborative network of the Paediatric Nursing Associations from countries across Europe. This network serves as a platform for paediatric nurses and nurses working with children to connect, cooperate, and advocate collectively on issues relevant to the care of newborns (1), children, young people, and their families throughout the region.

The goals and purposes of the PNAE are to: Bring together the Paediatric Nursing Associations in Europe and encourage joined up participation in PNAE to enable a strong and united voice on significant, common, and current topics and issues around the care of newborns, children and young people, aiming to establish and communicate a clear vision for paediatric nursing across Europe

p 1

Enhance the care of newborns, children, young people and their families across Europe through shared communication, co-operation and collaboration of nurses who work across all countries in Europe (1).

1. Use the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child [UNCRC] (1989) (2) to promote and advocate for the health and development of newborns, children, and young people with full participation of children, and their families in matters of health and wellbeing.
2. Encourage communication and collaboration of paediatric nurses and nurses working with newborns, children, young people and their families to ensure the quality of safe, effective and personalized care which they have the right to receive.
3. Promote common standards in paediatric nursing practice, education, management and research.
4. Promote free movement of paediatric nurses among European countries, recognizing the diversity in educational backgrounds and professional registrations across nations

Goals and Purposes of PNAE

A Position Statement by the Paediatric Nursing Associations of Europe (PNAE).

Revision No. 1 June 2026

5. Proactively inform and advise European organisations and others on emerging paediatric nursing issues.

6. Work together and share information with organisations focused on nursing and the health and wellbeing of newborns, children and young people across Europe.

Description of the content of the Statement:

The PNAE's activities are intended to ensure that nurses who care for newborns, children, young people, and their families possess the necessary knowledge and effectively share information regarding the quality of nursing care to which these children and their families are entitled.

1. The PNAE will encourage all participating countries to work within the philosophy of Individualized Family Centered Developmental Care on the highest possible level which leads to Family Integrated Care.
2. The PNAE will promote all healthcare workers to work together with newborns, children, young people and their families and parent/patient organisations as a team to promote shared care and decision making.
3. Establish and share a clear vision for nursing care of newborns, children, young people, and their families across Europe, based on agreed standards in practice, education, management, service improvement, and research. (3)
4. Inform and advise the Paediatric Nursing workforce of Europe, share diverse educational opportunities, promote professional registrations and consider relevant nursing issues.
5. Communicate, co-operate and collaborate with other organisations focused on the health, wellbeing and safeguarding of newborns, children, young people and their families in Europe.
6. Collaborate with other organizations to support inclusive opportunities for every child, and advocate for policies that accelerate progress toward children's health, protection, and well-being across Europe by promoting equitable, and resilient care systems. (4)
7. Facilitate the exchange of information and resources among associations in various countries, utilizing those resources available on the PNAE website.

Member Countries:

Goals and Purposes of PNAE

A Position Statement by the Paediatric Nursing Associations of Europe (PNAE).

Revision No. 1 June 2026



The membership of PNAE will welcome and encompass representatives from paediatric nursing associations who work across the countries of Europe.

Participant Members and Membership:

The number of PNAE members for each country and the mode of participation are described in the PNAE Terms of Reference available on the [PNAE website](#). A country can put forward themselves or can be suggested from a Paediatric Association from that country.

PNAE organisation and the action procedures:

The organisation and action procedures of the PNAE are stated in the PNAE Terms of Reference. These can be found on the [PNAE website](#).

End note

This document represents a consensus position of the organisations' representing Paediatric nurses across many European countries ([PNAE members](#)).

References

1. Carey, M. C., Coad, J., Coyne, I., Somanadhan, S., & Neill, S. (2025). Exploring the international terminology associated with nurses caring for neonates, infants, children, young people and their families. *Comprehensive Child and Adolescent Nursing*, 48(2), 108–121. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/24694193.2025.2502916>. (accessed: 30th October 2025)
2. United Nations (1989). Convention on the Rights of the Child. Art. 3.3 *“States Parties shall ensure that the institutions, services and facilities responsible for the care or protection of children shall conform with the standards established by competent authorities, particularly in the areas of safety, health, in the number and suitability of their staff, as well as competent supervision”*. Available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child>. (accessed: 30th October 2025)
3. World Health Organization (2018). WHO Standards for improving the quality of care for children and young adolescents in health facilities, Standard 7.2. *“Health professionals and support staff have the appropriate skills to fulfil the health, psychological, developmental, communication and cultural needs of children”*. Available at: <https://iris.who.int/server/api/core/bitstreams/a4d54348-c4ae-4115-bef1-1ab2b3240a42/content> (accessed: 30 October 2025)
4. UNICEF. (2025). UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029 (E/ICEF/2025/29). United Nations Children’s Fund. <https://www.unicef.org/executiveboard/documents/unicef-strategic-plan-2026-2029-srs-2025> [unicef.org]