

Using children’s rights to recover from the Global Pandemic: The closing conference for the Building Children’s Futures project

Date: 3 July 2024.

Time: 9:00am – 11:45 am Central European Time / 8:00am – 10:45am Irish time.

Location: In-person at the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Valletta Malta, and online.

[Register by completing this form.](#)

Summary:

As part of the EU-funded [Building Children’s Futures](#) project, Eurochild is organising an international **hybrid** conference on the importance of using child rights impact assessments to develop public policies with children and youth representatives across Europe in Malta, July 3 2024.

This conference targets institutions, representatives, and other key stakeholders to ensure children’s participation in decision-making processes in emergency situations.

The conference will present the results and findings created through the Building Children’s Futures project to a European audience.

This event will take place as part of Eurochild’s larger Networking Convention, **Fostering Rights-Based Solutions to Tackle Child Poverty and Social Exclusion across Europe**, which takes place July 2-3 2024 in Valletta, Malta at the [Grand Excelsior Hotel](#).

Attendees: Approximately 200 people in total, in person and online, made up of civil society organisations and decision-makers in the field of children’s rights, and children and young people themselves.

Contact [Ciaran O’Donnell](#) at the Eurochild Secretariat if you have any questions.

Event Programme

09:00-09:15	<p>Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference host: Mieke Schuurman, Director of Children’s Rights and Capacity Building, Eurochild; Welcoming remarks: Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Eurochild and President of Malta Foundation of Wellbeing in Society MFWS, and former President of Malta.
09:15-10:15	<p>Presentations of the development of child rights impact assessments in Ireland: Key results from the Building Children’s Futures project</p> <p>Moderated by Mieke Schuurman, Eurochild.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rayaa, Eurochild Children Council and Building Children’s Futures Child and Youth Advisory Group (CYPAG) - Presenting the CYPAG’s involvement and reflections on child rights impact assessments, supported by Foróige; • Dr Danielle Kennan, UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre at the University of Galway - Sharing the impact of Covid-19 on children and young people throughout Europe; • Karla Charles, EU Programmes and Know Your Rights Project Manager, Children’s Rights Alliance - Sharing best practices of responses to the pandemic using child rights impact assessments for children and young people – Children’s Rights Alliance; • Linda O’Sullivan, Child Rights Policy Unit, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration, and Youth, Government of Ireland – reflecting on how child rights impact assessments will be implemented in Ireland. <p>Followed by Q&A with audience offline and online.</p> <p>Reflections on the role child rights impact assessments can play in the EU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marie-Cécile Rouillon, Coordinator on the Rights of the Child for the European Commission (online).
<p>10:15-10:20: Comfort break for re-organising the stage. Refreshments will be available outside.</p>	
<p>10:20-11:10</p>	<p>Roundtable panel – Expert perspectives and reflections on the role of child rights impact assessments (CRIA) across Europe</p> <p>Moderated by Julie Ahern, Director of Legal, Policy and Services, Children’s Rights Alliance Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colma Nic Lughadha, National Co-ordinator for Children and Young People’s Services Committees, Tusla Child and Family Agency in Ireland – reflecting on implementation of CRIAs in Ireland; • Professor Cath Larkins, University of Central Lancashire – the Council of Europe’s Child Participation Assessment Tool; • Professor Bruce Adamson, University of Glasgow, and former Children and Young People’s Commissioner for Scotland – integrating CRIAs in Scotland; • Véronique Lerch, Independent Human Rights Consultant – sharing findings from the ENOC-UNICEF study <i>State measures on children’s rights during the Covid-19 pandemic: Multi-country impact assessment: Synthesis report.</i>
<p>11:10-11:30</p>	<p>Discussion with the audience and panellists on how CRIAs can work in practice and on best practice examples across Europe and the Eurochild network (20mins)</p> <p>Q&A (offline and online), followed by World Café Format for in-person participants and sharing of key audience takeaways.</p>
<p>11:35-11:40</p>	<p>Concluding remarks by Tanya Ward, CEO at Children’s Rights Alliance</p>
<p>11:40-11:45: Conference close</p>	