

2021 WORLD CONGRESS ON JUSTICE WITH CHILDREN

15-20 November 2021

“Ensuring access to justice for all children: towards non-discriminatory and inclusive child justice systems”

Workshop Programme

The Council of Europe HELP free online courses on Children's Rights

Date	Wednesday, 17th November 2021	
Timing	18:00 - 19:30 Geneva	17:00-18:30 London
Organiser(s)	Eva Pastrana	
Institution	Council of Europe	
Type of Workshop	Training	
Topics	Ensuring that the voice of the child is heard in child justice systems. Fulfilling children's rights in contexts of legal pluralism. Tackling violence within child justice systems and ensuring child friendly approaches for child victims, offenders, and witnesses.	
Region	Europe	
Language	English	

Abstract

Under its programme ‘Building a Europe for and with Children’ the Council of Europe works with governments, civil society, other international organisations and many other stakeholders to uphold and expand the protection of children’s rights in Europe. It also promotes a holistic and integrated approach to children’s rights and mainstreams children’s rights across all relevant policy areas. The upcoming Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027), which is currently elaborated by the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) and foreseen to be adopted in early 2022, will place a strong focus on promoting child-friendly justice for all children, including through the continued implementation of the Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on child-friendly justice. The Council of Europe Programme on Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) works to enhance the capacity of judges, lawyers and prosecutors and other professionals, in all 47 Council of Europe member states and beyond, to apply the European human rights standards in their daily work. in one sentence: HELP develops and implements free online courses on human rights for legal and other (justice) professionals. The HELP online courses are hosted on the HELP online platform Council of Europe HELP (help.elearning.ext.coe.int). They can be taken as:

- Self-learning courses, available publicly for free, with unlimited access

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- Tutored courses organised in cooperation with a national partner institution The Council of Europe HELP Programme and the Children’s Rights Division have in close cooperation developed a series of online courses on children’s rights: - HELP course on Child-friendly Justice, dealing with the following topics: Introduction to child-friendly justice; Non-judicial proceedings; General elements; Interactions with children in judicial systems - main challenges; Interdisciplinarity; Deprivation of liberty; Violence against children. - HELP course on Refugee and Migrant Children, dealing with: Introduction to the legal framework, Child-friendly procedures; Alternatives to detention; Family reunification; Social rights and integration; Guardianship and Age assessment. - Specific HELP Modules on o protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse o rights of children in the digital environment Draft Programme of the workshop: - The Council of Europe (CoE) HELP Programme (15 minutes): Eva Pastrana, Head of Justice and Human Rights Training Division, CoE - The work of the CoE in the area of child-friendly justice (15 minutes): Katrin Uerpmann, Secretary of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child, CoE - The HELP course on Child-friendly Justice (15 minutes): Valentina Boz, Project Coordinator CoE - The HELP course on Refugee and Migrant Children. HELP Modules on protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and on rights of children in the digital environment (15 minutes): Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, Chair of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child TBC - A national experience (10 minutes): a HELP national tutor TBC - Discussion (20 minutes).

Three take-aways and one output of the session

- To briefly present the Council of Europe’s work on child-friendly justice.
- To inform attendees on the free, publicly accessible Council of Europe HELP online courses on Child-friendly Justice, Refugee and Migrant Children, and the specific modules on protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and on children in the digital environment and to inform how various actors/stakeholders can benefit from these courses.
- To present an experience from these courses’ implementation at the national level.

Output: Increased awareness of the Council of Europe HELP courses as a free available resource on children’s rights and child-friendly justice. In the long run, increased awareness of the relevant professionals on children’s rights and child-friendly justice

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Speakers

- **Moderator**

Eva Pastrana, Head of Justice and Human Rights Training Division, Council of Europe

- **Chat moderator**

Valentina Boz, Project Coordinator, Council of Europe

- **Panelists**

- 1. Eva Pastrana**

Head of Justice and Human Rights Training Division, Council of Europe. Eva Pastrana is responsible for the HELP Programme (Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals) of the Council of Europe since 2015. HELP is the CoE’s educational platform on human rights for judges, prosecutors and lawyers. In July 2021 she was appointed CoE Head of Justice and Human Rights Training Division. She is a Spanish lawyer with 2 Masters’ degrees, on human rights and development cooperation, with more than 25 years of professional experience, working for international organisations (EU, UN), and bilateral development agencies as well as NGOs in different geographical areas and both on cooperation and monitoring/policy work.

- 2. Katrin Uerpmann**

She is a Secretary to the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child. Before that she was working at the Bioethics Unit of the Council of Europe and at the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights.

- 3. Valentina Boz**

Project Coordinator, Council of Europe. Valentina Boz is responsible for the HELP in the Western Balkans project (Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals of the Council of Europe since 2016. Based in the Council of Europe Office in Belgrade, she coordinates HELP-related activities in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia as well as Turkey and Italy. From 2012 to 2015, she was working within the HELP Secretariat in Strasbourg.

She is an Italian lawyer with a master’s degree in law with a specialisation on

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human rights and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights.

4. Maria Andriani Kostopoulou

Dr. Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou is a human rights lawyer at the Supreme Court of Greece and a Council of Europe (CoE) consultant on human rights. She is the Chairperson of the CoE Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) and was the Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee of for the Rights of the Child (CAHENF) and Chairperson of the Group of Experts on Responses to Violence against Children (CAHENF-VAC). She is member of the Consultative Board of the HELP Programme and the second vice-president of the Expert Group on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO).

5. Natasha Gaber-Damjanovska

She is the Director of the Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors of the Republic of North Macedonia. Before that she was a Judge at the Constitutional Court and a professor at the Institute for Social, Political and Legal Research in the country. She is an experienced national tutor of Council of Europe HELP online courses including the HELP course on Child-friendly Justice.