Planning the consultation of Children and Adolescents for the development of the ECG National Action Plan

GREECE

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E: “It is a fact that the predominant form of care in Greece is the institutional... "The problem is deep-rooted; state should support families from the moment the child is a fetus... to avoid children move to institutions”."

A: “We all want to live independently but we have to be supported how to do so”
Youth Steering Committee for CG & Young Advisors (Ombudsperson)

9 Members + 10-12 YA

2-3 meetings
Pupils of secondary education nationally

Number of school units & pupils to be reached
Workplan of Youth Consultation in the framework of the CG National Action Plan: January – March 2022

In collaboration with the National Coordinator and the Deputy Ombudsperson for Children Rights

• Phase 1 (January)
  • Methodology to be used (Focus Group Discussions & Questionnaires)
  • Sharing tasks
  • Selection of children & young people (SC, Ombudswoman YA, pupils in secondary education)
  • Selection of school units (criteria)
  • Priorities to be reflected in the consultations (summary of Deep Dive conclusions)
  • Questionnaire to be drafted
  • Permission by MoE for reaching out to pupils

• Phase 2 (February)
  • Dissemination of Questionnaires
  • Follow up with school units
  • 2 Focus Group Discussion with SC & YA to be conducted
Workplan of Youth Consultation in the framework of the CG National Action Plan: January – March 2022

• **Phase 2 cont. (February)**
  - Collection of data from Questionnaires
  - Analysis of the feedback provided
  - Presentation of the findings/priorities identified to the WG of authorities

• **Phase 3 (end February – beg. March)**
  - Consultations focused on the final draft of the NAP (measures/policies)
  - Support the inclusion of the findings/priorities in the NAP
Children and adolescents:
• From Roma communities
• with disabilities
• with refugee/migrant background
• with institutional experience
• in alternative care models (foster care, SIL)
• living in remote areas
Priorities

• Ensure that there are clearly defined spaces for children and adolescents to participate in the process of development of the NAP, and the most marginalized and vulnerable groups of children and youth are included

• Create and sustain specific mechanisms for child and adolescent participation (such as advisory boards, working group)

• Build the awareness, skills and capacities of children and adolescents, especially the most marginalized, to express their views on decisions and matters that affect them.

• Work closely with the National Coordinator (EKKA) and the Greek Deputy Ombudswoman for children's rights
Challenges

• Need to encounter common societal views about children's abilities to participate in decision making and the added value in that – Advocacy/support authorities

• Lack of formal provision ensuring children’s participation - support inclusion of children in policy decision making

• Slow processes are discouraging children from participating – support authorities

• COVID-19 Restrictions – remotely/open space

• Limited flexibility of public sector in combination with the limited time due to school/work obligations of the members – formal arrangements responding to the needs of children

• Lack of inclusiveness - develop accessible documents and information on all topics concerning children
Thank you