



European Council for Juvenile Justice

Roadmap 2015 – 2017

The Roadmap 2015- 2017 of the European Council for Juvenile Justice will be the key instrument to define the ECJJ activities of the next three years. Designed to favour the consultation and knowledge exchange between ECJJ Members, the draft version here presented is open to include further comments and thoughts that will emerge in the framework of the 4th ECJJ Meeting.

Starting with a brief introduction of priority issues, the Roadmap moves on to illustrate the focus of the ECJJ action according to lines of activity, concerning: the EU Agenda; Research and Projects; Trainings.

Priority Issues

The following key pillars have been selected as they are responsive to the concerns and priorities of the ECJJ members, and at the same time represent crucial issues at European and National level. We are looking forward to the opportunity of discussing them with you, and to define the final key priorities on which the ECJJ activities of the coming years will be built.

Access to Justice and Procedural Rights: As the fundamental basis for a fair justice system, and particularly delicate to define and implement when children are involved.

Restorative Justice: As a system of justice that refuse a punitive approach in favour of a more participative role of victim, offender and community, towards an educational aim.

Unaccompanied minors, children on the move and victims of human trafficking can be subject to various forms of exploitation, discrimination, abuse and violence.

These key priorities will be at the core of the ECJJ interaction with the EU policy Agenda, as well as at the roots of projects, research and trainings that are developed.

EU Policy Agenda and Advocacy Activity

The ECJJ closely follows the policies of International bodies operating at EU level, as well as EU Institutions and agencies: the developments in their agendas and their main recommendations/ publications/ campaigns, in order to bring the European policy-making processes closer to its members.



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A. International organisations of European scope

Council of Europe

- **Human Rights:** Conference on the Best Interest of the Child, on December 9-10 ; the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2012 -2015; Child Participation Assessment Tool and its implementation; promotion of the guidelines on child-friendly justice:
<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CM/Del/Dec%282010%291098/10.2abc&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=app6&Site=CM&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=EDB021&BackColorLogged=F5D383>
- **Rule of Law:** Implementation of Common Standards and Policies on Prison, Community Sanctions and measures; promotion of Human Rights Training for judicial officials.

B. EU Institutions and Agencies

European Commission

- **DG Justice:** Outcome of the *Public Consultation on Integrated Child Protection Systems*; support to judicial cooperation activities and programmes facilitating participation of children in the framework of justice proceedings; assistance to projects that fight violence against vulnerable groups, such as children; Study on Children Involvement in Judicial Proceedings:
<http://www.childreninjudicialproceedings.eu/Home/Default.aspx>
- **DG Employment and Social Affairs:** Implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, to fight poverty and social exclusion:
http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm
The Social Investment Package and the Recommendation “Investing in Children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage”, to support and enhance preventative action on social exclusion.
- **DG Home Affairs:** Implementation of the Directive combating sexual abuse and exploitation of children and child pornography, to harmonize sanctions and facilitate the phases of investigation and prosecution.

European Parliament

- **On the LIBE Committee:** the Directive on Procedural safeguards for children suspect or accused in criminal proceedings, to harmonise and ensure a sufficient level of protection to children involved in criminal trials:
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/documents/com/com_com%282013%290822_/com_com%282013%290822_en.pdf



- **On DROI Committee:** Meeting December 3rd and 4th and presentation of the Annual report on human rights and democracy in the world 2013; participation in the *ChildrenNotSoldiers* UN Initiative:
<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/children-not-soldiers/>
- **On FEMM Committee:** The study on *Evaluation of the Strategy for Equality between Women and Men 2010-2015 as a contribution to achieve the goals of the Beijing Platform for Action*; Joint Meeting with LIBE on 2012-2016 EU Strategy towards the eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings.

Council of the European Union/ Presidencies

- **Justice and Home Affairs** Council Meeting of December 4th and 5th; **Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs** Meeting of December 1st; Meeting of December 11th.
- Latvia, Luxemburg, (and Netherlands, Slovakia, Malta and UK) Programmes on Asylum and Migration, Citizenship and Procedural Rights.

EU Fundamental Rights Agency

- **On Access to Justice:** *Handbook on Access to Justice in Europe*, European Court of Human Rights case-law and relevant national jurisprudence on access to justice; the *CLARITY tool* facilitates identification of non-judicial complaint mechanisms for fundamental rights issues.
- **On Rights of the Child:** Study to Map children Protection Systems in Europe, also part of the Commission priorities; Study on children Participation to judicial proceedings and selection of best practices.
- **On Asylum and Migration:** The findings of the Handbook on European law relating to asylum, borders and immigration.

Do the priorities of the EU agenda reflect the issues you're experiencing at national and local level?

Is Juvenile Justice an issue on the government's political Agenda?

(Which are the main policy reform dealing with juveniles in conflict with the law? is the underlying attitude of the justice system rather punitive or oriented towards reintegration of juveniles?)

Research and Projects

A. Implementation of the Juvenile Restorative Justice Model

- Pilot projects at national level for the implementation of the Model and Toolkit for Professionals.



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- Creation of capacity building action in collaboration with national administrations.
- Evaluation of the impact of restorative processes on the victims, and fostering the research on previous victimisation of young offenders.

B. Research on the effectiveness of procedural rights: Right to information/ right to individual assessment/ right to participation to trial/ right to legal assistance

- Design of indicators and collection of data at national level.
- Identification of main challenges, best practices, and subsequent study visit organised in selected Member States; elaboration of a Comparative Study.

C. Project to Support Victims of Violence and Crime

- Research concerning specific support to children victims of violence in the justice system.
- Realisation of Manual collecting best practices of monitoring and evaluation of safety in the custodial institutions, and recommendations to National stakeholders on how to provide effective protection to children during and after judicial proceedings.

Do you find that the subject of our upcoming research well represents the need to improve Juvenile Justice Systems around Europe? Would you suggest different topics?

Training

A. Improving Juvenile Justice Systems in Europe: Training for Professionals

- Designed to improve the implementation of International Standards that concern children in conflict with the law.
- The course will consist of different thematic modules, structured around two main training sections: training of trainers, and national interdisciplinary workshops on child-friendly justice.

B. Juvenile Offenders Detention Alternatives in Europe: online course of the International School for Juvenile Justice

- The JODA project aims to identify and disseminate good practices on alternatives to Detention amongst key national stakeholders. Based on the results of the Manual, the IJJO will make available a specific course on its online platform, the international school for Juvenile Justice (ISJJ).



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C. Training Toolkit on Juvenile Restorative Justice

- As part of the implementation phase of the Research on Juvenile restorative Justice, the ECJJ will promote the use of the Training Toolkit for Professionals, which will be available in 6 EU Languages: English, French, Spanish, Italian, German and Polish.
- The key aim of the training will be to facilitate harmonisation of knowledge and practices, promoting a European approach that support the reintegration goal of restorative practices.

What kind of training you feel would be more necessary for your organisation and partners/ public bodies dealing with children/ judicial officials/ police officials?

Network Identity

The 4th ECJJ Meeting is a great and rare opportunity for us to exchange views directly, and reach common positions on how to develop and the work of our Council. In particular, it is a chance to discuss the function of the ECJJ, and to improve its responsiveness to the members' needs. To introduce the consultation on these themes, please be ready to answer the following questions.

- 1- Could you present yourself, your institution and your role? What your institution's priorities concerning juvenile Justice?***
- 2- Does a Juvenile Justice Network exist in your country?***
(What are its main activities, how recent is it, has it been effective, are you part of it?)
- 3- How can the ECJJ improve its communication strategy?***
- 4- How can the ECJJ help establishing bilateral/ transnational cooperation between its Members?***

