



ENSA, European Network of Social Authorities, Youth, Child and Family,
ENSEL, European Network on Social and Emotional Learning working groups

INVITATION AND AGENDA

“Strengthening the Future: A European Exchange on Policies for Minors, Youth, and Families”

Date: Brussels Wednesday 27 November 2024

Time: 9.00- 13.00

Venue: Odisee University of Applied Sciences

Hybrid meeting link: <https://shorturl.at/1hYUn>

Online workshop link: <https://meet.google.com/qox-yzet-dku>

Registration: <https://shorturl.at/PGFkq>

Background and Rationale

The future of Europe depends on the well-being and development of its young people. As societal structures change, so do the challenges minors, youth, and families face. While the EU has made progress in improving their quality of life, issues like child protection, education, youth employment, and family support remain complex. Policy approaches vary across Europe, creating both opportunities for learning and challenges in integration. This exchange program aims to foster dialogue, share best practices, and enhance cross-border collaboration among policymakers, practitioners, youth organizations, and academics, to strengthen EU

Objectives of the Exchange

- **Facilitate Knowledge Exchange:**
- **Identify Best Practices**
- **Build Networks** and project proposals
- **Strengthen EU Policy Alignment:** Contribute to the ongoing EU dialogue about youth empowerment, child protection, and family support to ensure that policies are coherent and complementary across borders.
- **Enhance Youth Participation:**

We invite all participants to prepare a small presentation on the child, youth and family policies in their region. We aim for the actual priorities, but most of all for major policy discussions in the domain, at level of policy makers, families and youngsters and/or services/service providers. Also, innovative service models, cases and experiences on the theme are mostly welcome. Feel free to choose these aspects which are relevant to your situation and knowledge. It is of course also fine to group contributions (with colleagues, per country, ...)

The aim is to contribute with this content to the work plan of the working group for the next years. (If useful, you can get inspired by the draft work plan developed by the Youth Care Platform.)

Please keep your presentation short (max 5min). A supportive PPT-presentation can be used (max 6 slides recommended).”

Key note speakers

Prof. Dr. Jochen Devlieghere

Researcher in the Department of Social Work and Social Pedagogy at Ghent University

Prof. Dr. Jochen Devlieghere will guide us through several important societal trends that impact policy and support for children, young people, and their families. He will, among other things, focus on what the increasing diversity means for the accessibility of services.

Katarina Ivankovic Knezevic

EU, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. Focus on child guarantee.

Katarina Ivankovic Knezevic will outline priority policy lines that the European Commission is putting forward for children, young people, and their families. She will, among other things, address mental health and well-being, social exclusion, and violence prevention.

Hybrid meeting link: <https://shorturl.at/1hYUn>

9.00 – 9.10 Plenary Session

Opening remarks – ENSA coordination team – **An Rommel**, Agency Growing Up Flanders Veneto Region's Brussels Office

9.10/9.40 Prof. Dr. Jochen Devlieghere

Societal trends impacting children, young people, and their families. Accessibility of services in a context of diversity

9.40 /10.10 Katarina Ivankovic Knezevic

EU, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

- Child guarantee

- Priority policy lines of the European Commission regarding children, young people, and their families

- Addressing mental health and well-being, social exclusion, and violence prevention

10.10/10.30 Q&A

10.30/10.45 Break

10.45/12.00 Workshops on site and online

Online workshop link: <https://meet.google.com/qox-yzet-dku>

Tour de Table on field priorities topic of works in the area of Minors, Youth and Families for future practices exchange, team capacity building, and project proposals.

On site coordination and methodology **Jos Sterckx** Odisee University of Applied Sciences

Online coordination by **Miltos Sakellariou**, ENSEL network, Social Cooperative Altera Vita Cyclades, Greece

12.00/12.30 Plenary- Reports from ENSA and ENSEL workshops
Hybrid meeting link: <https://shorturl.at/1hYUn>

12.30/13.00 Follow-up on European projects proposals **Katja Fournier**, Researcher Knowledge Center Family Sciences, Odisee University

Wrap up, draft programme of work and concluding remarks **Jos Sterckx**, Odisee University of Applied Sciences, ENSA coordination team



Opgroeien



Vlaanderen
is kansrijk opgroeien



REGIONE DEL VENETO

With the support of the Inclusivie Territories, Environment and Health Committee



CONFERENCE OF INGOS
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONFERENCE DES OING DU
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE