

Members

Belgium-FrenchCommunity
Observatory on Childhood, Youth and Aid to Youth
<http://www.oejaj.cfwb.be/>

Cyprus
Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance
www.mlsi.gov.cy

Denmark
Ministry of Social Welfare
<http://www.im.dk/im/site.aspx?p=34>
The Danish National Institute of Social Research
www.sfi.dk

France
Ministry of Labour, Social Relations, Family and Solidarity
<http://www.travail-solidarite.gouv.fr>
National Observatory on Childhood at Risk (ONED)
www.oned.gouv.fr

Ireland
Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
<http://www.omc.gov.ie/>

Italy
Presidency of the Council of Ministries - Department of Family Policies
<http://www.politichefamiglia.it/>
Ministry of Labour and Social Policies
www.lavoro.gov.it
Italian National Childhood and Adolescence Documentation and Analysis Centre
www.minori.it

Luxembourg
Study Centre on Populations, Poverty and Socio-Economic Policies / International Networks for Studies in Technology, Environment, Alternatives and Development (CEPS/INSTEAD)
www.ceps.lu

Portugal
Ministry of Social Security and Labour
www.seg-social.pt

Spain
National Child Observatory
<http://www.observatoriodelainfancia.msp.es/>

Associated Members

Austria
Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth -
Department of Youth Welfare and Children's Rights
www.kinderrechte.gv.at

Belgium - Flemish Community
Agency for Socio-Cultural Work for Youth and Adults
<http://www.cjsm.vlaanderen.be/jeugdbeleid/>

Czech Republic
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
www.mpsv.cz/en/

Estonia
Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs
<http://www.sm.ee>

Finland
Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
<http://www.stm.fi/en/frontpage>

Germany
German Youth Institute
www.dji.de

Greece
Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity
<http://www.yyka.gov.gr/>

Hungary
Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour
<http://www.szmm.gov.hu/main.php?folderID=13318&langchanged=eng>

Latvia
Ministry for Children, Family and Integration Affairs
<http://www.bm.gov.lv/eng/>

Lithuania
Ministry of Social Security and Labour
www.socmin.lt/

Poland
Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
www.mpips.gov.pl/index.php
Ombudsman for Children
<http://www.brpd.gov.pl/>

Slovak Republic
Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family
<http://www.employment.gov.sk/index.php?SMC=1&lg=en>
Slovak National Centre for Human Rights
www.snsip.sk

Slovenia
Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs
www.mddsz.gov.si/en/

Sweden
Ministry of Health & Social Affairs
<http://www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/2197>

The Netherlands
Netherlands Youth Institute
www.nederlandsjeugdinstituut.nl/

United Kingdom
Department for Children, Schools and Families
www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

History and aims

ChildONEurope, which held its first official meeting on the **24 January 2003**, was set up after two years of preparatory work in the context of the **Permanent Intergovernmental Group L'Europe de l'Enfance**, whose aim is, among others, to work for the introduction of mainstreaming of children's policies and the rights of the child in all EU policies.

ChildONEurope, through its Secretariat, may, on the invitation of the State holding the EU Presidency, participate in the *L'Europe de l'Enfance* meetings to report on the accomplished activities.

ChildONEurope may also take into consideration the suggestions on possible topics emerging from *L'Europe de l'Enfance* meetings.

ChildONEurope pursues the following aims:

- **exchanging knowledge and information** on laws, policies, programmes, statistics, studies, research and best practice regarding childhood and adolescence;
- **undertaking surveys, studies and research** on specific issues related to childhood mainly through a **multidisciplinary and comparative approach**;
- **disseminating research findings** among the partners of the Network and to other national and international organizations dealing with childhood;
- **identifying, sharing and promoting good practice** from the results achieved through the work of comparison and analysis also in support to the reflection on national and European policies;
- **developing and exchanging knowledge on indicators and methodologies** in order to obtain the comparability of data and information;
- **organising conferences, seminars and mutual training** to share experience finalized also to the use of minimum common tools for data and information collection.

Powers and procedures

ChildONEurope is made up of an Assembly and a Secretariat. The **Assembly** comprises the institutions appointed by the Network Member States. It is the decision-making body of the Network. In the Assembly the institutions nominated by EU States that are not Network Members, are admitted in the capacity of Associated Members. A Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson are elected by the

ChildONEurope Assembly for the period of two years with the task to chair the Assembly. The **Secretariat** has a role which enables it to make proposals and it has technical-scientific, logistic, documentary and communication support functions. The Secretariat's functions have been assigned to the **Italian National Childhood and Adolescence Documentation and Analysis Centre** (www.minori.it), whose activities are managed by the Istituto degli Innocenti of Florence in agreement with the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

Analysis and research

The primary objective of ChildONEurope is to provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and information among its Members and Associated Members. ChildONEurope has designed **questionnaires** to collect and compare statistical data and information on issues such as: adoption, child abuse, social exclusion and unaccompanied foreign children. ChildONEurope also organises **seminars** on issues of special relevance, such as **unaccompanied foreign children, adoption, child abuse, child participation, child well being indicators, early childhood education and care services**.

Documentation and communication

In the carrying out of its activities, ChildONEurope is supported by the documentation services offered by the **Biblioteca Innocenti Library** (www.biblioteca.istitutodegliinnocenti.it), which is one of the few in the world specialised in children's rights.

ChildONEurope activities and working documents are published and disseminated mainly through its web site: **www.childoneurope.org**.

The website also offers a number of services such as links to the websites of the most important international governmental and non-governmental organisations and university centres working on childhood-related matters, links to the EU programmes and call for tenders that may be related to childhood and a list of events, such as conferences, seminars and courses taking place at European level. Furthermore the Secretariat prepares **reports, brochures and CDs-Rom** on the Network's activities.

Activities

Since 2003 ChildONEurope has carried out the following activities:

Organisation and procedures

- Convening two annual Assemblies and one annual Seminar at the Headquarters of the ChildONEurope Secretariat in Florence.
- Actively involving the new Partners in all the Network's activities and working towards the integration of the remaining EU Member States of recent accession.
- Defining more in detail the procedural aspects of the Network's terms of reference.

Research and dissemination

- **National and Intercountry Adoption:**
 - Drafting of a comparative report on national and intercountry adoption.
 - Drafting of the Guidelines on post adoption services
 - Contributing to the drafting of a European comparative survey on international adoption entrusted to the Istituto degli Innocenti by the European Parliament.
 - Drafting of a survey on the management of the demand in intercountry adoption.
- **Children's legal representation:**
 - Drafting of a survey – entrusted by the Slovenian Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs – on children's legal representation and presentation of the survey at the meeting of *L'Europe de l'Enfance* in Ljubljana in March 2008.
- **Child Abuse:**
 - Drafting of a comparative report on national registration systems on child abuse.
 - Elaboration of a report on national legislations and statistical data on child abuse.
 - Drafting of guidelines on the implementation of national registration systems on child abuse.
- **Family Mediation:**
 - Drafting of a survey on family mediation requested by the Luxembourg EU Presidency focusing in particular on national and international legislation, statistical data, practices of services and institutions which provide training in family mediation and presentation of the report at the meeting of *L'Europe de l'Enfance* in Luxembourg in April 2005.

- **Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child:**

- Drafting of a study – requested by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Security, Generations and Consumer Protection – on the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child concerning the last reports presented by the 27 EU Members, as well as by the adhering countries.
- Presentation of the study at the meeting of *L'Europe de l'Enfance* in Vienna in May 2006.
- Presentation of another report based on the study focusing on early childhood education and care at the meeting of *L'Europe de l'Enfance* held in Helsinki in November 2006 and on juvenile justice at the meeting of *L'Europe de l'Enfance* held in Berlin in June 2007.

- **State support to family:**

- Drafting of a survey – entrusted by the Portuguese Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity - on the role of parents and the support from the Governments in the EU and presentation of the survey at the meeting of *L'Europe de l'Enfance* in Lisboa in October 2007.

Seminars

- Organizing thematic seminars on the following issues: unaccompanied foreign children, methodology for collecting information and statistical data, in particular on child abuse, services supporting families in the post adoption phase, systems for monitoring child abuse, child participation in the daily life, child well-being indicators, early childhood education and care services.

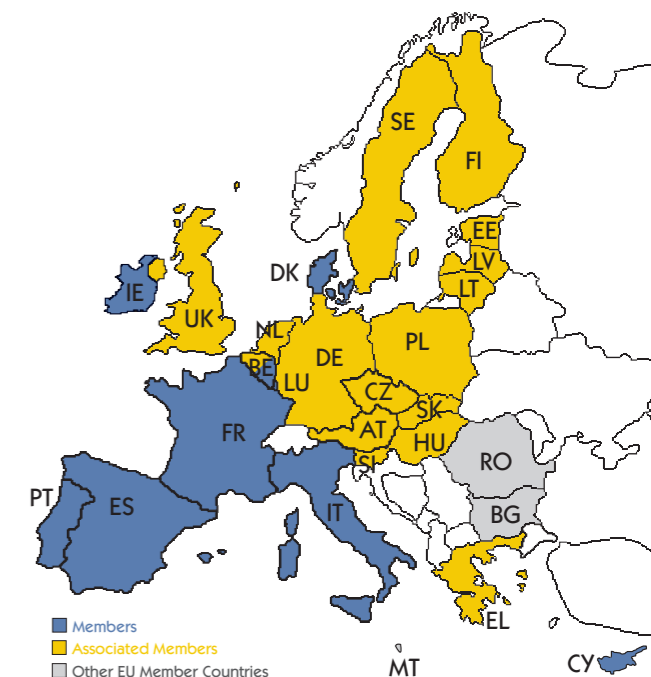
Communication and promotion

- Production of CD-Rom's containing the researches carried out by the Network and related documentation.
- Creation and updating of the Network's website www.childoneurope.org; increasing and facilitating contacts among partners
- Participation in conferences and seminars organised at a European level by other national and international governmental and non-governmental organisations dealing with childhood-related issues, including the European Forum on the Rights of the Child.

The activities of the ChildONEurope Secretariat are funded firstly by the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Politics and by the Department of Family Policies - Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministries and secondly through voluntary contributions by the competent Ministries of the French Community of Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal and Spain.



European Network of National Observatories on Childhood



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Membership

ChildONEurope is an institutional Network of the National Observatories or institutions on childhood appointed by the national ministries who comprise the Intergovernmental Group *L'Europe de l'Enfance*.

At the last Assembly of 2008 ChildONEurope was composed of **9 Members**: Belgium (French community), Cyprus, Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal and Spain, and **16 Associated Members**: Austria, Belgium (Flemish community), Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Finland, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

The latter may decide to become Members of the Network by appointing a National Observatory or institution to furnish official public data on the condition of children and adolescents.