



EURO  
CARERS

YOUNG CARERS ~>

Working Group

EYCWG ANNUAL MEETING

26 May 2023, BERLIN, GERMANY



EURO  
CARERS

European Association Working for Carers

# AGENDA

<b>09:00 - 09:15</b>	<b>ICE BREAKER</b>
<b>09:15 - 09:30</b>	<b>PRESENTATION AND WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS</b>
<b>09:30 - 09:40</b>	<b>RECAPITULATION OF THE WG's ROLE &amp; DISCUSSIONS IN PORTO</b>
<b>09:40 - 09:50</b>	<b>UPDATE FROM EUROCARERS: EXISTING EU POLICY INSTRUMENTS</b>
<b>09:50 - 09:55</b>	<b>EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE MESSAGE THAT YC SHOULD BE REFLECTED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AT NATIONAL/REGIONAL LEVEL - NEXUS</b>
<b>09:55 - 10:30</b>	<b>EYCWG's ROLE IN THE EU POLICY INSTRUMENTS IMPLEMENTATION - REFLECTION</b>
<b>10:30 - 10:50</b>	<b>THE EU CARERS DAY 2023 – BRAINSTORMING ON VISIBILITY FOR YC</b>
<b>10:50 – 11:00</b>	<b>WHAT ELSE CAN BE DONE? NEXT STEPS; AOB; WRAP-UP</b>

# ICE BREAKER



**Think of 3 interesting facts about yourself: Two of which are true, and one is false.**

**Remember:**

- **The more difficult to distinguish, the funnier!**
- **When a participant presents the facts, we'll have a tour of the table to guess the wrong fact!**

**After your turn is over and you tell us which one is the lie, tell us your name, languages you speak, hobby, or whatever you want to share about you!**

# PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS & WELCOME



**Belneau Jade – Belgium**

**Irene Christo-Foroux - France**

**Romane Dorado - France**



## RECAPITULATION OF THE WG's ROLE

- Created in 2017 to serve as a platform bringing together YC and former YC from different countries
- Built on the energy shared during the International YC Conference in May 17, Malmo, Sweden (300 participants)
- The aim is to combine efforts and resources so that YC's voices are heard and policies and practice are put in place all across Europe to empower and support them
- Meets once per year; last meeting in May 2021 in Porto



# RECAPITULATION OF THE DISCUSSIONS IN PORTO

- 1) Eurocarers/EYCWG could work on a guide explaining how to establish a national YCWG;
- 2) Need to promote and disseminate practices aiming to raise awareness and improve the training of professionals;
- 3) Collect and disseminate existing school-based surveys about young carers (Prof. Saul Becker will lead that process with Eurocarers);
- 4) Prepare a “Don’t ignore us” statement from the EYCWG in the framework of Eurocarers policy work on the upcoming EU Care Strategy;
- 5) Explore specific impact of cost-of-living crisis on young carers;
- 6) Involve EYCWG in preparatory steps towards European Carers Day 2022 on gender equality.



# FROM EUROCARERS ON EXISTING EU POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- 1) EU Care Strategy
- 2) EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child (2021-24)
- 3) The EU Child Guarantee
- 4) The reinforced Youth Guarantee

# 1. EU Care Strategy & Council Recommendations (adopted 8 December 2022)

**What is a (EU) Strategy? – Political document that enshrines political goals**

**Council Recommendations on access to affordable high-quality LTC:**

- ✓ Concern all people in need of long-term care, and all formal and **informal carers**.
- ✓ **'Informal care'** means long-term care provided by an informal carer, namely someone in the social environment of the person in need of care, including a partner, child, parent or other person, who is not hired as a professional long-term care worker;



# 1. Council Recommendations

- ✓ **Recommends that MSs establish clear procedures to identify informal carers and support them in their caregiving activities by:**
  - (a) facilitating their cooperation with long-term care workers;
  - (b) supporting their access to the necessary training, including on occupational health and safety, counselling, healthcare, psychological support and respite care, as well as supporting them in balancing work and care responsibilities;
  - (c) providing them with access to social protection and/or to adequate financial support, while making sure that such support measures do not deter labour market participation.

# 1. Council Recommendations

## GOVERNANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING

- ✓ Recommends that Member States have in place a **long-term care coordinator** or another appropriate coordination mechanism, in accordance with national circumstances, supporting the implementation of this Recommendation at national level;
- ✓ Involve relevant stakeholders in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of LTC policies;
- ✓ Ensure a national framework for data collection and evaluation;
- ✓ Gather lessons learned, successful practices and feedback on LTC policies and practices
- ✓ Raise awareness
- ✓ Communicate to the Commission, **within 18 months from the adoption** of this Recommendation, the set of measures taken or planned to implement it.

## 2. EU strategy on the rights of the child (2021-24)

The EU strategy on the rights of the child is a major EU policy initiatives to better protect all children, to help them fulfil their rights and to place them right at the centre of EU policy making. It pools all existing and future initiatives on children's rights under one coherent policy framework.

### Useful links:

[EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child - Illustrated version](#)

[EU strategy on the rights of the child - short version](#)

[EU Strategy on the rights of the child - child-friendly version](#)

## 2. EU strategy on the rights of the child: Thematic areas



**Children's participation**  
Everyone will understand that children have a right to a say and put it into practice.



**Included in society**  
Children will be able to get good education and healthcare and families will have enough money to meet children's needs.



**Safe from harm**  
Children will be kept safe from violence and children who are harmed will get the help they need.



**Child-friendly justice** The police, lawyers and judges will treat children fairly, listen to them and meet their needs.



**Digital world**  
All children will be able to get access to and stay safe in the digital world.



**Helping children across the world**  
All children in the world will enjoy their rights, even when there is war, famine or disease.

## 2. EU strategy on the rights of the child: MONITORING

The Commission monitors how Member States address child poverty or social exclusion **in the European Semester process** and, where necessary, propose relevant country specific recommendations.

**What is the European Semester?** - An annual process resulting in the European Commission's publishing of "Country-Specific Recommendations" to the Member States on how to improve pressing socio-economic issues they are facing. Member States are obliged to report to the Commission on how they are addressing the recommendations, and it is supposed to give guidance to how they use their EU funding.

**Useful link:** [EU Semester Explained](#)

# 3. The EU Child Guarantee

- ❖ **Complements the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child.**
- ❖ **Objective:** to prevent and combat social exclusion by guaranteeing effective access of children in need to a set of key services.
- ❖ **Preceded by a feasibility study focussed on 4 specific groups of socially vulnerable children:** 1) children in residential care, 2) children with disabilities, 3) children with a migrant background (including refugee children) and 4) **children living in a precarious family situation.**
- ❖ **Legal instrument – a Council recommendation** – offers guidance on how to implement the European Child Guarantee, while also allowing Member States the flexibility to design and implement measures, according to their national practices. Adopted on 14 June 2021.

# 3. The EU Child Guarantee – Where are the Young Carers?

## In Vulnerable Group 4) Children living in a precarious family situation

**Precariousness related to household composition:** children living in single-adult households; 'left-behind' children of EU-mobile citizens; teenage mothers; children living in households consisting of two adults and three or more children; **children who are caring for sick or disabled household member(s) (young carers)**; children with imprisoned parents; etc.

# 3. The EU Child Guarantee

## European Child Guarantee

#EUChildGuarantee #EUChildRights

  
ADOPTED

### Member States should guarantee

Free and effective access for children in need to:



early  
childhood  
education  
and care



education  
and school-  
based  
activities



at least  
one healthy  
meal each  
school day



healthcare

Effective access for children in need to:



healthy  
nutrition



adequate  
housing



European  
Commission



# 3. The EU Child Guarantee: IMPLEMENTATION – MEMBER STATES

## ***National Child Guarantee Coordinators***

- Nominate a national Child Guarantee Coordinator, equipped with adequate resources and mandate enabling the effective coordination and monitoring of the implementation of this Recommendation;

## ***Identifying children in need***

- With a view of most effective targeting of measures to children in need and taking into account national, regional and local organisations and circumstances, involve relevant stakeholders in identifying children in need and barriers they face in accessing and taking up the services covered by this Recommendation;

# 3. The EU Child Guarantee: IMPLEMENTATION – MEMBER STATES

## ***National action plans***

- Within 6 months from the adoption of this Recommendation, submit to the Commission an action plan, covering the period until 2030, taking into account national, regional and local circumstances. The action plan should include in particular:
  - (i) the targeted categories of children in need to be reached by corresponding integrated measures;*
  - (ii) quantitative and qualitative targets to be achieved in terms of children in need to be reached by corresponding measures, taking into account regional and local disparities;*
  - (iii) measures planned or taken in implementing this Recommendation, including at regional and local level, and the necessary financial resources and timelines;*
  - (iv) other measures planned or taken to address child social exclusion and break intergenerational cycles of disadvantage;*
  - (v) a national framework for data collection, monitoring and evaluation of this Recommendation.*

# 3. The EU Child Guarantee: IMPLEMENTATION – MEMBER STATES

## ***Outreach***

- Develop effective outreach measures towards children in need and their families, at regional and local level and through educational establishments, trained mediators, family-support services, civil society and social economy organisations,

## ***Involvement of stakeholders***

- Ensure the participation of regional, local and other relevant authorities, children and relevant stakeholders representing civil society, non-governmental organisations, educational establishments .... throughout the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the action plan;

## ***Reporting to the Commission***

- Report **every 2 years** to the Commission on the progress in implementing this Recommendation, in line with the national action plan.

## 3. The EU Child Guarantee: IMPLEMENTATION – COM

- Monitor progress in implementing the Recommendation, including its outcomes and the impact on children in need, in the context of the European Semester, and propose, where appropriate, country-specific recommendations to Member States.
- Work jointly with Member States, the national Child Guarantee Coordinators and the Social Protection Committee to facilitate mutual learning, share experiences, exchange good practices and follow up on the actions taken in response to this Recommendation as set out in the relevant national action plans.

# 3. The EU Child Guarantee: IMPLEMENTATION – COM

- Work jointly with the Social Protection Committee to: (i) *establish a common monitoring framework and develop agreed common quantitative and qualitative outcome indicators to assess the implementation of this Recommendation;* (ii) *with a view of informing policy making, enhance the availability, scope and relevance of comparable data at the Union level, including on children in need and their access to services, and adequacy and coverage of benefits targeted at children;*
- Review the progress made in the implementation of this Recommendation and report to the Council by 5 years after the adoption;
- Strengthen awareness raising and communication efforts and increase dissemination of results and good practice examples at Union level and among Member States and relevant stakeholders.

# 4. Reinforced Youth Guarantee

## ❖ Youth Guarantee established in 2013 by a Council Recommendation

Member States committed to ensuring that young people **under the age of 25** receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship **within 4 months** of becoming unemployed or leaving formal education.

## ❖ Reinforced Youth Guarantee – by a Council Recommendation of October 2020

Member States to ensure that all young people **under the age of 30** receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship, traineeship **within a period of 4 months** of becoming unemployed or leaving education.

Acknowledges that young women are more likely than young men to become inactive due to caring responsibilities, such as looking after children or dependent adults, or other personal or family responsibilities.

Where to register for the Youth Guarantee? [Contact points for enrolling in the Youth Guarantee](#)

**Useful link:** [National Youth Guarantee implementation plans](#)



# EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE MESSAGE THAT YC SHOULD BE REFLECTED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AT NATIONAL/REGIONAL LEVEL: NEXUS

**Objective:** To develop, test and disseminate a training programme to provide youth workers with the skills required to engage young persons they work with in research to make it more participatory, action-focused, participant-led, and ultimately more suitable to support evidence-based policy-making at all levels of governance.

# NEXUS: EYCWG INVOLVEMENT



## WP 2: Training resources development

- **Identification of YWs training needs:** EU-policy makers focus group to be organized by EUCA
- **Piloting of the training programme:** at least one meeting of the EYCWG

## WP 3: Exploitation & Mainstreaming

- **Policy recommendation report:** EUCA will collect inputs from national workshops and develop a recommendation report (in English).
- **Dissemination of project results:** EUCA organise final conference in cooperation with REDIAL



# Q&A



# EYCWG's ROLE IN THE EU POLICY INSTRUMENTS IMPLEMENTATION

## REFLECTION



# THE EU CARERS DAY 2023 – VISIBILITY FOR YC

## BRAINSTORMING







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# Thank you!

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[www.eurocarers.org](http://www.eurocarers.org)

