

# The Shadow Pandemic: Violence Against Children in Europe in times of COVID-19

26-27 November 2020

As the world is fighting COVID-19, and countries are actively preparing a sustainable recovery after COVID-19, promoting child rights and implementing measures for the well-being of children is more important than ever. The objectives of this convening are to:

1. Elevate violence against children as a global priority for COVID-19 planning and financing
2. Showcase cost-effective, evidence-based solutions that can be scaled
3. Discuss a collective way forward for European Pathfinding Countries

Participating countries are those that have already joined the “End Violence” partnership, with official domestic and international commitments, to ending violence against children:

- Armenia
- Georgia
- Sweden
- Finland
- Montenegro
- Switzerland
- France
- Romania
- United Kingdom

Participants include Country delegations (with representation of different sectors incl. Health, Education, Social Welfare, Child Protection and Justice) and European “End Violence” Members.

## Thursday 26 November: Elevating violence against children as a global priority

Moderated by Mr. Howard Taylor (End Violence)

Please Register: [bit.ly/EndViolence\\_Europe](https://bit.ly/EndViolence_Europe)

**14h00** Testimonial video

**14h10** Welcome, Mr. Adrien Taquet, Secretary of State in charge of Children and Families, France

**14h20** Opening, Ms. Karin Strandås, State Secretary to Minister for Gender Equality, Sweden

**14h30** Keynote address, Ms. Afshan Khan, UNICEF Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia (ECARO)

**14h40** European Status Report to End Violence Against Children, Mr. Jonathon Passmore, WHO Europe

**14h50** Violence against Children and COVID-19, what we've learned, Mr. Aaron Greenberg, UNICEF ECARO

**15h00** Role of Civil Society in supporting Government led initiatives, Ms. Alessandra Aula, BICE

**15h10** Policies and initiatives to end violence against children in cities

Ms. Inga Marte Thorkildsen, Vice Mayor, Oslo City Government

Ms. Helen Godwin, Councilor and Cabinet Member for Women and Children, Bristol City Council

**15h30** Questions and answers

**16h00** Reflections and moving forward, Ms. Nino Berdzuli, Director Country Health Programmes, WHO EUROPE

## Friday 27 November: Thematic groups and way forward

Moderated by Mr. Alexis Rinckenbach (Government of France)

Login to Zoom with breakout rooms: [bit.ly/ThematicGroups](https://bit.ly/ThematicGroups)

**09h00** Welcome and break into groups\*

- Group 1: Parent and caregiver support
- Group 2: Online safety
- Group 3: School-based violence prevention

**10h00** Reconvene and feedback to plenary

**11h00** Discussion and commitments for countries to work together around key topics of interest

**12h00** Way forward and Closing

**12h30** End

\*Concept notes will be developed on each topic incl. moderator, objective and technical experts