

Children's Rights in the EU
Dublin, 3 September 2008



Towards an EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child

Anna Zito

Coordinator for the Rights of the Child

Citizenship and fundamental rights unit

DG Justice, Freedom and Security

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The framework for an EU strategy on the Rights of the Child

- Art. 6 - Treaty on European Union
- Art. 24 - EU Charter of Fundamental Rights
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child





The European Union response

- July 2006 – Commission Communication
“Toward an EU Strategy for the Rights of the Child”

Transversal and cross-cutting approach concerning both internal and external actions

civil and criminal justice, social protection, development co-operation, trade negotiation, education and health...





Four major objectives

1. To identify priorities for future EU action
2. To improve effectiveness of EU policies vis-à-vis the rights of the child
3. To increase co-operation with stakeholders, including children
4. To help children to enforce their rights





Main specific objectives

1. Capitalising on existing activities while addressing urgent needs

- To attribute one single six digit telephone number (116xyz) within the EU for child helplines and one for child hotlines dedicated to missing and sexually exploited children
- To support the banking sector and credit cards companies to combat the use of credit cards when purchasing sexual images of children on the Internet



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Main specific objectives

2. Identifying priorities for future EU action

- To issue a consultation document to identify future actions
- To collect comparable data on children's rights

3. Mainstreaming children's rights in EU actions

- To mainstream children's rights when drafting EC legislative and non-legislative actions that may affect them

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Main specific objectives

4. Establishing efficient coordination and consultation mechanisms

- To bring together stakeholders in a European Forum for the Rights of the Child
- To set up a Commission Inter-service Group and to appoint a coordinator for the rights of the child
- Children participation



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Main specific objectives

5. **Enhancing capacity and expertise on children's rights**
 - To provide the necessary skills and tools to actors involved in mainstreaming children's rights in Community policies

6. **Communicating more effectively on children's rights**
 - To design a communication strategy on children's rights
 - To provide information on children's rights in a child-friendly manner

7. **Promoting the rights of the child in external relations**
 - Continue and further enhance EU's active role in international forums to promote the rights of the child

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Daphne III programme

Specific programme to prevent and combat violence against children, young people and women and to protect victims and groups at risk

(€ 116.85 million → 2007-2013)

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What next?

- “Issues paper”
 - Child rights based approach
 - Aims to identify future areas of intervention for EU action



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- Children's Rights on Europa:

http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/fsj/children/fsj_children_intro_en.htm

- For more information on Funding Programmes in DG JLS

http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/intro/funding_intro_en.htm

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Thank you for your attention!

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