

Report by  
Ruth FARRUGIA General Rapporteur  
to the

International Conference “Combating violence against children:  
from isolated actions to integrated strategies”  
24-24 May 2011 Kyiv, Ukraine

#### List of RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommendation: Urge ALL member states to adopt a national strategy about children paying particular attention to violence against children coordinated by a high level institution empowered to make financial decisions
2. Recommendation: Review State practice of children in institutional care and share good practice at the Council of Europe level.
3. Recommendation: Improve the taking of statistics by member states, incorporating all form of violence against children so that the scale of the concern can be more easily understood.
4. Recommendation: Improve the provision of counselling services to child victims of violence in terms of availability but also in relation to access in order to prevent stigmatisation.
5. Recommendation: Support parents in parenting without violence and share examples of good practice
6. Recommendation: Monitor strategies used to combat violence against children and include children in the monitoring process
7. Recommendation: Improve awareness by making the fight against violence against children community based.
8. Recommendation: Involve children in preparing any strategies and campaigns to address issues of violence against children
9. Recommendation: Encourage States to establish a permanent special committee on child rights in their Parliament. Council of Europe could then coordinate

regular meetings to exchange expertise, experiences and examples of good practice.

10. Recommendation: Continue to encourage the reduction of institutional care for children
11. Recommendation: Coordinate responses to violence against children in order to standardize the response according to the needs of the child rather than the means of the service providing it.
12. Recommendation: Foster enhanced professional social work services and professional accountability through regular auditing and inspection.
13. Recommendation: Target children through their family context by providing outreach services for the appropriate child at the appropriate time.
14. Recommendation: Establish effective complaints mechanisms for children and child friendly access to justice
15. Recommendation: Encourage training for all professionals working with children in order to foster a better understanding of the issues and the means for responding to them.
16. Recommendation: Prepare a training manual suitable for different professionals in order to sensitise them to different forms of violence against children, render them capable of identifying violence and equip them with the necessary tools to make an effective response.
17. Recommendation: Campaign to raise awareness amongst the population at large but also among children to know of their rights to be free from violence.
18. Recommendation: Encourage states to introduce, enhance and apply mandatory reporting for cases of violence against children
19. Recommendation: Encourage the use of methods outside traditional court structures to address violence against children. Initiate a study into the practices of those States which use such methods, their impact on the child and the family and consider drafting a memorandum or guidelines which specifically address treatment of violence against children.
20. Recommendation: Recommend the drafting of guidelines to regulate the relationships between professionals working with children including the impact of such relationships on the child and the family.
21. Recommendation: Encourage all campaigns and strategies to include in built methods of assessment and evaluation.

22. Recommendation: Recommend that States include all stages of strategies to address violence against children in legally binding format and pledge to prioritise it by providing appropriate support and funding
23. Recommendation: Encourage States to invest in programmes which prevent violence against children. Facilitate the sharing of good practice in the preparation of such programmes and evaluation of their effectiveness with particular reference to children's input and the keeping of reliable statistics.
24. Recommendation: Encourage States to establish safe, confidential and accessible centres for information and advice to children and support when they have suffered violence.
25. Recommendation: Encourage State to invest in the promotion of good parenting campaigns including models of parental discipline without violence.
26. Recommendation: Ensure that mandatory reporting is included in all State legislation and in all professional training on the strength of the best interests principle.
27. Recommendation: Promote standards for screening and engagement of all staff working with children and compulsory training on violence against children
28. Recommendation: Encourage the media to place violence against children in the limelight so that violence does not remain invisible
29. Recommendation: Render States aware of their personal responsibility for children in care and institute mechanisms which promote accountability such as an official mandatory annual report in Parliament on each child in care, including the means to address the needs of each individual child according to that report.
30. Recommendation: Promote the consideration of gender perspectives in tackling the problem of violence against children
31. Recommendation: Promote the drafting of standards relating to the rights of children in institutional care including means to deter violence against children. This exercise should include feedback from children, particularly vulnerable groups such as immigrant children, and from the Church.
32. Recommendation: Initiate a scientific project to gather examples of good practice regarding ethical reporting of violence against children and sexual violence against children under the auspices of the Council of Europe.

33. Recommendation: Propose the drafting of guidelines and examples of good practice regarding ethical reporting about violence against children through the media.
34. Recommendation: Introduce and consolidate programmes of reintegration of child victims of violence into the family, mindful of the importance of the factor of resilience.
35. Recommendation: Establish and strengthen programmes for perpetrators of child violence
36. Recommendation: Encourage all member States to adopt the Council of Europe Guidelines on Child Friendly Justice including the training of all personnel working with children and particularly members of the judiciary.
37. Recommendation: Promote methods in the justice system, which are child based and child friendly such as the Icelandic Children's House and share examples of good practice.
38. Recommendation: Recommend the revision of legislation by professionals in the field in order to effectively prohibit means of circumventing laws intended to deter and prosecute child prostitution and child pornography.
39. Recommendation: Introduce and strengthen child friendly health care services, counselling and treatment for child victims of child prostitution and child pornography incurring infection with HIV and STIs.