



**Toward a Europe  
free  
from violence**



# The Council of Europe Strategy: A unique and timely opportunity!

- 😊 Sustaining and consolidating achievements from previous Strategies
- 😊 Capitalizing on CoE added value, eg strategic role and expertise of its bodies and committees
- 😊 2016 and beyond: Promoting the implementation of the Global Sustainable Development Agenda



**An ambitious vision for the future !!**

# The Council of Europe Strategy: A unique and timely opportunity!

😊 Violence against Children always at the heart




**Council of Europe: Regional interface  
for the follow-up to the UN Study  
recommendations**

# Addressing violence in the new CoE Strategy

 Violence compromises all children's rights and remains a challenge in Europe and beyond

- **violence persists in different forms and it occurs in all contexts**

In Europe:

-  18 Million victims of sexual abuse
-  44 million victims of physical abuse
-  55 million victims of emotional abuse

# Addressing violence in the new CoE Strategy

 Higher risk of violence with economic crisis



Cutbacks in basic social services



Stress and depression



Loss of social safety nets

# Addressing violence in the new CoE Strategy

## Cost or Investment?

- ➔ Violence prevention requires sound expenditure
- ➔ Inaction or ill-action has high costs (and are often non considered)
- ➔ VAC has:
  - High costs for victims
  - High costs for society
    - direct costs on social welfare, health and justice systems and...
    - indirect costs



# Addressing violence in the new CoE Strategy

## Assessing the cost of VAC

→ Often a neglected area

→ Lack of prevalence data



→ Under-estimation but...

maybe up to 10% of global GDP!

→ Lack of studies on benefits of effective programmes

... and the loss that they can avoid!

→ Need of sound evidence!

# Addressing violence in the new CoE Strategy

Today: a special momentum to make quantum leap

The Global Development agenda beyond 2015

- VAC: a universal concern
- Urgent call by children in all regions
- SDGs: achievable, measurable and relevant in all countries
- CoE strategy: vision and roadmap for Post-2015 implementation with its standards, monitoring bodies and influential platforms



# 2016

**2016: a landmark year**

- ➔ **Building a Europe for and with Children + 10**
- ➔ **UN Study on VAC + 10**
- ➔ **World Congress against Sexual Exploitation + 20**

**2016: a breakthrough toward  
a Europe free from violence!**



# THANKS!!!!



**Website:** <http://srsg.violenceagainstchildren.org>



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**Twitter:** <http://twitter.com/srsgvac>



**Youtube:** <http://www.youtube.com/srsgvac>

