



2019 AMIF Call for Proposals Topic 6: Protection of Children in Migration

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Topic 6: Protection of children in migration

Background

- **Large numbers of migrant children – and of unaccompanied minors - arriving to the EU:**
 - Over the period 2015-2018, the EU28 received 210,000 asylum applications from unaccompanied children. The number of migrant children who do not apply for asylum is also estimated to be high.
 - Frontline Member States under pressure: currently over 12,500 unaccompanied children in Spain, over 4,600 in Greece, and about 6,700 in Italy.
 - “Destination countries” also need to take in charge large numbers: more than 35,000 estimated to be present in Sweden, about 65,000 in France (unofficial estimates), numerous presence in Germany, UK, etc.
- Several protection gaps identified, particularly in terms of identification and taking in charge (e.g. delays in appointment of representatives for unaccompanied children), reception conditions and access to basic services (education, healthcare, psychosocial support, etc.), delays in status determination, etc.

Note: The official Call text is the only legally binding source of information of this topic



Communication on the protection of migrant children (2017)- Current relevance and prospective

- The Communication maintains its relevance.
- Progress made so far in its implementation is uneven.
- COM will continue to work closely with the Member States and the EU agencies to further its implementation – technical support, exchanges of best practices, advocacy, financial support.

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Objectives

- Projects focusing on the exchange of good practices and/or provision of the necessary training across the Member States in order to
- Support the implementation/expansion/improvement of **alternative/non-institutionalized care systems** for the migrant children (such as family-based care, or foster care, or supervised independent housing arrangements, etc.) and/or of **effective alternatives to the detention of children** on grounds related to migration

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Actions

- **Exchange of good practices** and/or training and/or logistic support for the implementation/expansion/improvement of:
 - **alternative care systems** for migrant children (such as foster care, family-based care and/or supervised independent living where appropriate, etc.).
 - **effective alternatives to detention** (such as regular reporting to the authorities (by the appointed representative/family-based care/foster caregivers, the deposit of a financial guarantee, or an obligation to stay at an assigned place).
- **Type of actions not aimed by the topic:**
 - Institutional/"traditional" care systems
 - Capacity-building & operating costs (e.g. salary costs for staff, rental of buildings, purchase of real estate etc.)
 - Research on foster/family-based/independent living systems or alternatives to detention

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Outcomes (1)

- **Creation/consolidation/expansion/improvement** of alternative care systems and effective alternatives to detention of migrant children, especially when detention is aimed to prevent absconding.
- **Training** for performing all tasks related to promoting the well-being of the children
- Spreading **good practices** and '**know how**' across the Member States

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Outcomes (2)

- **Improved access** to of alternative care systems and to effective alternatives to detention for the migrant children, measurable through indicators such as:
 - Number of migrant children who will benefit from the projects (possibly disaggregated by age groups 0-14 and 15-17), and duration (for how long).
 - Number of training days.
 - Number of places in alternative care (foster care, family-based care, (semi)-independent living etc.).
 - Number of places in alternatives to detention.
 - Services provided to unaccompanied minors (e.g. access to mental health, health and education/vocational training/labor market support) that were improved as a result of the project.

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Further considerations

Applicants should avoid duplication and build on previously funded projects

- DG JUST list of projects on children previously funded:
http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/files/rights_child/compilation_previously_funded_projects_rights_of_the_child_and_violence_against_children.pdf
- Projects (ongoing) selected for the AMIF 2018 Call on protection of migrant children.
- ALFACA I and II (alternative family care)
https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/projects-activities/alfaca-alternative-family-care_en
- IOM FAB project – Fostering Across Borders:
<https://eea.iom.int/fostering-across-borders>

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Further considerations applicable to all Topics of the Call (1)

- Strong encouragement to include in the applications meetings or activities in Brussels, as well as dissemination products supporting DG HOME's communications efforts, such as factsheets, and to plan accordingly
- Any action under this call for proposals shall respect and shall be implemented in line with the rights and principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.
- Applications should pay appropriate attention to the effects of the project on individual rights and freedoms, as well as to possible remedies



Further considerations applicable to all Topics of the Call (2)

- Any action under this call for proposals should comply with all relevant ethical principles and all applicable international, EU and national law on ethical issues while carrying out the project.
- If a project will involve direct contact with children, the beneficiaries of funding (including partners) need to provide their child protection/safeguarding policy. Each partner must provide their own child protection policy if they will be working directly with children.

Reference documents

Legislation:

- Reception Conditions Directive (2013/33/EU)
- EU Charter of Fundamental Rights
- UN Convention on the rights of the Child (1989)

Policy documents:

- Communication on the protection of migrant children, COM(2017)211 final of 12.4.2017.
- EASO (2018): Guidance on reception conditions for unaccompanied children,
<https://www.easo.europa.eu/sites/default/files/Guidance-on%20reception-%20conditions-%20for-unaccompanied-children.pdf>

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Other info

- **Available budget:** 1.7 million euros
- **EU requested contribution:** 300.000 – 600.000
- **Maximum duration of the actions:** 24 months

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Questions