EU Children's Participation Platform

Information Sheet

What is the EU Children's Participation Platform?

The EU Children's Participation Platform (the Platform for short) is an opportunity for children to help shape the future of the EU. The EU committed to create the Platform and will use it to have a better conversation with children and to take their views into account.

To help set up the Platform, a dedicated Secretariat team has been appointed which works under the scientific guidance and advice of Professor Laura Lundy and Professor Cath Larkins, and consists of ICF S.A., Risk & Policy Analysts Ltd, Save the Children and SOS Children's Villages.

What will it do?

The Platform will be a safe space for children to exercise their right to be heard at EU level.

Children will have the opportunity to:

- Share their views on issues that concern them, related to EU policy.
- Take part in online and offline events and meetings.
- Listen to others and learn how to make change.
- Take part in the democratic and political life of the EU.

The Platform will also offer organisations a place in which to share advice and network.

Who can join?

The Platform membership is open to all organisations and children (everyone under 18 years old[1]) they work with. All organisations can become members if they:

- Are formally constituted.
- Are based in and operate within EU Member States.

[1] According to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a child means every human being below the age of eighteen years.

- Have processes, groups or forums through which they support children's participation.
- Have safeguarding and child protection policies in place.
- Adhere to the Platform safeguarding and child protection policies as well as the EU values.

Children become members of the Platform through their organisations.

How can organisations join?

Discuss the Platform with children you work with and if they are interested, complete the registration survey to express your organisation's interest in becoming a member of the Platform. Your response will be processed and accepted if you comply with the membership criteria. You can access the registration survey here.

What are the benefits of joining the Platform?

The Platform will offer a range of member-only activities. Participation in these activities will offer children that are a part of your organisation a unique opportunity to:

- Have their voice heard at EU level.
- Participate in meetings (e.g. in Brussels and possibly in other places) and join in fun, creative activities to learn how the EU works and what it does and can do for children.
- Have a say in what the EU should do and how it should do it.
- Exchange experiences and learn from other children and child participation groups taking part in the Platform's activities.
- Network and build relationships with other children and participating organisations working with children at local, regional, national and EU level.

Where can we get more information?

You can contact us with any questions you may have at **cpp@icf.com**.