

**YOUTH CARE PLATFORM
MEETING 16TH OF NOVEMBER 2022 IN VENICE (IT)
(VERSION 1)**

Dear member of the Youth Care Platform,

After 3 years of only few activities (due to the COVID-19), the Youth Care Platform looks at the future again! Since the Youth Care Platform was launched in September 2013, the activities of the network were driven by work plans with a 3 year life span. Next meeting in Venice, the main objective will be to collect ideas for a new work plan for the period 2023 – 2025. Next to this, we will hear updates on some EU-funded projects that are running now (the Youth Care Platform acts as advisory board for some projects).

It is still possible to add other topics to the agenda and also your project can be highlighted. A final version of the meeting document will follow mid next week.

Practical information

Date: Wednesday 16th of November 9:15 – 12:00 AM

Venue: Palazzo Grandi Stazioni. Fondamenta Santa Lucia, Canareggio 23 30121, Venice (next to Venice central train station)

The meeting is organized in the context of the general assembly of the ENSA Network. Youth Care Platform members are invited to participate in all the linked activities. See the general invitation below.

Registration is compulsory by November 8!

ONLINE attendance is also possible. A conference link will be available soon.

Agenda

9:15 - WELCOME

Christine Gäscher-Andreasch, Head of Youth Welfare in Carinthia and chair of the Youth Care Platform, AT

9:20 - THE YOUTH CARE PLATFORM AS ADVISORY BOARD FOR PROJECTS

Therapeutic foster care for Unaccompanied Minor Refugees and their foster families (FORM)



Not only adults and families with children try to reach Europe to start a better life but also youngsters and even children arrive in Europe without the guidance of a parent. Foster care services report an enormous need to offer therapeutic 'healing and development oriented' - care for these youngsters and their foster families.

Also national authorities are extremely challenged on how these unaccompanied minor refugees have to be taken care of, according to national and international standards of child care and children's rights.

Aim: developing a model for foster care professionals for the guidance of Unaccompanied Minor Refugees and their foster families.

Expected outcomes and deliverables:

- A literature review and 'knowledge base and on research and best practices in the field of foster care for unaccompanied minors refugees on which the model and the training will be based on (click [here](#) for the latest version of the document);
- A guidance model -to be used by professional foster care workers - for the delivery of therapeutic care for minor refugees and their foster families; it will be based on research, be very practice oriented, and shared with all foster care actors in the EU;
- A training in exile on this model, addressed to professional foster care workers;
- Policy and implemented recommendations.

Partner countries: Belgium (lead), Germany, Italy, Cyprus

Funding: Erasmus+ Actual question:

Read more: <https://form.ensa-network.eu/>

To be discussed:

- Actual state of play, short presentation of the literature review and how this review will contribute to the guidance model and the training
- Next steps at project level
- Concrete questions (requests for feedback) will be addressed to the advisory board in the coming period: introduction
- Feedback by the advisory board

Presentation by Patrick Meurs (tbc) & Selime Miftari (tbc), University of Kassel (DE) & Jos Sterckx, University of Applied Sciences Odisee (Brussels, BE)

Participation and Collaboration for Action (PANDA)



PANDA

The PANDA project seeks to educate and support social professionals in their collaboration with young children (aged 12 years and under) in child welfare and child protection to enhance children's participation rights.

Aim: the PANDA team seeks to help children to express their voices in their most challenging times. The aim of this project is to promote the participation rights of young children in decision making. Progress in social work law, policy and practice notwithstanding, the participation rights of young children known to and/or in the care of social services remains an ongoing concern across Europe because professionals experience shared difficulties and barriers regarding implementation.

Objectives:

- Help to create the collaborative conditions for participatory social work with young children
- Increase the competence of social workers/ professionals
- Support the implementation of a participatory approach to social work
- Provide trainers with post initial training to teach new tools and methods

Partner countries: Belgium (lead), Spain, Norway and Northern Ireland

Read more: <https://www.ucm.es/pandaproject/>

To be discussed:

- State of affairs and key elements will be presented.
- Feedback by the advisory board, suggestions on how the project can reach impact.

Presentation by Wendy Eerdeken, project coordinator at Artevelde University of applied science, Ghent (BE).

10:00 - WHO WE ARE, WHERE DO WE COME FROM AND ... WHAT ARE WE AIMING FOR THE FUTURE?

Next steps and plans for the Youth Care Platform, brainstorm on topics to tackle, expectations on future meetings

Introduction with a short report of activities over the past years

FYI: [Workplan 2018 - 2020](#)

Brainstorm session led by Jos Sterckx, coordinator

11:30 NEXT STEPS

New Youth Care Platform website under construction: www.youthcareplatform.eu

Continuation of the collaboration with ENSA: short exchange of ideas

11:45 OTHER BUSINESSES, NEXT MEETING AND CONCLUSIONS

12:00 END OF THE MEETING

[Registration here](#) by November 8!

Please send all suggestions and comments to

Jos Sterckx

jos.sterckx@odisee.be

At the latest on 8th of November 2022

Christine Gaschler-Andreasch, Head of Youth Welfare in Carinthia and chair of the Youth Care Platform

Jos Sterckx, Project development University of Applied Sciences Odisee (Social Department) and coordinator of the Youth Care Platform

www.youthcareplatform.eu

(Under construction)

The Youth Care Platform is supported by

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