



ENCLAVE

Enhancing the capacity of legal & justice professionals on forensic interview procedures for child victims and witnesses of violence

The ENCLAVE project's Final Conference

**SUPPORTING CHILD VICTIMS AND
WITNESSES OF SEXUAL ABUSE:**

***Towards an integrated child
protection system***

12th January 2023

Brussels, BELGIUM

The ENCLAVE project: Final Conference & Transnational seminar

The 2012/29/EU Directive establishes minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime for Member States, being a key legislative measure towards the protection of children. Central to minors' protection in the criminal law setting is the effective application of a protocol for forensic interview for child abuse which is aimed at preserving the child's welfare and preventing re-victimization. Yet, frequently, legal and justice professionals lack the capacity in using an appropriate approach towards the protection of welfare of children.

The ENCLAVE project, with fieldwork in Belgium, Estonia, Greece, Italy and Spain, tackles the current situation and treatment of children victims and witnesses of sexual violence in the criminal justice system, with a specific interest in procedures and protocols of forensic interviewing in these national settings. Maximizing the implementation of the Victims' Rights Directive, this project is founded on three pillars:

1. Increasing the capacity of legal and justice professionals and victim support organizations in the implementation of the forensic interview protocol with victims of child sexual abuse.
2. Increasing the interprofessional collaboration of the different actors involved in the judicial process, including victim support organizations.
3. Preventing the re-victimization of child victims and witnesses of sexual abuse.

The Final Conference and Transnational Seminar conclude the two years mandate of this European scale action research project. This event will bring together professionals from the justice, care and health sectors, policymakers, researchers and volunteers, to disseminate the ENCLAVE project outputs and to foster dialogue towards the need for a common framework of implementation of the forensic interview procedures with children victims and witnesses of sexual violence.

The Final Conference initiates with a welcoming speech by the hosting institution (KUL) and follows with the contributions from European Commissioner Katarzyna Janicka-Pawlowska on *The Victims' Rights Directive and children's rights*, and from Levent Altan, Executive Director at Victim Support Europe, on *Designing an interconnected system of Support and Justice*. The ENCLAVE project is then introduced and the main findings and outputs presented.

In the afternoon, the Transnational Seminar hosts three thematic sessions focused on the specialized response to child sexual victimization, delivered by guest speakers experts in the fields of justice and of child victim support. To conclude the day, a round table will foster discussion amongst guest speakers, project partners, and assistants, on the challenges of daily practice in criminal justice procedures with child victims and witnesses of sexual violence, and challenges regarding the interprofessional collaboration of relevant stakeholders of the child victims' journey.

We welcome you to join us on the **12th of January of 2023, from 9.30h to 17h**, at Warmoesberg 43, 1000 Brussels - Odisee Hogeschool, Hermesgebouw 3, room 6116 (6th floor).

AGENDA

Date: 12th January 2023, 09:30 – 17:00

Venue: Warmoesberg 43, 1000 Brussels - Odisee Hogeschool,
Hermesgebouw 3, room 6116 (6th floor).

Registration: Please register your attendance [here](#)

1st half day: Introduction to the project, outputs and activities

09.30-10.00	Walk in (registration)
10.00-11.15	Plenary – supporting child victims in the justice system <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prof. dr. Antony Pemberton, KU Leuven: <i>Welcome and introduction</i>- Katarzyna Janicka-Pawlowska, European Commissioner Coordinator for Victims' Rights: <i>The Victims' Rights Directive and children's rights</i>- Levent Altan, Victim Support Europe: <i>Designing an interconnected system of Support and Justice</i>- Nicholas Spetsidis, Union of Women Associations of Heraklion Prefecture (UWAH): <i>Presenting ENCLAVE</i>
11.15-11.45	Coffee Break
11.45-12.45	ENCLAVE project outputs and activities (moderated by Nicholas Spetsidis, UWAH) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prof. dr. Helena Soletto, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M): <i>Benchmark protocol & Comparative country report</i>- Prof. dr. Ana Fiodorova, UC3M: <i>Policy recommendations</i>- Prof. dr. Olga Themeli, University of Crete: <i>Training manual for Criminal Justice & Legal Professionals on the Forensic Interviewing of Child Victims of Sexual Abuse</i>- Dr. Silvia Ciotti, Eurocrime: <i>Training materials for Victim support professionals</i>- Mari Puniste, Women's Support and Information Center: <i>ENCLAVE database</i>
12.45-13.00	Q&A
13.00-14.00	Lunch Break

2nd half day: thematic sessions

14.00-15.15	<p>Thematic sessions – on the specialized response to child sexual victimization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prof. dr. Ines Keygnaert, University of Gent: <i>Sexual assault care centres in Belgium as essential tools against revictimization</i> – Magistrate Anna Carrascosa, Spanish Judiciary: <i>Specialized response to gender violence and child sexual victimization– the Spanish Judicial scenery</i> – Mariana Saksniit, Women's Support and Information Center: <i>The impact of Trauma on Children</i>
15.15-15.45	Coffee Break
15.45-17.00	<p>Round table - on minimum standards for the protection of child victims and witnesses of sexual violence</p> <p><i>(Guest speakers and project partners, with the participation of attendants)</i></p>
17.00-17.30	Closing remarks & drinks



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There is a way
out of violence!

KU LEUVEN



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