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ANNEX 2

ANNEX

to the

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

EU strategy on the rights of the child

EU *acquis* and policy documents on the rights of the child

This document lists the **most relevant**¹ EU legal and policy instruments for the rights of the child.

They are organised according to the thematic sections of the EU strategy on the rights of the child.

All legal and policy instruments are hyperlinked

Primary law

Treaty of the European Union (2012/C326/01) – particularly Article 3.3 and 3.5

Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (2012/C 326/01)

Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU (2012/C 326/02) – particularly Article 24 on the rights of the child, as well as Article 7 on right to family life; Article 14 on right to education, Article 32 on Prohibition of child labour and protection of young people at work and Article 33 on Family and professional life

Policy documents on the rights of the child

[Political Guidelines of the European Commission 2019-2024 ‘A Union that strives for more. My agenda for Europe’ by President Ursula von der Leyen, July 2019](#)

European Parliament resolution on children’s rights on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (2019/2876(RSP))

European Parliament Resolution of 11 March 2021 on children’s rights **in view of the EU Strategy on the rights of the child** (2021/2523(RSP))

Previous strategies on the rights of the child

Commission Communication on **Towards an EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child** (COM/2006/367 Final)

Commission Communication on an **EU Agenda for the Rights of the Child** (COM/2011/60 final)

Horizontal instruments, including those impacting different groups of children

- **Social inclusion**

Commission Recommendation on the **European Pillar of Social Rights** (2017/761/EU)

- **Racial or ethnic origin, including Roma**

¹ This list is not exhaustive and, in particular, financial instruments are not included.

Council Directive on implementing the **principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin** (2000/43/EC)

Council Framework Decision on combating certain **forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law** (2008/913/JHA)

Commission Communication on A Union of equality: **EU anti-racism plan 2020-2025** (COM/2020/565 final)

Commission Communication **A Union of Equality: EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation** (COM(2020) 620 final)

Council Recommendation on **Roma equality, inclusion and participation** (2021/C 93/01)

Disabilities

Council Decision concerning the **conclusion, by the European Community, of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** (2010/48/EC)

Directive on the **accessibility requirements for products and services** (2019/882/EU)

Union of Equality: **Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030** (COM(2021) 101 final)

- **LGBTIQ**

Commission Communication on **A Union of Equality: LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025** (COM/2020/698 final)

- **Gender equality**

Commission Communication on **A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025** (COM/2020/152 final)

- **Migrant protection and integration**

Commission Communication on the **protection of children in migration** (COM/2017/211 Final)

Commission Communication on an **Action plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027** (COM/2020/758 final)

- **Youth**

Council Resolution on a framework for European cooperation in the youth field: **The European Union Youth Strategy 2019-2027** (2018/C456/01)

1. Participation in political and democratic life: An EU that empowers children to be active citizens and members of democratic societies

Commission Communication on the 2020 **Rule of Law Report**. The rule of law situation in the European Union (COM/2020/580 final)

Commission Communication on the **European democracy action plan** (COM/2020/790 final)

Commission Communication on a **Strategy to strengthen the application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the EU** (COM/2020/711 final)

2. Socio-economic inclusion, health and education: An EU that fights child poverty, promotes inclusive and child-friendly societies, health and education systems.

2.1. Social inclusion

2.1.1. Horizontal instruments

Commission Recommendation on **investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage** (2013/112/EU)

Commission Communication establishing a **European Pillar of Social Rights** (COM/2017/250 final)

Commission Recommendation on the **European Pillar of Social Rights** (2017/761/EU)

Interinstitutional Proclamation on the **European Pillar of Social Rights** (2017/C 428/09)

The **European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan** (COM(2021) 102 final)

2.1.2. Family life

Council Directive on the introduction of measures to encourage **improvements in the safety and health at work of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding** (92/85/EC)

Council Recommendation on **child care** (92/241/EEC)

Council Directive implementing the revised framework agreement on parental leave concluded by BUSINESSEUROPE, UEAPME, CEEP and ETUC and repealing Directive 96/34/EC (2010/18/EU)

Directive on **work life balance for parents and carers** repealing Council Directive 2010/18/EU (2019/1158/EU)

2.1.3. Young people at work

Directive on the **protection of young people at work** (94/33/EC)

Directive providing for **minimum standards on sanctions and measures against employers of illegally staying third-country nationals** (2009/52/EC)

Council Directive implementing the Agreement concerning the implementation of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 of the **International Labour Organisation**, concluded on 21 May 2012 between the General Confederation of Agricultural Cooperatives in the European Union (Cogeca), the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) and the Association of National Organisations of Fishing Enterprises in the European Union (Europêche) (2017/159/EU)

2.2. Education

2.2.1. Education

Council Recommendation on policies to **reduce early school leaving** (2011/C191/01)

Council Recommendation on **Key Competences for Lifelong Learning** (2018/C 189/01)

Council Recommendation on **promoting common values, inclusive education, and the European dimension of teaching** (2018/C 195/01)

Council Recommendation on a **comprehensive approach to the teaching and learning of languages** (2019/C 189/03)

Commission Communication on achieving the **European Education Area** by 2025 (COM/2020/625 final)

Council Resolution on a strategic framework for **European cooperation in education and training towards the European Education Area and beyond (2021-2030)** (2021/C 66/01)

2.2.2. Early childhood education and care

Commission Communication on **Early childhood education and care: providing all our children with the best start for the world of tomorrow** (COM/2011/66 final)

Council Recommendation on **High quality early childhood education and care systems** (2019/C189/02)

2.2.3. Leisure

Directive on the **safety of toys** (2009/48/EC)

2.3. Housing

Commission Recommendation on **energy poverty** (2020/1563/EU)

2.4. Health

2.4.1. Diseases and prevention

Council Recommendation on strengthened **cooperation against vaccine-preventable diseases** (2018/C 466/01)

Communication Europe's **Beating Cancer Plan**, COM (COM(2021) 44 final)

Communication **Pharmaceutical Strategy for Europe** (COM(2020) 761 final)

2.4.2. Nutrition

Commission Directive on **processed cereal-based foods and baby foods** for infants and young children (2006/125/EC)

Regulation on **nutrition and health claims made on foods** (1924/2006/EC)

Regulation on the provision of **food information to consumers** (1169/2011/EU)

Regulation on **food intended for infants and young children, food for special medical purposes, and total diet replacement for weight control** (609/2013/EC)

Regulation establishing a common **organisation of the markets in agricultural products** (1308/2013/EU)

Regulation on determining measures on **fixing certain aids and refunds related to the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products** (1370/2013/EU)

EU Action Plan on **Childhood Obesity** 2014-2020

Commission Regulation as regards maximum **levels of tropane alkaloids in certain cereal-based foods for infants and young children** (2016/239/EU)

Commission Implementing Regulation on rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Council and the Parliament with regard to **Union aid for the supply of fruit and vegetables, bananas and milk in educational establishments** (2017/39/EU)

Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 with regard to **Union aid for the supply of fruit and vegetables, bananas and milk in educational establishments** (2017/40/EU)

Communication **A Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system** (COM(2020) 381 final)

2.4.3. Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs

Directive on the **approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the advertising and sponsorship of tobacco products** (2003/33/EC)

Council Recommendation on the **prevention of smoking and on initiatives to improve tobacco control** (2003/54/EC)

Commission Communication on an **EU strategy to support Member States in reducing alcohol related harm** (COM/2006/625 final)

Council Recommendation on **smoke-free environments** (2009/C 296/02)

Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning the **manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products** (2014/40/EU)

Commission Implementing Decision extending the validity of Decision 2006/502/EC requiring **Member States to take measures to ensure that only lighters which are child-resistant are placed on the market and to prohibit the placing on the market of novelty lighters** (2016/575/EU)

2.4.4. Consumers / safety

Directive on **General Product Safety** (2001/95/EC)

Directive concerning unfair business-to-consumer commercial practices in the internal market (**'Unfair Commercial Practices Directive'**) (2005/29/EC)

Regulation on **medicinal products for paediatric use** (1901/2006/EC)

Regulation on the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to the **protection of pedestrians and other vulnerable road users**, amending Directive 2007/46/EC and repealing Directives 2003/102/EC and 2005/66/EC (78/2009/EC)

Regulation laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Annex I to Regulation 78/2009 on the **type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to the protection of pedestrians and other vulnerable road users** (631/2009/EC)

Regulation concerning **type-approval requirements for the general safety of motor vehicles, their trailers and systems, components and separate technical units** intended therefor (661/2009/EC)

Council Decision on the position of the European Union in relation to the draft Regulation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on **pedestrian safety** and to the draft Regulation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on light emitting diode (LED) light sources (2012/143/EU)

Commission Implementing Directive amending Council Directive 91/671/EEC relating to the **compulsory use of safety belts and child restraint systems in vehicles** (2014/37/EU)

Commission Implementing Decision on the compliance of European standard EN 16281:2013 for **consumer fitted child resistant locking devices for windows and balcony doors** (2014/358/EU)

Commission Recommendation on principles for the **protection of consumers and players of online gambling services** and for the **prevention of minors from gambling online** (2014/478/EU)

2.4.5. Environment

Commission Communication on the **European Green Deal** (COM(2019) 640 final)

3. Combating violence against children and ensuring child protection: an EU that helps children grow free from violence

Commission Decision on reserving the **national numbering range beginning with 116 for harmonised numbers for harmonised services of social value** (2007/116/EC), subsequently amended and **Directive establishing the European Electronic Communications Code** (2018/1972/EU)

Directive on combating the **sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography** (2011/93/EU)

Directive on preventing and combating **trafficking in human beings** and protecting its victims (2011/36/EU)

Commission Communication on an **EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016** (COM/2012/0286 final)

Commission Communication on **Towards the elimination of female genital mutilation** (COM/2013/833 final)

Commission Communication on **Reporting on the follow-up to the EU Strategy towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings and identifying further concrete actions** (COM/2017/728 final)

Commission Communication on the **EU Security Union Strategy** (COM/2020/605 final)

Commission Communication on an **EU strategy for a more effective fight against child sexual abuse** (COM/2020/607 final)

4. Child-friendly justice: An EU where the justice system respects the rights and needs of children

4.1. Justice systems

Commission Communication on **Ensuring justice in the EU - a European judicial training strategy for 2021-2024** (COM/2020/713 final)

4.2. Civil law

4.2.1. Parental responsibility

Council Decision on authorising the Member States, in the interest of the Community, to sign the 1996 Hague Convention on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition, enforcement and cooperation in respect of **parental responsibility and measures for the protection of children** (2003/93/EC)

Council Regulation on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in **matrimonial matters and the matters of parental responsibility** (2201/2003/EC)

Council Decision on authorising certain Member States to ratify, or accede to, in the interest of the European Community, **the 1996 Hague Convention** on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in respect of **Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children** and authorising certain Member States to make a declaration on the application of the relevant internal rules of Community law (2008/431/EC)

Council Regulation on jurisdiction, the recognition and enforcement of decisions in **matrimonial matters and the matters of parental responsibility, and on international child abduction** (2019/1111/EU)

4.2.2. Maintenance obligations

Council Regulation on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and cooperation in matters relating to **maintenance obligations** (4/2009/EC)

Council Decision on the approval, on behalf of the European Union, of the Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the **international recovery of child support and other forms of family maintenance** (2011/432/EU)

4.2.3. Other civil law instruments

Regulation on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and acceptance and enforcement of authentic instruments in **matters of succession** and on the creation of a European Certificate of Succession and corrigenda to transposition dates (650/2012/EU)

Directive on certain aspects of **mediation in civil and commercial matters** (2008/52/EC)

Regulation on promoting the **free movement of citizens by simplifying the requirements for presenting certain public documents in the European Union and amending Regulation** (EU) No 1024/2012 (2016/1191/EU)

4.3. Criminal justice

4.3.1. Juvenile Justice

Directive on **procedural safeguards for children who are suspects or accused persons in criminal proceedings** (2016/800/EU)

4.3.2. Victims' rights

Directive on establishing **minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime** (2012/29/EU)

Commission Communication on the **EU Strategy on victims' rights** (2020-2025) (COM/2020/258 final)

4.3.3. Procedural rights legislation

Council Framework Decision on the application of the principle of **mutual recognition to judgments** and probation decisions with a view to the supervision of probation measures and alternative sanctions (2008/947/JHA)

Council Framework Decision on the application of the principle of **mutual recognition to judgments** in criminal matters imposing custodial sentences or measures involving deprivation of liberty for the purpose of their enforcement in the European Union (2008/909/JHA)

Council Framework Decision on the organisation and content of the **exchange of information extracted from the criminal record between Member States** (2009/315/JHA)

Council Decision on the **establishment of the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS)** in application of Article 11 of Framework Decision 2009/315/JHA (2009/316/JHA)

Council Framework Decision on the application, between Member States of the European Union, of the principle of **mutual recognition** to decisions on supervision measures as an alternative to provisional detention (2009/829/JHA)

Directive on the **European protection order** (2011/99/EU)

Directive on the **right to information** in criminal proceedings (2012/13/EU)

Directive on the **right of access to a lawyer** in criminal proceedings and in European arrest warrant proceedings, and on the right to **have a third party informed** upon deprivation of liberty and to **communicate with third persons and with consular authorities** while deprived of liberty (2013/48/EU)

Directive on the strengthening of certain aspects of the **presumption of innocence and of the right to be present at the trial in criminal proceedings** (2016/343/EU)

Directive on **legal aid for suspects and accused persons in criminal proceedings** and for requested persons in **European arrest warrant proceedings** (2016/1919/EU)

4.4. Free movement

Directive on the right of **citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely** within the territory of the Member States (2004/38/EC)

Commission Communication on guidance for better transposition and application of Directive 2004/38/EC on **the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States** (COM/2009/313 final)

Regulation on **freedom of movement of workers** within the Union (2011/492/EU)

Directive on measures facilitating the **exercise of rights conferred on workers in the context of freedom of movement for workers** (2014/54/EU)

4.5. Migration

4.5.1. Reception conditions

Directive on laying down standards for the **reception of applicants for international protection** (recast) (2013/33/EU)

4.5.2. Family reunification

Directive on the **right to family reunification** (2003/86/EC)

4.5.3. Dublin Regulation and EURODAC Regulation

Regulation on establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the **Member State responsible for examining an asylum application** lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national (343/2003/EC)

Regulation on laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 343/2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the **Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged** in one of the Member States by a third-country national (1560/2003/EC)

Directive on common **procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection** (recast) (2013/32/EU)

Regulation on the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the **Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person** and on requests for the comparison with Eurodac data by Member States' law enforcement authorities and Europol for law enforcement purposes (603/2013/EU)

Regulation on establishing the **criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person** (recast) (604/2013/EU)

Commission Implementing Regulation laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 343/2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the **Member State responsible for examining an asylum application** lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national (118/2014/EU)

Qualification

Directive on standards for the **qualification** of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, **for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection**, and for the content of the protection granted (recast) (2011/95/EU)

4.5.4. Immigration and asylum

Commission Communication on an **EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling** (2015-2020) (COM/2015/285 final)

Commission Communication on the **State of Play of Implementation of the Priority Actions under the European Agenda on Migration** (COM/2016/85 Final)

Commission Communication on the **implementation of the hotspots in Greece** (COM/2016/141 Final)

Commission Communication towards a Reform of the **Common European Asylum System and Enhancing Legal Avenues to Europe** (COM/2016/197 final)

4.5.5. Relocation and resettlement

Commission Communication on the progress report on the **Implementation of the European Agenda on Migration** (COM/2019/126 final)

Commission Recommendation on legal pathways to protection in the EU: **promoting resettlement, humanitarian admission and other complementary pathways** (C/2020/6467)

4.5.6. Return

Directive on common standards and procedures in the Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals (2008/115/EC)

Commission Communication on **EU return policy** (COM/2014/199 final)

Commission Communication on an **EU Action Plan on return** (COM/2015/453 final)

Commission Recommendation establishing a common "**Return handbook**" to be used by Member States' competent authorities when carrying out return related tasks (C/2015/6250 final)

Commission Communication on a more effective **return policy in the European Union - A renewed action plan** (COM/2017/200)

Commission Recommendation on **making returns more effective** when implementing the Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (2017/432/EU)

4.5.7. Visas

Regulation establishing a **Community Code on Visas** (810/2009/EC)

Commission Decision and its subsequent amendments establishing the **Handbook for the processing of visa applications** and the modification of issued visas (C/2010/1620 final)

4.5.8. Border management

Commission Recommendation establishing a common "**Practical handbook for border guards (Schengen Handbook)**" to be used by Member States' competent authorities when carrying out the border control of persons (C/2006/5186 final)

Amended by Commission Recommendation (C/2008/2976 final)

Amended by Commission Recommendation (C/2009/7376 final)

Amended by Commission Recommendation (C/2010/5559 final)

Amended by Commission Recommendation (C/2011/3918 final)

Amended by Commission Recommendation (C/2012/9330 final)

Amended by Commission Recommendation (C/2015/3894 final)

Regulation establishing the **European Border Surveillance System (Eurosur)** (1052/2013/EU)

Commission Communication on Assessment of Greece's Action Plan to remedy the serious deficiencies identified in the **2015 evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of management of the external border** (COM/2016/220 Final)

Regulation on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (**Schengen Borders Code**) (2016/399/EU)

Commission Communication on **Stronger and Smarter Information Systems for Borders and Security** (COM/2016/205 final)

Regulation on the **European Border and Coast Guard** (2019/1896/ EU)

4.5.9. Legal migration

Directive on the **conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals** for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing (recast) (2016/801/ EU)

5. Digital and information society: An EU where children can safely navigate the digital environment, and harness its opportunities

Directive amending the Directive on **universal service and users' rights relating to electronic communications networks and services** (2002/22/EC), the Directive concerning the **processing of personal data and the protection of privacy in the electronic communications sector** (2002/58/EC) and the Regulation on **cooperation between national authorities responsible for the enforcement of consumer protection laws** (2006/2004/EC) (2009/136/EC)

Directive on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services (**Audiovisual Media Services Directive**) (2010/13/EU)

Commission Communication on a **European strategy for a better internet for children** (COM/2012/196 final)

Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (**General Data Protection Regulation**) (2016/679/EU)

Commission Communication on **Tackling online disinformation: a European Approach** (COM/2018/236 final)

Directive amending Directive 2010/13/EU on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services (**Audiovisual Media Services Directive**) in view of changing market realities (2018/1808/EU)

Directive on establishing the **European Electronic Communications Code** (Recast) (2018/1972/EU)

Commission Proposal for a Regulation on a **Single Market for Digital Services** (Digital Services Act) and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (COM/2020/825 final)

Commission Communication on Europe's Media in the Digital Decade: An Action Plan to Support Recovery and Transformation (**European Media Action Plan**) (COM/2020/784)

Commission Communication on **Digital Education Action Plan 2021-2027**. Resetting education and training for the digital age (COM/2020/624 final)

6. The Global Dimension: an EU that supports, protects and empowers children globally, including during crisis and conflict.

6.1. Horizontal instruments

EU Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child (2017) – Leave no child behind

European Consensus on Development (2017), as part of the EU response to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Joint communication on an **EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024** (JOIN/2020/5 final)

Child rights toolkit

6.2. Thematic instruments

EU Guidelines on children in armed conflict (updated 2008)

EU Guidelines on Violence against Women and Girls and combating all forms of discrimination against them (2008)

Guidelines to EU Policy towards third countries on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (updated 2019)

Commission Communication on **enhancing maternal and child nutrition in external assistance** (COM/2013/141 final)

DG ECHO **Gender-Age Marker Toolkit** (2014)

Commission **Communication on Lives in Dignity: from Aid-dependence to Self-reliance Forced Displacement and Development** (COM/2016/234 final)

Council Regulation on the provision of **emergency support within the Union** (2016/369/EU)

Commission Communication on **Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crises** (COM/2018/304 final)

Joint communication **EU Gender Action Plan (GAP) III – An Ambitious Agenda for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in EU External Action** (JOIN(2020) 17 final)

Relevant international Conventions in the field of the rights of the child

International Labour Organisation

Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, No 138 (1973)

Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, No 182 (1999)

Hague Conference on Private International Law

Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction

Convention of 19 October 1996 on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Co-operation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children

Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance