



The Lanzarote Convention

National Action Plan for the years 2022–2025

Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2022:20

The Lanzarote Convention

National Action Plan for the years 2022–2025

Marjo Malja, Martta October

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health Helsinki 2022

Publication sale

**Online bookstore
of the Finnish
Government**

vnjulkaisumyynti.fi

Publication distribution

**Institutional Repository
for the Government
of Finland Valto**

julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
CC BY-SA 4.0

ISBN pdf: 978-952-00-5443-4
ISSN pdf: 1797-9854

Layout: Government Administration Department, Publications
Cover photos: Tuula Holopainen, Irmeli Huhtala, Kuvatoimisto Rodeo, Shutterstock

Helsinki 2022 Finland

The Lanzarote Convention National Action Plan for the years 2022–2025

Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2022:20

Publisher Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

Author(s) Working group for the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention

Editor(s) Marjo Malja and Martta October

Language English **Pages** 124

Abstract

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health appointed a working group to formulate Finland's first Action Plan for the Lanzarote Convention (Finnish Treaty Series 87-88/2011) to prevent sexual violence against children and young people aged 0–17. The formulation of the Action Plan is included in the Programme of Prime Minister Sanna Marin's Government. The Action Plan was prepared through extensive cooperation with a range of operators. The preparation work was closely linked with the preparation of the National Child Strategy, and it also involved a pilot project to include young people in the preparation of the Action Plan.

The Action Plan takes account of other ongoing national work relevant to the matter, such as the Action Plan for the Prevention of Violence against Children, entitled Non-Violent Childhoods, and the implementation of the Istanbul Convention. Efforts were also made to avoid any overlap with them.

The Action Plan includes a total of 33 measures, which are divided into three themes: the prevention of violence, the protection of children against violence, and the promotion of national and international cooperation against sexual exploitation and sexual violence. The Action Plan draws attention to prevention in all situations and aims to nurture the sense of hope that exists even in the most difficult situations.

The Action Plan will be implemented in 2022–2025. The aim was to draw up the measures of the Action Plan in such a way that various operators could take part in them either through their own actions or in partnership with others. The working group which drew up the Action Plan will now continue its work as a working group monitoring the implementation.

Keywords children (age groups), young people, violence, sexual violence, preventive work, rights of the child, cross-sectoral cooperation, implementation

ISBN PDF 978-952-00-5443-4

ISSN PDF 1797-9854

Reference number VN/22001/2020

Project number -

URN address <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-5443-4>

Lanzaroten sopimus

Kansallinen toimeenpanosuunnitelma vuosille 2022–2025

Sosiaali- ja terveysministeriön julkaisuja 2022:20**Julkaisija** Sosiaali- ja terveysministeriö**Tekijä/t** Lanzaroten sopimuksen toimeenpanon työryhmä
Toimittajat Marjo Malja ja Martta October**Kieli** englanti **Sivumäärä** 124**Tiivistelmä**

Sosiaali- ja terveysministeriö asetti työryhmän laatimaan 0–17-vuotiaisiin lapsiin ja nuoriin kohdistuvan seksuaaliväkivallan vastaisen Lanzaroten sopimuksen (SopS 87-88/20211) ensimmäisen toimeenpanosuunnitelman Suomeen. Toimeenpanosuunnitelman laatiminen sisältyy pääministeri Sanna Marinin hallitusohjelmaan. Valmistelutyössä on toimittu laajassa yhteistyössä eri toimijoiden ja kansallisen lapsistrategiatyön kanssa sekä tehty osallisuuspilotointia nuorten kanssa.

Suunnitelmassa on huomioitu jo meneillään oleva, muu aiheeseen liittyvä keskeinen kansallinen työ, kuten Väkivallaton lapsuus -toimenpidesuunnitelma ja nk. Istanbulin sopimuksen toimeenpano ja pyritty välttämään päällekkäisyyttä näihin.

Toimeenpanosuunnitelmaan sisältyy yhteensä 33 toimenpidettä, jotka on jaettu kolmen teeman alle: väkivallan ennaltaehkäisy, lasten suojelu väkivallalta sekä kansallisen ja kansainvälisen yhteistoiminnan edistäminen seksuaalista riistoa ja seksuaaliväkivaltaa vastaan. Suunnitelmassa on kiinnitetty huomiota ennaltaehkäisyyn kaikissa tilanteissa ja pyritty vaalimaan toivoa, jota on olemassa vaikealta tuntuvissakin tilanteissa.

Toimeenpano tapahtuu vuosien 2022–2025 aikana. Suunnitelman toimenpiteet on pyritty laatimaan sellaisiksi, että niihin voisivat eri toimijat liittyä joko omilla toimillaan tai kumppanuudessa muiden kanssa. Toimeenpanosuunnitelman laatinut työryhmä jatkaa toimintaansa toimeenpanon seurannan työryhmänä.

Asiasanat lapset, nuoret, väkivalta, seksuaaliväkivalta, ehkäisevä työ, lapsen oikeudet, monialainen yhteistyö, toimeenpano**ISBN PDF** 978-952-00-5443-4**Asianumero** VN/22001/2020**ISSN PDF** 1797-9854**Hankenumero** -**Julkaisun osoite** <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-5443-4>

Lanzarotekonventionen

Nationell plan för genomförande för åren 2022–2025

Social- och hälsovårdsministeriets publikationer 2022:20**Utgivare** Social- och hälsovårdsministeriet**Författare** Arbetsgruppen för genomförandet av Lanzarotekonventionen**Redigerare** Marjo Malja och Martta October**Språk** engelska**Sidantal**

124

Referat

Social- och hälsovårdsministeriet tillsatte en arbetsgrupp för att utarbeta den första planen för genomförande av Lanzarotekonventionen, som bekämpar sexuellt våld mot barn och unga i åldern 0–17 år (FödrS 87-88/2011) för Finland. Uppgörandet av planen för genomförande ingår i statsminister Sanna Marins regeringsprogram. Beredningen baserar sig på omfattande samarbete med olika aktörer och den nationella barnstrategin, och i anslutning till beredningen har också pilotprojekt för delaktighet gjorts med unga.

I planen beaktas det pågående övriga centrala nationella arbetet inom ramen för åtgärdsplanen En barndom utan våld och genomförandet av Istanbulkonventionen i syfte att undvika överlappande arbete.

I genomförandeplanen ingår 33 åtgärder som har indelats i tre teman: förebyggande av våld, skydd av barn för våld samt främjande av nationellt och internationellt samarbete mot sexuell exploatering och sexuellt våld. I planen fästs uppmärksamhet vid förebyggande i alla situationer, och avsikten har varit att slå vakt om hoppet, som finns också i situationer som känns svåra.

Planen genomförs 2022–2025. Avsikten har varit att planera åtgärderna på ett sådant sätt att olika aktörer kan ansluta sig till dem antingen med deras egna åtgärder eller i partnersamarbete med andra aktörer. Den arbetsgrupp som utarbetat genomförandeplanen fortsätter därefter att följa upp genomförandet.

Nyckelord barn, ungdomar, våld, sexuellt våld, förebyggande arbete, barnets rättigheter, sektoröverskridande samarbete, genomförande**ISBN PDF** 978-952-00-5443-4**Ärendenummer** VN/22001/2020**ISSN PDF** 1797-9854**Projektnummer** -**URN-adress** <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-5443-4>

Contents

1	Introduction	8
2	The Lanzarote Convention	13
3	The right of the child to protection is based on international human rights conventions and other legislation	14
4	Child sexual abuse in Finland	18
5	Participation of children and young people	23
5.1	National and international support for promoting participation.....	23
5.2	The participation of young people in the preparation and implementation of this plan.....	25
5.3	Young people’s views on sexual abuse	26
5.4	Promoting participation in daily work against sexual abuse	29
	PART 1 Prevention	34
6	How to prevent child sexual abuse	35
6.1	Article 4 Principles.....	35
6.2	Article 5 Recruitment, training and awareness raising of persons working in contact with children	39
6.3	Article 6 Education for children.....	48
6.4	Article 7 Preventive intervention programmes or measures	53
6.5	Article 8 Measures for the general public.....	56
6.6	Article 9 Participation of children, the private sector, the media and civil society .	59
6.7	Article 10 National measures of coordination and collaboration.....	62
	PART 2 Protection	65
7	Protecting the rights of child victims of sexual violence	66
7.1	Article 11 Principles.....	66
7.2	Article 12 Reporting suspicion of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse.....	67
7.3	Article 13 Helplines	69
7.4	Article 14 Assistance to victims	71

Part 3 Promotion of national and international collaboration to combat child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse	73
8 Intervention programmes and measures	74
8.1 Articles 15–17	74
9 Substantive criminal law	79
9.1 Articles 18–29	79
10 Investigation, prosecution and procedural law	88
10.1 Articles 30–37	88
11 International co-operation	97
11.1 Article 38 General principles and measures for international co-operation	97
12 Monitoring mechanism	99
12.1 Article 39 Committee of the Parties	99
Appendix 1 Composition of the working group	102
Appendix 2 Definitions	104
Appendix 3 Relevant actions in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan (2019) and the Implementation Plan (2021)	105
References	113

1 Introduction

The Programme of Prime Minister Sanna Marin's Government includes an item on¹ drawing up a plan for the national implementation of the Lanzarote Convention (Finnish Treaty Series 87–88/20211) on the protection of children against sexual abuse. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health assigned a working group to prepare an action plan for the Lanzarote Convention for the period 1 November 2020–31 December 2025. The group was tasked with drawing up a national action plan in cooperation with key stakeholders, monitor and promote the plan's realisation, as well as cooperate with the parties involved in the National Child Strategy. In accordance with its assignment, the working group (see **Appendix 1** for the group's composition) drew up an action plan in cooperation with other participants and will continue to supervise the plan after its completion.

The action plan is based on the National Child Strategy, the Government Programme in force and its ongoing legislative amendments, the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan, the National Youth Work and Youth Policy Programme 2020–2023, the Council of Europe's and the² EU's strategies for the rights of the child³, as well as the implementation proposals made by the Lanzarote Committee and the other human rights conventions of the Council of Europe that come under the scope of the Lanzarote Convention. The European Union also has a strategy aimed at more effectively combatting the sexual exploitation of children. All of these have their own methods of implementation, which change to some extent with time, and which must be continuously monitored while carrying out the action plan. It should be possible to add to and modify the action plan's measures during the period of implementation in response to any major changes in the operating environment.

The Programme of Prime Minister Sanna Marin's Government also mentions the goal of further developing and deploying the LASTA/Barnahus model, which is essential to the

1 Finnish Government. 2019. Publications of the Finnish Government 2019:33, 97

2 The new strategy will be completed in April 2022.

3 European Commission. 2021. 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.

implementation of the Lanzarote Convention. The model enhances the investigation processes of suspected cases of violence against children, as well as the support and treatment provided to children who have experienced violence. The model is based on the European Barnahus standards and on prior development work carried out in Finland by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare and university hospitals.⁴ Because of their importance to the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention, the LASTA/Barnahus efforts receive a great deal of emphasis in the action plan.

The National Child Strategy was prepared in parliamentary cooperation and published in early 2021. According to the strategy, solid development work has been done in Finland to protect children from violence, the harmful effects of violence are now recognised better, and attitudes towards violence against children have become stricter.⁵ As pointed out in the strategy, physical, mental or sexual abuse experienced as a child is a significant risk factor for wellbeing in later life, and not only being a victim of abuse but also observing it in close relationships is harmful for children. Challenges identified in the strategy include the fact that violence and abuse in a child's family and peer relationships is too often invisible. Moreover, the service system is not always able to respond to support needs efficiently enough. The Child Strategy contains the following strategic policies for protecting children against violence:

- Every child has an unalienable right to life and protection from all forms of violence.
- The work to combat violence against children will be continued. Parenting skills and support for parenting will be strengthened to find genuine alternatives that respect children's rights and special status to methods of upbringing that harm the child.
- Work methods for the prevention of and early intervention in violence and harassment will be mainstreamed. Special attention will be paid to violence and harassment in the digital environment and to violent material spreading in it. Models of upbringing and instruction that reinforce safety awareness and digital skills will be developed.
- Systematic measures will be taken to improve services for children who have experienced violence or harassment, and efforts to combat child trafficking and other forms of human trafficking will be stepped up across different administrative branches.

4 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2019. Barnahus project.

5 Finnish Government. 2021a. National Child Strategy. Publications of the Finnish Government 2022:16, 20–21.

- Methods for recognising violence and abuse as early as possible will be developed, ensuring that the child can access support services as soon as a need for them arises. The threat of violence against children will be combated, and capabilities for intervening in different situations involving violence and abuse will be developed.
- Effective, multiprofessional and interdisciplinary methods will be sought for preventing violent behaviour in children. Child welfare services' possibilities of delivering challenging substitute care will be secured, and families will be involved and supported in the work to help children.

The implementation plan of the National Child Strategy⁶ mentions the preparations for the Lanzarote Convention Action Plan as an example of the ongoing measures aimed at combatting violence. Moreover, the expansion of the Barnahus model is considered to help improve the status of children who have experienced violence or sexual abuse and develop best practices for the investigation of suspected crimes against children.

The Legal Basis of the National Child Strategy⁷ publication also discusses the legal basis essential to the Lanzarote Convention's implementation. Other measures related to the Government Programme that have been considered in the preparations include the Handbook on Child Impact Assessment for Legislators⁸ and the development of efforts to combat human trafficking. The Youth, Peace and Security Action Plan 2021–2024⁹ also emphasises the importance of protecting young people from violence and preventing violence.

While no action plan for the Lanzarote Convention had been drawn up previously, a national action plan for the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and girls (Finnish Treaty Series 53/2015, known as the Istanbul Convention)¹⁰ was already in place. The Action Plan is drawn up for a four-year period, its progress is monitored annually, and the plan is supplemented, as required. The Istanbul and Lanzarote Conventions complement one another. The preparatory work of both plans

6 Finnish Government. 2021b. Implementation plan for the National Child Strategy (in Finnish). Publications of the Finnish Government 2021: 81, 25.

7 Iivonen, E. & Pollari, K. 2020. Legal Basis of the National Child Strategy (in Finnish). Reports and Memorandums of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2020:20.

8 Iivonen E. & Pollari K. 2021. Handbook on Child Impact Assessment for Legislators (in Finnish). Publications of the Prime Minister's Office 2021:5.

9 The Ministry for Foreign Affairs 2021. Youth, Peace and Security. Publications of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs 2021:5.

10 The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2017. Action Plan for the Istanbul Convention for 2018–2021 (in Finnish). Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2017:18.

has now been scheduled to focus on the same four-year period. Measures have been taken to coordinate the preparations of the Action Plan for the Istanbul Convention and the Action Plan for the Lanzarote Convention for the period 2022–2025. An agreement was also made to cooperate, where appropriate, in putting into practice the plans for the Lanzarote Convention and the Istanbul Convention.

The Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan for the Prevention of Violence Against Children 2020–2025¹¹ contains 93 national actions dealing with the prevention of violence against children, the minimising of harmful impacts, and the provision of multisectoral assistance to victims. The Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan and the related plan for implementation and communication¹² contain a large amount of existing knowledge and measures that are useful for the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention. For example, the 14 chapters of the Action Plan deal with factors protecting against violence, risk factors and consequences, as well as the provision of help and support. The plan includes actions for preventing emotional, physical and sexual abuse against children under the age of 18 and minimising harmful effects, as well as actions concerning safety skills education and sexuality education, multisectoral cooperation, inclusion, regulations and binding conventions. The content also addresses children and young people in a particularly vulnerable situation, for example, due to disabilities or having been placed in foster care or because of other special aspects (such as human trafficking, female genital mutilation (FGM), honour-related violence or extremism).

The Lanzarote Convention Action Plan makes strong reference to the previous work carried out in connection with the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan 2020–2025, supplementing and expanding it, as required. To make it easier to identify the interfaces between the two plans, reference is made to the ongoing actions and work of the Non-Violent Childhoods plan relevant to each chapter. In addition, a separate list of actions is included in **Appendix 3**. As such, the completion of the Lanzarote Convention Action Plan also implements the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan, as one of the measures recorded in the Action Plan is the goal of initiating preparations for the action plan under the lead of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

When the Government Programme was drawn up, no separate appropriation was allocated to putting into practice the Lanzarote Convention Action Plan. Therefore, the

11 Korpilahti et al. (Eds.). 2019. Non-violent Childhoods – Action Plan for the Prevention of Violence against Children 2020–2025. Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2020:34.

12 Korpilahti, U (Ed.) 2021a. Non-Violent Childhoods 2020–2025 – Implementation and Communication. Reports and Memorandums of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2021:17.

plan includes measures that should be justifiably adopted to implement the Convention in 2022–2025. As intended, most of the measures and work listed in the plan can be carried out without separate funding. Should a measure call for additional funding, such funding can come from different sources, such as separate project funding from ministries or expert organisations.

The idea is that the plan can be implemented by the public, private or third sector, depending on the measure and its intention or goal. Stakeholders can contribute to the plan's implementation on their own or in partnership with other participants. For example, some measures may offer ideal ground for partnerships between different types of organisations and the public sector. This enables the efforts of different stakeholders to be included under each measure later, in connection with the plan's implementation.

The action plan has been structured in three parts, reflecting the content of the Lanzarote Convention. The first part describes ways to prevent and combat child sexual abuse, while the second part focuses on how to protect the rights of children exposed to sexual abuse. The third part discusses the promotion of national and international cooperation against child sexual abuse, as well as intervention programmes and measures, and matters related to substantive criminal law, investigations, prosecution measures and procedural law. The third part also contains a section on data recording and storage, as well as supervision.

Under the subheadings of this plan, the reader will find direct quotations of the relevant Articles of the Convention, a description of ongoing work and actions in the field, as well as a table listing the measures to be adopted for each topic in the present action plan period. The table indicates the party carrying out the measure, the schedule, the indicators used for assessment and monitoring, as well as any detailed data about the implementation of the measure.

The action plan was made available for public commenting from 9 December 2021 to 21 February 2022. A total of 15 statements were received, and their key content was taken into account in planning, to the extent possible. Statements were provided by the Social services and health care division of the City of Helsinki, the Finnish League for Human Rights, the University of Eastern Finland, the Finnish Education Evaluation Centre, Koordinaatti, the City of Kuopio, the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare, the Finnish National Agency for Education, the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Protect Children organisation, the Finnish National Youth Council Allianssi, the Finnish Psychological Association, the City of Turku, the Government Anti-Trafficking Coordinator and the Family Federation of Finland. The working group wishes to thank all parties for their contribution.

2 The Lanzarote Convention

The decree on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse and on the entry into force of the act on the implementation of the provisions of a legislative nature in the Convention (88/2011) entered into force in Finland on 1 October 2011. Under the Convention, every child has the right to such measures of protection as are required by his or her status as a minor, on the part of his or her family, society and the state. The wellbeing and best interests of children are fundamental values shared by all member states and must be promoted without any discrimination.

This action plan uses terminology that differs in some respects from the original Convention text and is based on international recommendations valid at the time of writing for terminology that respects the rights of the child. This terminology is used whenever not referring directly to the Convention text. Child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation encompass behaviour referred to in Articles 18–23 of the Convention. These include child sexual abuse, child sexual trafficking (referred to as “child prostitution” in the Convention), child sexual abuse material (referred to as “child pornography” in the Convention), performance of child sexual abuse (referred to as “participation of a child in pornographic performances” in the Convention), as well as corruption of children and solicitation of children for sexual purposes. All forms of child sexual abuse are harmful to children’s health and psycho-social development. The definitions are discussed in greater detail in **Appendix 2**.

The purposes of the Lanzarote Convention are to:

- prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children;
- protect the rights of child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse;
- promote national and international cooperation against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children.

3 The right of the child to protection is based on international human rights conventions and other legislation

The right of children and young people to personal safety and physical integrity is based on human rights conventions such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Finnish Treaty Series 59 and 60/1991), the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Finnish Treaty Series 7 and 8/1976), the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Finnish Treaty Series 26 and 27/2016), and the European Convention on Human Rights (Finnish Treaty Series 18 and 19/1990). In the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention, special attention must be paid to Article 34 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography¹³ (Finnish Treaty Series 40 and 41/2012).

The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) supervises and monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by its states parties. To support the enforcement of rights, the Committee publishes general comments in which it gives its interpretation on the rights ensured in the Convention concerning the different Articles as well as various thematic topics. In relation to the Lanzarote Convention, the Committee has issued several general comments, the most important of which are:

- General Comment No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment
- General Comment No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence
- General Comment No. 18 (2014) on harmful practices
- General Comment No. 24 (2019) on children's rights in the child justice system
- General Comment No. 25 (2021) on children's rights in relation to the digital environment

¹³ As recommended in Finland, this plan strives to comply with the Luxembourg Guidelines for terminology, but in direct quotations, the terminology has been left unchanged.

Other recommendations or binding documents that must be considered in the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention include:

- Council of Europe Committee of Ministers Recommendation No. R(91)11 to Member States concerning sexual exploitation, pornography and prostitution of, and trafficking in, children and young adults, Recommendation Rec(2001)16 on the protection of children against sexual exploitation, Recommendation Rec(2018)7 on guidelines to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child in the digital environment, the Convention on Cybercrime (ETS No. 185) and especially Article 9 in it, the Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings (ETS No. 197), and the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1950, ETS No. 005).
- The European Social Charter (revised) (1996, ETS No. 163) and the European Convention on the Exercise of Children's Rights (1996, ETS No. 160)
- The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Crime (Finnish Treaty Series 71/2006) and the International Labour Organization (ILO¹⁴) Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, aimed at immediately and effectively securing the prevention and elimination of these forms of child labour
- Council Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA on combating the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, Council Framework Decision (2001/220/JHA) on the standing of victims in criminal proceedings and Council Framework Decision (2002/629/JHA) on combating trafficking in human beings
- Other relevant international documents and programmes in this field, such as those drawn up in connection with the work concerning violence against children of the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative and the work on the sale and sexual exploitation of children of the UN OHCHR Special Rapporteur^{15,16}, as

14 Sandell, T. (Ed.) N.d. Kansainvälisen työjärjestön ILO:n yleissopimukset [Convention of the International Labour Organization ILO]. Ministry of Labour, Finnish delegation to ILO.

15 United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. N.d. Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children.

16 United Nations. N.d. UN Study on Violence Against Children.

well as the 2030 Agenda¹⁷ and the Council of Europe's guidelines on child-friendly justice¹⁸.

In addition, the preparations of the action plan for the Lanzarote Convention also took into consideration the Stockholm Declaration and Agenda for Action adopted at the first World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (27–31 August 1996), the Yokohama Commitment adopted at the second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (17–20 December 2001), the Budapest Commitment and Plan of Action adopted at the preparatory conference of the second World Congress, the UN General Assembly Resolution S-27/2 "A world fit for children" and the three-year programme "Building a Europe for and with children", approved after the third World Congress at the initiative of the Monaco Conference (4–5 April 2006).

After the Convention's entry into force, Finland also ratified the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Finnish Treaty Series 4–5/2016), which allows children to submit complaints to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child concerning violations of their rights under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its optional protocols.

In addition to international human rights conventions, the Finnish Constitution (731/1999, section 7) also protects children and young people against all forms of violence and abuse. In Finland, sexual and other violence against children is criminalised in the Criminal Code (39/1889. Chapter 20 of the Criminal Code, dealing with sexual offences, will be comprehensively reformed in early 2022, based on a government proposal to Parliament¹⁹. Among other things, the reform proposes to separate provisions on sexual offences against children from provisions mainly concerning adults, as well as make criminal liability and punishments more severe by amending crime nomenclature, classification of offences and penal latitude.

The Act on Child Custody and Right of Access (361/1983) requires parents and guardians to protect the child from all forms of violence, maltreatment and exploitation (section 1). All adults have the responsibility to intervene if they witness violence against children and report any suspicions of such to the authorities. The Child Welfare Act (417/2007) contains provisions on professionals' duty to notify and other parties' right to notify, regardless of

17 Kestavakehitys.fi. N.d. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

18 Council of Europe. 2011. Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on child-friendly justice.

19 Kiriakos et al. (Eds.). 2020. Seksuaalirikoslainsäädännön kokonaisuudistus [Comprehensive reform of legislation on sexual offences]. Publications of the Ministry of Justice 2020:9.

confidentiality provisions, social welfare services of any information they have received or of their suspicions that the circumstances of a child jeopardise their development (section 25). Persons with a duty to notify must also report to the police any suspicion of a child sexual offence (chapter 20 of the Criminal Code) or of any other form of violence (chapter 21 of the Criminal Code) that carries a maximum sentence of at least two years of imprisonment.

4 Child sexual abuse in Finland

Information about sexual abuse against children and young people is obtained from surveys conducted among children and adolescents, such as the School Health Promotion Studies conducted by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, individual surveys conducted by various organisations, as well as statistics compiled by the authorities. For example:

- Eight per cent of 4th and 5th graders, and nearly one third (30%) of 8th and 9th graders had experienced sexual harassment, and two per cent of 4th and 5th graders and nearly one in ten (9%) 8th and 9th graders had experienced sexual abuse in the past year.²⁰
- According to Statistics Finland's statistics on offences and coercive measures²¹ for 2020, the number of children aged 0–4 who had been exposed to sexual abuse (chapter 20, section 6, subsections 1–2 of the Criminal Code) totalled 46 and that of children aged 0–4 exposed to aggravated sexual abuse (chapter 20, section 7, subsection 1, paragraphs 1–2) totalled 27. The number of victims varies depending on their age group (Table 1).

Table 1. Sexual abuse and aggravated sexual abuse of children in Finland, 2020 ²⁰

Age group	Sexual abuse of a child	Aggravated sexual abuse of a child
0–4	46	27
5–9	206	48
10–14	701	194
15–17	223	81

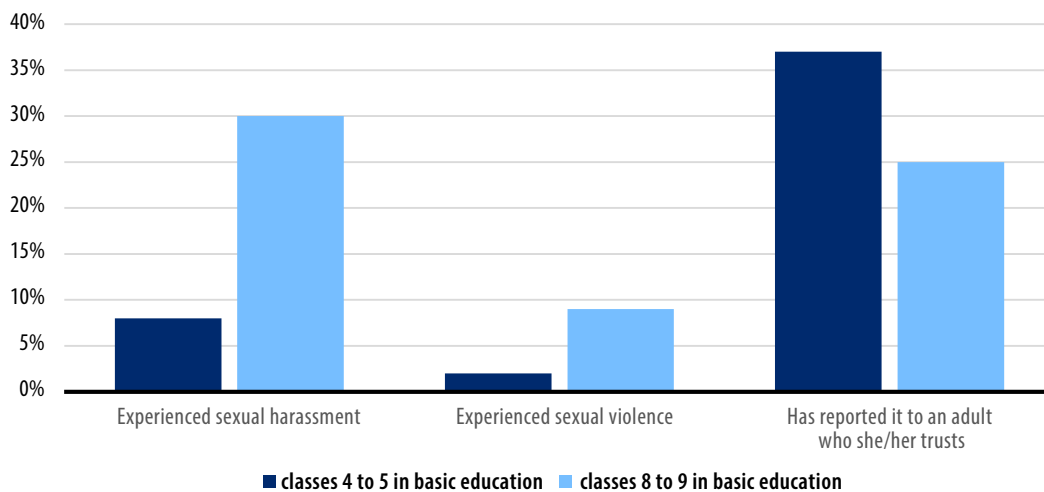
Of the pupils in basic education who had experienced sexual harassment or abuse, slightly more than one third (37%) of 4th and 5th graders and one quarter (25%) of 8th and 9th

²⁰ Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021a. School Health Promotion Study 2021.

²¹ Official Statistics of Finland (OSF). 2020. Statistics on offences and coercive measures.

graders had told about their experience of sexual harassment or abuse to an adult they could trust²².

Figure 1. Sexual harassment or abuse against children (School Health Promotion study 2021).



- According to the material from the Child Victim Survey (2018), only around one quarter (26%) of 6th and 9th graders in basic education had told about their experience of sexual abuse to an adult²³.
- Of the 8th and 9th graders who had experienced sexual harassment or abuse, more than half (56%) had received support from the school's adults after being exposed to sexual harassment or abuse²².
- Children and young people are exposed to a great deal of sexual harassment in digital media in their relationships with other young people, but nearly half of the girls and more than one fifth (20%) of the boys said they would not tell adults about it because of shame²⁴.

22 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021b. School Health Promotion Study 2019 (corresponding data were not collected in 2021).

23 Lahtinen et al. 2018. Children's disclosures of sexual abuse in a population-based sample. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 76, 84–94.

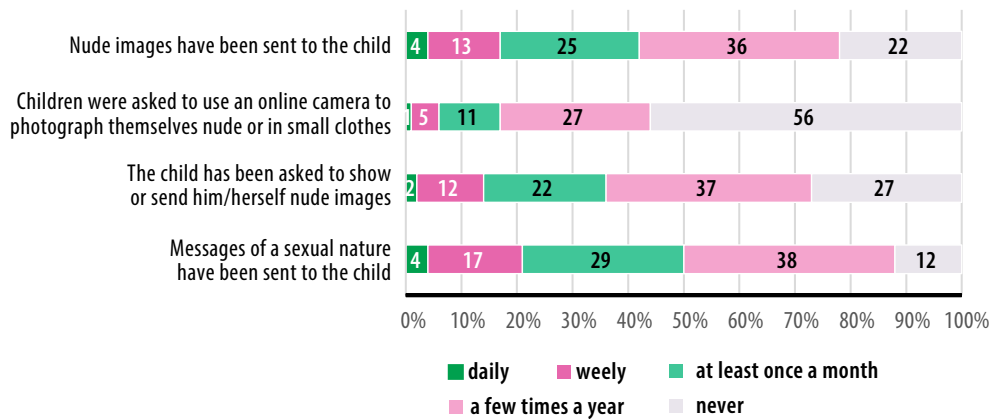
24 Save the Children. 2018. Report: Lapset ja nuoret kokevat seksuaalista häirintää ja siihen liittyvää kiusaamista digitaalisessa mediassa [Children and young people experience sexual harassment and related bullying in digital media].

- Online grooming for sexual purposes is common according to children and adolescents aged 11–17²⁵, and children and young people spend a lot of time online, increasingly so during the Covid-19 pandemic. Children usually do not tell adults about online sexual harassment and grooming, but mainly share their experiences with friends.
- According to a survey, children and young people entered into contact with strangers online because they were bored or curious or did not understand the nature of the contact. Loneliness was also a reason to enter into conversations online. According to the children who responded to the survey, conversations with adults were often sexually charged from the very beginning and were often relatively brief. The respondents believed they knew how to react to cases of grooming. Of the children who had experienced grooming online, 78 per cent blocked the perpetrator, some did not tell anyone about the incident (42%) or did not acknowledge it in any way (32%), while others asked the perpetrator to stop (21%). Only two per cent of the respondents who had experienced grooming notified the police about it, and one per cent reported the incident to child welfare services.²⁵ A minimal share (1%) reported the incident²⁵ through the Nettivihje²⁶ hotline service offered by Save the Children.
- Around half of the children exposed to grooming (51%) felt the perpetrator took offence or became sad when the child refused to communicate with them, and 38 per cent said the perpetrator continued to contact them, even though the child asked them to stop²⁵. It is worth noting that only four per cent of the children who told an adult about the incident said the adult reported it further to the police or child welfare services.²⁴
- Of the children who had been contacted online by an adult, 88% had received sexually tinged messages, 78% had received nude pictures and 73% had been requested to show or send nude pictures of themselves (Figure 1. Survey of online grooming experienced by children and young people: Messages received by children and their prevalence (n=1107)).²⁵

25 Save the Children. 2021. Grooming lasten silmin –selvitys lasten ja nuorten kokemasta groomingista netissä [Grooming from the child's perspective – a survey of online grooming experienced by children and young people].

26 Save the Children. N.d.a. The Nettivihje service is a low-threshold hotline where anyone can report a suspected illegal act of online sexual harassment, solicitation or sexual abuse of a child, as well as images or videos related to child sexual abuse. The reporter does not need to know whether the act constitutes a criminal offence.

Figure 2. Survey of online grooming experienced by children and young people: Messages received by children and their prevalence (Save the Children, 2021).



- When dealing with online sexual abuse against children, the perspective should not be limited by national borders, seeing as the offences are international in nature. The European Commission estimates that one in five children experiences sexual abuse in Europe²⁷. A child in Finland may become a target of sexual abuse online, even if the perpetrator lives in another country. Recent research indicates that around 45 per cent of users of child sexual abuse material watch images, videos and other material of girls aged 4–13. Around a fifth (20%) of the users of such illegal material watch images, videos and other material of boys aged 4–13.²⁸
- During the Covid-19 pandemic, the “Nettivistihje” hotline provided by Save the Children²⁶ has received varying numbers of tips concerning suspected illegal material and activities involving child sexual abuse. The number of tips on the suspected use of child sexual abuse material has remained much the same at an annual level.

However, there has been great variation in the overall numbers of tips. The number went up steeply at the beginning of the pandemic (first six months in 2020), but after that, a clear decline was noted. The number of tips began to increase again in summer 2021, and according to provisional data, the hotline received more than 1,000 tips in October 2021,

27 European Commission. 2020. Communication from the commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. EU strategy for a more effective fight against child sexual abuse.

28 Insoll et al. 2021 (Eds.). CSAM users in the Dark Web: Protecting Children Through Prevention. The Protect Children Association.

which is around one third of the normal annual number of tips (2,888 in 2019 and 2,757 in 2020). Provisional data puts the total number of tips received in 2021 at 3,439.

During crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic, children and young people spend more time online, and this also leads to an increase in the number of contacts with a criminal purpose. An examination of the grooming offences brought to the authorities' attention shows that children agreed to the perpetrator's request, such as meetings or sending pictures of themselves, on average within five days of the initiation of an online conversation.²⁹

²⁹ Nikolovska, M. 2020. The Internet as a creator of a criminal mind and child vulnerabilities in the cyber grooming of children. University of Jyväskylä, Faculty of Information Technology.

5 Participation of children and young people

Article 9(1) of the Lanzarote Convention calls for the participation of children and young people in measures and initiatives to fight against the sexual abuse and exploitation of children. This requirement traces back to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child³⁰, according to which children must have the right to freely express their views (Article 12(1)). In this action plan, attention is paid to ways in which the participation of children and young people can be encouraged in implementation efforts. Participation can mean that children and young people engage in anti-violence work spurred by their own interest, but in this context, it is mainly used in the sense of their broader inclusion in the joint development of anti-violence efforts and their opportunity to influence this work.

5.1 National and international support for promoting participation

The Council of Europe Handbook on children's participation, "Listen – Act – Change", is a tool for professionals working for and with children that provides material for strengthening and securing participation among children and adolescents. The handbook is based on the Council of Europe's recommendation on the participation of children and young people under the age of 18³¹. The handbook approaches children's participation from multiple dimensions. According to the handbook, participation has many benefits to both children and their communities, including improved lives and services and a safer childhood. The handbook discusses the participation of children and young people based on seven stages: preparing and planning, connecting with children, identifying issues and priorities, investigating children's views, taking action, following up actions, and reviewing, reflecting and starting again. Participation requires these seven steps to be continuously repeated. In all this, it is important to ensure safety, inclusion and ethical activities. The Council of Europe Handbook emphasises the importance of making participation

30 Convention on the Rights of the Child. 1989.

31 Council of Europe (CoE). 2012. Participation of children and young people under the age of 18 – Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 of the Committee of Ministers.

voluntary, respectful, relevant to children, transparent, inclusive, accountable and safe, and that it takes place in a child-friendly environment (adapted to the children's ages and abilities), facilitated by trained adults.³²

The National Child Strategy has a section on children as participants in society⁵. It focuses on child impact assessments, child budgeting and children's right to be heard and informed. According to the strategic policies, children's participation, as well as their right to be heard and informed, must be systematically addressed in decision-making and activities that affect them directly or indirectly. The content and significance of children's views must be detailed in the rationale of decisions. It is also important to ensure that all adults working with children have adequate understanding and competence for supporting children's participation and agency. Children's participation, right to be heard and access to information will be further improved through cross-sectoral work and by strengthening good practices and integrating them into structures and children's daily lives. The participation activities with young people, which formed part of this action plan, were carried out in connection with the Child Strategy's implementation.

The Ministry of Justice has developed a new model for digital participation, the Virtual Council³³, to support the participation of children and young people. The Virtual Council can be used to support both national and local decision-making. The activities of the Centre of Excellence for participation have been promoted as part of the National Youth Work and Youth Policy Programme.³⁴ The Centre of Excellence is a consortium, which was joined by the Finnish Red Cross at the beginning of the year. The Finnish Red Cross strives to promote the use of the Virtual Council. Koordinaatti, a national centre of expertise in youth information and counselling, is also one of the partners in the Centre of Excellence for participation and is interested in carrying out measures related to participation.

The Non-violent Childhoods Action Plan for the Prevention of Violence against Children 2020–2025¹¹ includes the following action and related measures from 2019: "Increasing knowledge of the links between experiences of inclusion and safety and security and the prevention of violence, based on qualitative and quantitative material, as well as material created in cooperation with children and young people, as a basis for future actions." Researchers in the Sokra project, coordinated by the Finnish Institute for Health and

32 Crowley et al. 2020. "Listen – Act – Change". Council of Europe (CoE). 15–16, 18–19.

33 All-Youth. 2022. The Virtual Council for young people.

34 Ministry of Education and Culture. 2020. The National Youth Work and Youth Policy Programme 2020–2023 Publications of the Ministry of Education and Culture 2020:2.

Welfare, have analysed connections between participation, safety and violence based on the 2019 School Health Promotion Study and published reports on the topic³⁵.

5.2 The participation of young people in the preparation and implementation of this plan

The working group that prepared this action plan considered it important to include young people's own perspectives in the work. Especially professionals believed that the views of young people could help them better understand the sexual abuse that young people experience and devise methods for helping young people exposed to sexual abuse and for preventing it. In a pilot project of the National Child Strategy, carried out by Pesäpuu, a national child welfare organisation, young people aged 15–17 were interviewed about their views of sexual abuse. The survey focused on young people living in vulnerable circumstances. Nearly all the responses came from adolescents who had been placed in foster care. The respondents were allowed to independently choose a professional from their foster home to interview them. The parents or guardians and the social worker were informed about the survey.

Before the interview, an informative letter along with the interview questions were sent to the participants, both to those in foster care and those with other living arrangements. The interviews were voluntary, and the participants could interrupt them at any time. In the interviews, the phenomenon was explored at a general level. No personal data or other identifying information were requested from the participants. The responses were recorded in Webropol. The young people responding to the survey were provided with any support they needed both during and after the interview. In thanks for their participation, each of them received a Fazer product package and a certificate. Feedback was also collected from both the respondent and the interviewer.

The action plan was modified based on the ideas received from the respondents. According to plans, participatory work with young people will be continued later during the plan's implementation, for example in connection with violence forum activities. A

35 Virrankari & Leeman. 2022. Osallisuuden kokemus ja seksuaaliväkivalta [Experience of participation and sexual violence]. Results of the School Health Promotion Study 2019. Virrankari ym. 2021ab. Osallisuuden kokemus ja vanhempien henkinen väkivalta [Experience of participation and parental emotional violence]. Results of the School Health Promotion Study 2019. Osallisuuden kokemus ja vanhempien fyysinen väkivalta [Experience of participation and parental physical violence]. Results of the School Health Promotion Study 2019.

separate compilation and an animated video will also be compiled of the participation work carried out with young people.

5.3 Young people's views on sexual abuse

According to the young people who participated in the pilot project, sexual abuse can best be prevented through education, care and information. In their view, children need help and support from adults in sexuality-related issues from early on. Adults should talk about things plainly and tell children what is right and wrong, as suitable to the child's age. This would make children aware at an early age of what sexual abuse and sexual harassment mean for both the victim and the perpetrator. Everything is based on adults listening to children, showing an interest in their experiences and knowing where and with whom the children move outside the home.

According to young people, it is important to teach children early on to respect their own and other people's boundaries. However, to set boundaries, you need to understand your own needs and emotions, and this is where young people need guidance from adults. Through dialogue and interaction with adults, they learn to say "no" and to appreciate and respect themselves.

In foster care, instructors, foster parents and other contributors also play the part of sexuality educators. Young people believe this should be emphasised, and adults should be encouraged to discuss sexuality-related topics respectfully with children and young people. Sexuality education cannot be outsourced to the school and teachers alone, especially not in the case of children and adolescents in foster care, as they may be frequently absent from school.

According to young people, sexual abuse occurs in public spaces, such as streets, city centres, shopping centres and public transport, as well as in areas where there is no supervision or surveillance. Young people would feel safer if the police were more visible in public spaces so that they could offer better protection to children and young people. They would also like to see adults intervene if a child or young person is exposed to sexual harassment in a public space. Outsiders should also intervene and defend the victim. Young people understand that an adult may not know how to directly help a child or young person who has experienced sexual abuse. What is important is that a professional investigates the matter, asks others for help and does not let the matter rest.

According to young people, a victim of sexual abuse needs individual support suitable for their particular situation. They also emphasise the important role of a trusted person who can offer them a feeling of safety, an understanding ear, presence, emotional support and

supportive discussion. It is important for young people that an adult repeatedly assures them they are on the young person's side, not against them. It is essential to make clear that the young person has not done anything wrong. According to young people, a child or adolescent may also require (long-term) therapy or discussion with a psychologist, new human relationships, as well as support and legal assistance for any legal proceedings.

The question of assistance and support provided to perpetrators of sexual abuse provokes emotions in young people. Some feel that the sentences are way too lenient and demand tougher punishment instead of support. Others believe that perpetrators should not be stigmatised excessively nor excluded from the community. Nearly all the respondents were of the opinion that perpetrators need help and appropriate sanctions. Perpetrators should undergo rehabilitation and get conversational therapy or psychiatric treatment, as well as be able to tackle the matter with a professional. The perpetrator's state of mind should be assessed to determine whether they regret their actions or whether there is a risk of their repeating the offence. Young people call for justice, fairness and respect for other people's boundaries. Sexuality is an important part of human beings, which is why it is important to explain to children and young people what kind of harm and suffering we can cause others through our behaviour and what consequences it can have.

How young people talk about sexual abuse depends on the nature of the event. In their own words, they could report abuse to an adult, their parents or friends, the authorities, the police, the school nurse, a therapist or a social worker. One of the respondents said they would first tell their friends, then the police and later a therapist. Some adolescents said they would not tell adults anything. This was partly due to a fear of adults blaming them for what happened or ignoring the whole experience. Here, too, young people emphasised the attitude of professionals and how good a relationship they had with the adult.

The respondents were asked how they would prefer to talk about sexual abuse with a professional. Of the various alternatives, a discussion in person was the preferred option. However, if a face-to-face meeting was too awkward, a phone call, text message or WhatsApp message were listed as other good options. Some young people found it easier to talk to a familiar adult, while others preferred talking to a professional in the handling of sexual abuse. The way people talk about such events is individual and is also influenced by the specifics of each case. Moreover, everyone deals with their experience in their own.

According to young people, the following would make it easier to report sexual abuse:

Talking and communication

- Children and young people should be asked daily how they are doing and what their day was like. If the child does not answer or does not behave normally (is shy, more timid, more withdrawn), this could signal that something is wrong.
- The subject should not be taboo and it should be discussed more at home.
- The topic (the meaning of sexual abuse) should be brought up more.
- People should ask about the topic nicely.

Trustworthy adults

- Maintaining hope. Adults and professionals help you believe that everything will turn out fine and help you seek help.
- Young people should be able to trust adults.
- Parents should keep track of where their child moves and how their child is doing. They should also show that they really care how their child is doing.

Taking young people seriously

- Adults should not downplay or judge the experience. That is the worst thing you can do with an adolescent.
- People should be made aware of these cases never being the victim's fault.

Understanding, help and support

- Professionals should be easy to approach and trustworthy.
- More low-threshold places are needed; places that do not turn you away because there is a queue or because you are not in poor enough condition.
- More preventive activities. Schools and institutions need employees who understand how things like this can happen, where they can happen and how they have already happened and then provide adequate support for young people and tell them that no form of sexual abuse is acceptable.

- It is important to understand that this topic involves bigger problems. A young person who does not have parents or a support network will find it very tough to handle everything on their own.
- You should receive a guarantee of never having to see the perpetrator again. It is important to know that your experience will be taken seriously and that it won't be downplayed

5.4 Promoting participation in daily work against sexual abuse

In daily life, children and young people may find it difficult to report violence, and especially sexual abuse, for a number of reasons³⁶. One of the factors is the ability of adults to discuss these topics with children and young people, to identify sexual abuse and to act in a way suitable for the child or adolescent. For example, children and adolescents belonging to gender and sexual minorities may prefer not to report their experiences of sexual abuse because they fear talking about it or suspect that their sexual orientation will be questioned, the oversexualisation of gender and sexual minorities has influenced their self-image, they fear that they will be blamed for what happened or feel a general distrust in the authorities and professionals.

According to surveys and studies conducted in Finland:

- The feeling of participation is notably lower among children and young people who experience emotional or physical violence by their parents or are bullied at school, for example²⁰.
- Children and young people who belong to gender and sexual minorities and do not match gender norms exhibit a heightened risk of being exposed to

36 Lenader L. 2010. Police interviews with child sexual abuse victims: patterns of reporting, avoidance and denial. *Child abuse & Neglect*, 2010;34: 192–205.

bullying, harassment and sexual abuse at home, in the school and in public spaces³⁷.

- Children and young people who have been placed in foster care mainly experience insults and name-calling (37%), bullying (35%) and physical violence such as pushing, shoving and hair-pulling (25%) by another child or adolescent in environments outside their foster place. They reported slightly fewer experiences of being humiliated or embarrassed by an adult or child outside their foster care (26%, n=179), or having experienced physically insulting behaviour such as pushing, shoving, shaking, hair-pulling or slapping (33%, n=233).³⁸
- A strong sense of participation has been shown to be linked to an experience of improved quality of life, health, functional ability and work capacity, as well as mental health³⁹.

Children and young people must know their rights for it to be possible to talk about their enforcement. It is also important to talk about matters related to sexuality and sexual abuse understandably, in a manner suitable for the children's age and development.

These topics can also be discussed with younger children, for example in early childhood education and care, using stories, images, acted-out situations or exercises. In such situations, children's participation and expression must be supported by respecting the forms of expression typical of each child.

All adults working with children should early on begin to talk about these topics with children and practise approaching others, touching them respectfully, expressing their admiration and using safety skills to protect themselves. This will help children learn the meaning of safe closeness, adulthood and friendship. They also learn that these topics can be brought up with adults without the adults being startled. Adults need to be provided

37 Alanko, K. 2014. Mitä kuuluu sateenkaarinuorille Suomessa? [How are LGBTQ+ youth doing in Finland?] Finnish Youth Research Society/Finnish Youth Research Network, electronic publications 72. Seta, Seta publications 23. Halme et al. 2018. Lasten ja nuorten hyvinvointi 2017 [Welfare of children and youth 2017]. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. Ikonen, R. & Helakorpi, S. 2019. Lasten ja nuorten hyvinvointi – Kouluterveyskysely 2019 [Welfare of children and youth – School Health Promotion Study 2019]. Statistical report 33/2019. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.

38 Saariluoma et al. 2021. Sijoitettujen lasten koulunkäynti ja vapaa-aika : kyselytutkimuksen tuloksia [School attendance and leisure time of children placed in foster care: survey results].

39 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. N.d. Osallisuusindikaattori mittaa osallisuuden kokemusta [Experiences for Social Inclusion Scale for measuring the experience of participation].

with training and information so that they know how to act in these situations and support children's participation.

Various non-governmental organisations actively promote participation and discussion, offering public stakeholders partnership in promoting participation. Examples include the following:

- Save the Children has developed tools and training material for children's participation and has trained professionals to help them address children's participation in service development. Special attention has been paid to the participation and hearing of young children.⁴⁰ The guidelines focus on both younger children and children in vulnerable situations to ensure them safe and natural encounters.
- The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare promotes the participation of children and young people in various ways. Nuortennetti⁴¹ is a youth website provided by the League that adolescents also contribute to. They produce content for the site, engage in discussions and express their wishes for service development. The Mannerheim League also conducts various youth surveys and brings attention to children's and adolescents' worries and needs for support that have been identified from their phone and chat contacts. Youth participation plays a key role in the media education offered by the Mannerheim League.
- The Protect Children Association has developed Stop, Slow & Go Online Road Safety learning materials for children aged 5–6⁴² and 7–9⁴³ that promote children's participation and online safety skills, as well as prevent online sexual abuse, especially that targeting children.

40 See e.g. Tulensalo et al. (Eds.). 2021a. Kohti lapsen näköistä osallisuutta [Towards participation appropriate for the child]. Save the Children. Tulensalo et al. 2021b. Lapsivaikutusten arviointia lasten kanssa [Child impact assessments with children]. Save the Children. Save the Children. N.d.b. Lapsikeskeinen palvelumuotoilu [Child-centred service design]. Save the Children. N.d.c. Lapsikeskeinen palvelumuotoilu, myönteinen tunnistaminen ja lapsikeskeisyys [Child-centred service design, positive identification and child-centredness].

41 Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. N.d.b. Nuortennetti (website).

42 The Protect Children Association. N.d.a. Stop, Slow & Go! Online Road Safety for children aged 5–6.

43 The Protect Children Association. N.d.b. Stop, Slow & Go! Online Road Safety for children aged 7–9.

- The Family Federation of Finland has developed plain-language picture cards⁴⁴ and guidelines⁴⁵ to promote the participation of small children. The cards are available in Finnish, Swedish and three Sámi languages. Children can use the cards to bring up or ask for information about a subject. Children who do not talk can also use the cards to tell about their experience. The cards also help adults learn to talk about childhood sexuality and build a safe, open approach to discussions with children.
- The Pesäpuu child welfare organisation provides safety forums for children aged 3–12 who have been placed in foster care. Working jointly with children, Pesäpuu has drawn up criteria for safe foster care in both families and institutions. The organisation has also cooperated with children to produce safety-related materials for both children and professionals. These include a storybook (Mainio ja Zataar) for children under school age who have experienced violence, to which the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare also contributed, as well as guidelines for safe family care and communication. Currently, a “workbook” for primary school children who have experienced violence is being prepared in cooperation with children who have experienced violence and the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.
- In 2021, the Pesäpuu organisation published a revised version of its handbook for young people placed outside their birth home. The revised handbook includes new themes important to young people, such as mental wellbeing, alcohol and drugs, sexuality and own boundaries. Printed versions of the handbook can be ordered from Pesäpuu’s online shop at cost price. The handbook can also be downloaded for free online.
- In 2022–2023, Pesäpuu and Seta will organise workshops promoting young people’s participation, based on a norm-aware approach. The goal of the workshops is to jointly with young people devise models for promoting gender equality and equal treatment, as well as prevent discrimination, harassment and violence based on sexual orientation or gender in child welfare.
- Safe forms of discussion were developed in the Pesäpuu organisation’s X-link project⁴⁶. Many of the project participants had never before talked about the abuse and violence they had experienced in foster care.

44 The Family Federation of Finland. N.d.a. Puheeksi ottamisen kuvakortit (POK) [Picture cards for discussions].

45 The Family Federation of Finland. N.d.b. Puheeksi ottamisen kortit, ohjaajan opas [Picture cards for discussions, instructor’s guide].

46 Pesäpuu ry. 2022. The X-link project for safe foster care.

- “Oma Boxi”⁴⁷, jointly developed by the Pesäpuu organisation and reform schools, is a new kind of tool for promoting participation in daily life. The set of cards is designed to be used in interaction between adolescents and their personal instructors. The goal of the three sets of Oma Boxi cards is to help adolescents placed in foster care to deal with various important things in their lives. The activities strengthen a violence- and trauma-informed approach and rehabilitating interaction between adolescents and their personal instructors. The cards can also be used, for example, in meetings with the social worker or in activities involving adolescents in family care.

Other stakeholders can also promote the participation of children and young people in their own activities. The Evangelical Lutheran Church⁴⁸, for example, has emphasised the participation of children. An example of participation work in the private sector comes from Telia, which involves children and young people in discussions about the challenges and opportunities related to digitalisation through various surveys and interactive workshops in the Nordic and Baltic countries. The workshops are a way to better understand how children and young people think about online life, the use of technology and other topical phenomena. This helps the company focus its efforts and develop children’s digital rights in areas important to them.

47 Pesäpuu ry. 2021. Oma boxi – a set of cards for interaction between adolescents and their personal instructors.

48 The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland. N.d. Child-friendly parish.

PART 1

Prevention



6 How to prevent child sexual abuse

6.1 Article 4 Principles

“Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to prevent all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children and to protect children.”

Ongoing work

The state and other public authorities, including municipalities and wellbeing services counties, must respect, protect and enforce fundamental and human rights. Under section 22 of the Constitution of Finland, the public authorities must guarantee the enforcement of fundamental rights and human rights. The protection, safeguarding and enforcement of rights require the state to work actively to promote them.

The state holds overall responsibility for the enforcement of the Lanzarote Convention. While the public authorities carry special responsibility for enforcement, all the other stakeholders are also needed to implement the provisions of the Convention. The efforts of non-governmental organisations and the private sector are essential for the successful and comprehensive enforcement of the rights. This plan therefore presents examples of the work carried out by the public sector, the private sector and non-governmental organisations. The idea is that different stakeholders can contribute to the implementation of measures in the way best suited to them. Especially preventive measures geared at the public require the involvement of many different operators.

A point to keep in mind regarding implementation is that children and young people are already granted the indivisible right to a safe growth, development and learning environment, as well as care and treatment, under valid legislation and binding treaties and agreements. National provisions on these rights and other universal services (such as maternity clinic, early childhood education and care, education and social welfare services) can be found in, for example, the Health Care Act (1326/2010), Basic Education Act (628/1998), Act on Early Childhood Education and Care (540/2018), Act on Vocational Education and Training (531/2017), Act on General Upper Secondary Education (714/2018), Social Welfare Act (1301/2014) and Child Welfare Act (417/2007). Research results demonstrate the effectiveness of support provided to children and their families, including maternity and health clinic services, house calls and various parenthood programmes. It is important to provide support for all kinds of children and families on an equal basis. One way to prevent violence is by ensuring that parents,

professionals and authorities have a good understanding of children's diversity and the impact of different forms of violence, also that of being witness to violence. Ensuring early and comprehensive support for parenting skills and distributing parenting-related information, for example on an encouraging and violence-free approach to child-rearing, throughout the population help reduce the placement of children outside their home and bring down the number of cases involving violence, neglect and negligent care^{49 50}.

Regarding legislation, the comprehensive reform of chapter 20 (sexual offences) of the Criminal Code, under preparation by the Ministry of Justice, is a significant effort in this respect. As stated in the Government Programme, the reform is based on the principles of physical integrity and sexual self-determination. According to the Government Programme, the definition of rape in the Criminal Code will be amended so that it will be based on the absence of consent, while simultaneously ensuring appropriate legal safeguards.

In its report, the working group preparing the reform¹⁹ proposed that provisions on sexual offences concerning children under the age of 16 should be separated from those concerning adults. The safeguards protecting children's integrity would be strengthened and regulations clarified. The amendments proposed by the working group would mean an expansion of the scope of actions punishable as sexual offences and increasingly severe sentences. Especially sentences for sexual offences involving intercourse with a child would become more severe. The working group's report has been circulated to stakeholders for comments, and drafting continues in the Ministry of Justice. The government proposal was submitted to Parliament in early 2022.

According to research, actions to prevent sexual abuse can successfully be targeted at all levels or areas at the same time (universal, selective or indicated for children/perpetrators). Violence can occur in all environments, at home and at school, in hobbies and in the street. At all levels, attention must be paid to the consequences of violence but also to the risks and protective factors⁵¹. Early forms of harassment related to gender and sexuality

49 Prinz et al. 2009. Population based prevention of child maltreatment: the U.S. Triple p system population trial. *Prevention Science*, 2009, 10, 1, 1–12.

50 Karjalainen, P. 2021. Parenting intervention to help children with behaviour problems in child protection and other family support services. Doctoral dissertation, University of Helsinki.

51 Korpilahti et al. 2021b. Väkivallan ehkäisy – Tue, tunnista ja puutu varhain [Violence prevention – Support, identification and early intervention]. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.

that occur among children must be identified⁵². It is essential to know how harassment occurs and how it can be constructively prevented without stigmatising the child. Attention must be focused especially on the culture of open discussion, safety skills and unstigmatising guidance for strengthening emotional and interaction skills. This action plan builds on the idea that there is always something to prevent in all situations.

As described in the Introduction, the development and deployment of the LASTA/Barnahus model are part of the present Government Programme. The model plays an important role in efforts to fight child sexual abuse, including in preventive measures. In connection with the Barnahus project, special “Barnahus” police officers from the National Police Board prepared an extensive report on the present state and challenges of investigations of crimes against children⁵³. The main goals and areas of development identified in the report include the assignment of cases to competent investigators and investigators-in-charge specialised in crimes against children, as well as the development of cooperation between authorities, particularly with prosecutors and health and social services authorities. This calls for permanent, well-established national operating models and follow-up of activities, which cannot be accomplished with occasional training or temporary project resources. The need for specialised, overall competence for fighting online sexual crime against children has been repeatedly brought up in both the report and events linked to the Barnahus project⁵⁴. Such competence is still inadequate in Finland. This requirement for specialised competence applies to all the stakeholders: the police, prosecutors and courts, as well as the entire field of education, health and social services.

Organisations produce and publish important information about the prevalence of the phenomenon. For example:

- The Finnish National Agency for Education awarded the Family Federation of Finland a discretionary government grant for training related to children’s body emotion, offered to personnel in the education sector and early childhood education and care in 2018–2022. The goal was to especially prevent harassment, bullying and violence. During the training projects,

52 Huuki, T. 2002. “Popularity, Real Lads and Violence on the Social Field of School.” In *Gendered and Sexualised Violence in Educational Environments*. Eds. V. Sunnari, J. Kangasvuo & M. Heikkinen. *Femina Borealis* 6. Oulu: Oulu University Press, 41–59. Huuki, T. et al. 2010. *Humour as a Resource and Strategy for Boys to Gain Status in the Field of Informal School*. *Gender and Education*.

53 Laajasalo et al. N.d. Barnahus project. *Hankkeessa tehty työ vuosina 2019-2021; Hankesuunnitelma vuosille 2022–2023*. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.

54 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021c. *Outlook on the crime process related to online sexual offences against children* (Webcast 27 August 2021).

methods were developed for talking about consent, rights and personal boundaries, as well as for identifying cases of harassment through the “droplet intervention” approach, while supporting children’s wellbeing and body confidence. In 2021, the National Agency for Education also launched a two-year pre-primary education programme, which is being tested in pilot municipalities in 2021–2024.

- Save the Children maintains a hotline called Nettivihje²⁶ and works in close cooperation with the National Bureau of Investigation. Save the Children is part of the international INHOPE hotline network, which promotes and accelerates the takedown of illegal online material through both national and international cooperation. Save the Children also participates in the Project Arachnid network⁵⁵, analysing child sexual abuse material.
- The Protect Children Association engages in international work in the Project Arachnid network, which promotes and accelerates the removal of child sexual abuse material and material that violates the rights of children online.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods plan^{11, 12} can be found in **Appendix 3a**.

Table 2. Actions/Principles of prevention

1. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Secure and support the establishment of the Barnahus/LASTA model in the service system.	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, municipalities/wellbeing services counties, university hospitals	Annual monitoring based on, e.g., the number and type of cases investigated in the forensic psychology/psychiatry units for children and young people, the number of consultations, the volume of training arranged
Implementation in 2022–2025		
<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: The deployment and establishment of the Barnahus/LASTA model will be supported with a discretionary government grant for all the five university hospital districts in 2022–2023. The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare will support national work jointly with the Barnahus personnel in the police and prosecution authorities. Progress will be monitored annually in the Barnahus/LASTA steering group, which includes representatives from all the key ministries and other stakeholders. In accordance with the Government Programme, the model will be expanded and made into a permanent practice after the temporary discretionary government grants. Barnahus operations help professionals identify and intervene in violence through training and consultation, for example.</p>		
<p>The goal is to have the model’s national coordinators permanently determined and assigned by the end of 2025.</p>		

55 Canadian Centre for Child protection. 2018. Project Arachnid (website).

2. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Ensure regular monitoring of police investigation of crimes against children.	Ministry of the Interior	Continue and develop the state of child crime investigation in the context of the Barnahus project.
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Ministry of the Interior: The progress made in the areas of development identified in the 2020 survey of the state of child crime investigation, as well as future surveys, will be monitored annually.		
3. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Release information about child sexual violence	All operators	Release information concerning the phenomenon and monitor the results of, for example, the child victim survey, surveys and competence work carried out among children and young people, the number of tips received by the Nettivihje hotline offered by Save the Children, as well as the results of the Global ReDirection survey. Also describe the phenomenon among minorities.
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Ministry of Social Affairs and Health: (Annually) compiles information about sexual abuse against children and young people from various information sources. This is a key element of monitoring. The information helps target measures to meet changing needs.		
Save the Children: Provides the Nettivihje hotline service, and the number of tips, as well as changes in their content (e.g. CSAM), serve as information depicting the phenomenon.		
Protect Children: Conducts a scientific Global ReDirection survey on CSAM users and strengthens international cooperation between experts and authorities to prevent online child sexual abuse offences.		
Family Federation of Finland: Produces materials for daily digital safety skills for children aged 0–9, their parents and professional educators.		

6.2 Article 5 Recruitment, training and awareness raising of persons working in contact with children

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to encourage awareness of the protection and rights of children among persons who have regular contacts with children in the education, health, social protection, judicial and law-enforcement sectors and in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the persons referred to in paragraph 1 have an adequate knowledge of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, of the means to identify them and of the possibility mentioned in Article 12, paragraph 1.

3. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures, in conformity with its internal law, to ensure that the conditions to accede to those professions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children ensure that the candidates to these professions have not been convicted of acts of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children.”

Ongoing work

The Ministry of Education and Culture has launched a comprehensive action plan⁵⁶ to prevent bullying, violence and harassment at schools and educational institutions. The action plan is based on the Government Programme entries on non-discrimination, the right to physical integrity of all children and young people, as well as zero tolerance for bullying. All the measures will be carried out during the present term of government. The TUIKKU development programme⁵⁷ for strengthening emotional and interaction skills in early childhood education and care is underway as part of the action plan. The goal is to help children learn to identify and regulate their emotions, gain friendship skills needed in peer relationships and obtain interaction skills jointly with the parents and personnel in early childhood education and care. Strengthening these skills helps prevent bullying and promote children’s wellbeing.

The Ministry of Education and Culture is running a development programme (“Oikeus osata”)⁵⁸ aimed at improving the quality of and equality in vocational education, which contributes to ensuring that all students in vocational education gain solid professional competence, as well as basic skills for work, life and lifelong learning. The Ministry of Education and Culture is implementing the programme in cooperation with the Finnish National Agency for Education in 2020–2022. The development programme forms part

56 Ministry of Education and Culture. 2021a. Toimenpideohjelma kiusaamisen ehkäisemiseksi – keskiössä resurssit, koulutus ja lainsäädännön päivittäminen [Action plan for the prevention of bullying – resources, education and revision of legislation] (online publication, 26 January 2021).

57 University of Jyväskylä. N.d. TUIKKU – Tunnetaitoja ja osallisuutta varhaiskasvatukseen [TUIKKU development programme for strengthening emotional and interaction skills].

58 The Finnish National Agency for Education. 2020. Oikeus osata -ohjelma käynnistyi 42 kehittämishankkeen voimin [“Oikeus osata” programme launches with 42 development projects”] (online publication, 16 February 2020).

of the implementation of the Government Programme. It promotes the Government Programme's objectives of raising the level of competence, strengthening equality in education, reducing differences in learning outcomes and improving quality in vocational education.

One of the set of measures of the development programme for the quality and equality of vocational education involves strengthening students' wellbeing, sense of community and participation. The goal is to improve students' opportunities to influence, develop the activities of student bodies, strengthen the collective operating culture and develop the safety culture. The development programme also includes a set of measures aimed at reforming the operating culture and management of vocational education providers.

The Ministry of Education and Culture has launched a programme focused on the quality and accessibility of upper secondary school education (2021–2022)⁵⁹, which aims to improve both of these aspects of upper secondary school education systematically and persistently, promote and support wellbeing and raise the level of competence. The programme also strives to strengthen the gender equality and equity of education, reduce differences in learning outcomes and support the development of the operating culture.

The Ministry of Justice has launched a partial reform of the Non-Discrimination Act, which aims to, for example, make the gender equality and non-discrimination plans of different educational levels binding and issue provisions on binding plans also for early childhood education and care.⁶⁰

It is important that professionals in general and, due to the nature of their job, employees in student welfare, youth work, social welfare and child welfare in particular, have time for children and young people. Youth work professionals and volunteers, for example, meet numerous children and adolescents in their work and duties. To talk about sexual abuse, a child or adolescent needs the relationship with an adult to be confidential. The time must also be right for reporting any sexual abuse experiences. To ensure confidentiality, the employee must meet a young victim of sexual abuse one-to-one. It is also essential to ensure that the child's or adolescent's safety is not jeopardised or that they will not encounter other difficulties if they discuss the incident. It is important to look at the child's or adolescent's situation overall and more emphatically adopt a systemic, relationship-based approach that boosts the child's participation, especially in cases of child abuse. The

59 Ministry of Education and Culture. 2021b. High-quality and accessible upper secondary school. Lukiokoulutuksen laatu- ja saavutettavuusohjelma 2021–2022.

60 Ministry of Justice. 2021. Yhdenvertaisuuslain osittaisuudistus [Partial reform of the Non-Discrimination Act] (OM013:00/2021).

systemic child welfare model, nationally coordinated by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, is a structure that supports the meaningfulness of work and helps reduce staff turnover⁶¹.

A project ("Kysy ja kuuntele")⁶², carried out by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, models the content and structure of the individual supervision of children placed in foster care. A checklist of themes to be regularly (at least annually) and systematically discussed with the child has been drawn up as support for social workers. Child abuse and various forms of violence are items on the list. The model of individual supervision of children in foster care, along with the relevant tools, will be deployed among all social workers in the wellbeing services counties to support their work. Social workers in child welfare are provided with support, such as online courses, to improve their ability to discuss violence and function in situations involving violence⁶³.

Municipalities and wellbeing services counties play an important role in providing training for and increasing awareness among people working with children. The health and social services reform requires cooperation to be set up between municipalities and wellbeing services counties. The reform also calls for mutual cooperation between wellbeing services counties. The Barnahus activities⁶⁴, which are organised across five university hospital districts, are an example of such cross-boundary cooperation. Barnahus units can offer excellent support for wellbeing services counties. Identifying and addressing violence in cooperation with multiple parties requires training and agreement on joint operating strategies, among other things. Materials on the prevention of child sexual harassment, solicitation and sexual abuse are available, for example, on the website of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare⁶⁵. This plan describes a few examples of municipal efforts to increase personnel training and awareness.

61 Isokuortti, N. & Aaltio, E. 2021. Lastensuojelun tutkimusperustan vahvistamisen haasteita ja mahdollisuuksia [Challenges and opportunities in strengthening research-based child welfare practices]. Research article, Kasvun tuki.

62 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021d. Kysy ja kuuntele - sijoitettujen lasten hyvinvointi ja systemaattinen kuuleminen [Ask and listen – the wellbeing of children in foster care and their systematic hearing].

63 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2022a. Online training.

64 Halila et al. 2021. Report of the working group preparing the establishment of centres of expertise and support providing demanding services for children and young people (Finnish)

65 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021e. Non-violent childhoods action plan (website in Finnish).

The City of Tampere has been developing an operating model for intervention in child abuse since 2004. In 2007, the Mayor of Tampere set up a multisectoral monitoring group for interventions in child abuse, with representatives from the City's basic education sector, early childhood education and care, oversight of private early childhood education and care, emergency social services, child welfare, child, youth and family services, family counselling, primary health care, youth services and youth health services. Other members include the legal counsel and children's ombudsman from Central Administration, specialised health care of the Pirkanmaa hospital district and the Central Finland Police Department, while Tampere Settlement, Maria Akatemia and the Tampere Association of the Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters represent the organisation sector. The monitoring group convenes regularly, 3–5 times a year. Its duty is to monitor and promote multiprofessional cooperation in interventions into child and youth abuse in Tampere and to highlight needs for development and training. Training for people working with children is organised collaboratively. The monitoring group has prepared a handbook on child abuse⁶⁶ and guidelines to support work in situations involving suspected violence against a child.

The City of Helsinki has systematically strengthened the research-based competence of its professionals. One of the goals has been to introduce tools that help children and young people talk about their experiences of violence and make it easier for professionals to bring up the topic in school health care, in connection with wider health inspections and in other interactions with children. The City of Helsinki has drawn up common guidelines on female genital mutilation for use in child welfare, school health care and by other professionals. Descriptions have been prepared of cooperation between basic education and child welfare, and training to support this cooperation is being planned. Child-centred assessments of the need for support and care, carried out in cooperation with multiple authorities if required, as well as the provision of needs-based support or care have been identified as key competences in Helsinki.

As part of the Barnahus project, the City of Helsinki is participating in training and deployment related to trauma-focused interventions and care models. The goal is to improve the availability of timely and effective treatment in the services provided by the City. In 2020–2021, as part of the Barnahus cooperation, the Social Services and Health Care Division piloted specialist training in child interviews aimed at social workers in child welfare. According to the participants, the training provided them with better practical tools for interviewing children, for example, in situations where the child welfare notification concerns suspected child abuse. There has been talk about extending the

66 Kaltoinkohdeltu lapsi. 2019. Käsikirja kaltoinkohdellun lapsen kanssa työskenteleville [Handbook for people working with abused children]. City of Tampere.

pilot training nationwide. The City of Helsinki is committed to further developing the training in connection with Barnahus cooperation. The goal is to offer the training to all social workers in child welfare in Helsinki.

In spring 2021, the City of Oulu launched training for professionals in child abuse in line with the Barnahus standards. The network of professionals is learning to manage child sexual abuse phenomena, understand the authorities' violence-related processes and provide first-stage psycho-social support for children and their families. The network of professionals in child abuse work comprises personnel from social services, health care and education.

The main goal of the Safe Oulu project (2019–2021)⁶⁷ was to prevent sexual offences against children from occurring in Oulu. The project aimed to reduce sexual offences and sexual harassment and related threat, strengthen the active role of children and young people as members of the community, support families and spread information to prevent sexual offences. Other goals included boosting the media and safety skills of children, young people and parents, and help immigrants better integrate into the community. The project also sought to prevent recidivism and rehabilitate young perpetrators⁶⁸. A model for safety skills education was created during the project, and it has been used since autumn 2021 to teach safety skills to children and young people in Oulu, from pre-primary education to the end of basic education.⁶⁹

Organisations have various ways of promoting awareness of child sexual abuse among children, young people, parents and professionals working with children and young people. For example, Save the Children, the Family Federation of Finland and Protect Children produce information, handbooks and other materials and offer training related to the topic. The Family Federation of Finland emphasises the importance of approaching children's sexuality and sexual education in an age-appropriate way and requiring professionals who work with children to be appropriately trained so that children can be ensured an equal speech connection with a safe adult, appropriate words for the body and safety skills, taking an active and positive approach that empowers the child, personnel and families. Professionals who work with children should possess the following skills and knowledge essentially linked to ensuring the safe development of children:

67 City of Oulu. N.d.a. Safe Oulu project 2019–2020.

68 City of Oulu. 2021. Rikoksiin syyllistyneet nuoret saavat apua NURRI-hankkeesta [Young perpetrators receive help through the NURRI project].

69 City of Oulu. N.d.b. Safety skills education (website in Finnish). Safe Oulu project 2019–2020.

- Speaking naturally and openly, without shame and taboos, about matters related to the child's body, development and bodily functions
- Identifying sexual behaviour and development natural for children, as well as providing appropriate guidance and distinguishing worrying behaviour
- Identifying and intervening in bullying or harassment related to sexuality and gender (on the part of children or adults) preventively, without stigmatising or punishing, and by strengthening emotional and interaction skills
- Identifying worrying symptoms related to sexuality in a child and safely guiding the child to the appropriate support services. Being clear about the duty to notify. Reacting appropriately to a child's symptomatic behaviour, without punishing them
- Teaching safety skills with a resource-based approach, in daily interaction, even to very young children
- Supporting children's positive body image and body confidence, respect for their own and other people's bodies, as well their right to decide on touching
- Acting in a gender-aware and equal manner
- Supporting parents in body-emotion education

Especially non-governmental organisations also rely on volunteers, which must be taken into consideration in training. The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare (MLL), for example, requires volunteers who work with the League's phone and chat hotline for children and young people to present a clean criminal record certificate. It also offers them training in sexual abuse and harassment and in knowing where the child or adolescent can seek help. The MLL also trains professionals to help them protect children and young people from sexual solicitation and harassment in digital environments. The MLL and Save the Children are cooperating in the context of a training tour running throughout 2022. The MLL has prepared task cards for professional educators concerning online safety and sexual harassment. The topic is also dealt with on the Nuortennetti website, which professional educators can use in their teaching. The MLL website for parents (Vanhempainnetti) offers a comprehensive set of articles on grooming and sexual harassment.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3b**.

Table 3. Actions/Recruitment, training and awareness raising of persons working in contact with children

4. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Create a website for the prevention of bullying, harassment, discrimination, violence and hate speech to provide practical instructions and concrete measures for preventing such phenomena in early childhood education and care, schools and other educational institutions.	Ministry of Education and Culture, Finnish National Agency for Education	To be carried out and monitored as part of the action plan for preventing bullying, harassment and violence in early childhood education and care, schools and other educational institutions and the National Child Strategy.
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Ministry of Education and Culture, Finnish National Agency for Education: The promotion of participation, wellbeing and safety, as well as the prevention of bullying, harassment and violence will be considered as part of the continuing education for staff in early childhood education and care and the education sector.		
The Finnish Education Evaluation Centre: An assessment will be carried out of measures aimed at preventing bullying and improving wellbeing and peaceful working conditions ⁷⁰ . The assessment will provide information about various anti-bullying methods, as well as their suitability and impact. It can be used to share information about the usability of different methods, as well as to obtain information about research-based anti-bullying and anti-violence methods and their use in basic education. Information about the usability and suitability of methods will be collected from school staff, as well as from pupils and their parents or guardians. This is to ensure that the perspectives of different stakeholders are taken into account in the assessment. The assessment will be carried out in 2021–2022.		
5. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Strengthen harassment contact person activities in higher education institutions.	Ministry of Education and Culture, Finnish National Agency for Education, University of Applied Sciences Students in Finland, National Union of University Students in Finland	To be carried out and monitored as part of the action plan for preventing bullying, violence and harassment in early childhood education and care, schools and other educational institutions.
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Ministry of Education and Culture		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry of Education and Culture has awarded a special grant to the University of Applied Sciences Students in Finland and the organisation's project on equality in higher education institutions 2021–2022 (from 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2023). • The grant will be used in accordance with the organisation's application for project funding. The aim is to improve the competence of higher education institutions in equality planning and the practical implementation of equality plans, focusing especially on strengthening harassment contact person activities. Project planning and implementation will be carried out in active cooperation with the National Union of University Students in Finland. 		

70 The Finnish Education Evaluation Centre N.d. Assessment of methods aimed at preventing bullying and improving wellbeing and peaceful working conditions (part of the Ministry of Education and Culture's action plan for preventing bullying, violence and harassment).

6. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Through a variety of strengthening measures, ensure that student welfare, youth work, social welfare and child welfare staff have enough time and capacity to discuss sexual abuse with children and young people.	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, wellbeing services counties, municipalities, non-governmental organisations	Monitor the responses that children in foster care provide in School Health Promotion Studies (the next one to be implemented at the end of the planning period).

Implementation in 2022–2025

The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health: The customer plan in child welfare services will include a question concerning meetings between the child and social worker and their practical implementation. This action is partly carried out through the deployment of the systemic child welfare model⁷¹ and can be taken into account in the project on future health and social services. The maximum number of child welfare clients per social worker, provided for in the Child Welfare Act, is likely to facilitate this.

Regional maintenance structures, a permanent support strategy for implementation, support, coaching, assessments of the implementation process, feedback collection and processing, learning from experience and nationally coordinated enhancement of the model's content are required to firmly establish the systemic model and make it part of the service system. This calls for resources at the national level and at the level of wellbeing services counties/university hospital districts.

Save the Children, Autism Foundation Finland, Live Vocational College, Metropolia University of Applied Sciences and Terapia Perhonen are implementing a project funded by the Finnish National Agency for Education, which aims to train school staff in topics such as sexuality, diversity and sexual abuse prevention. The project pays particular attention to children and young people who need special support.

7. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
<p>Promote sexual education and its quality nationwide:</p> <p>By encouraging and supporting higher education institutions in their efforts to add age-appropriate sexual education content to teacher training and training for early childhood education and care staff.</p> <p>By encouraging municipalities/wellbeing services counties and other employers to offer professionals further training in sexual education.</p>	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Education and Culture, Finnish Institute for Welfare and Health, Finnish National Agency for Education, municipalities, wellbeing services counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training provided - Materials added to the websites of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare and the Finnish National Agency for Education - Development of tools that help bring up topics

Implementation in 2022–2025

71 Yliruka, L. & Tasala, T. Lastensuojelun systemaattisen toimintamallin kansallinen tilannekuva vuonna 2021 [National situation picture of the systemic operating model in child welfare 2021]. Tutkimuksesta tiiviisti 9/2022. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.

Child sexual abuse can be included in various training packages dealing with violence that are produced for professionals by different stakeholders.

The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare will provide support for the national development of training content by adding materials on sexual abuse to its own violence-related webpages and its online courses⁶³. The Institute's violence-themed online courses deal with, for example, interventions in violent behaviour, ways to address gendered violence in schools, and Barnahus online schools. Information can be distributed to maternity and child health clinics, pupil and student health care services, and Barnahus operators through regularly published network newsletters. Family centre operators in wellbeing services counties can be reached through the national family centre network⁷².

The Finnish National Agency for Education will collect materials on its own thematic websites and supports municipalities in these efforts.

The Protect Children Association produces material that supports the work of municipalities and wellbeing services counties. These include a book on dealing with emotions ("Isot tunteet tulevat ja menevät") and Finnish-language translations of the "Keep and Speak Secrets" books originally produced by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection.

Save the Children conducted a survey in 2021 among professionals to determine what kind of material was needed. It will produce new material related to the topic in 2022.

The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters will use shared training material or material produced by other parties in its training offered to professionals (experts in violence work, social workers etc.) It will also add information to the website for professionals.

The Family Federation of Finland will train professionals in body-emotion education, in the prevention of harassment and in friendship skills. In 2022, in a project funded by the Finnish National Agency for Education, a supervised social media group on body-emotion education will be set up for professionals.

6.3 Article 6 Education for children

"Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that children, during primary and secondary education, receive information on the risks of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, as well as on the means to protect themselves, adapted to their evolving capacity. This information, provided in collaboration with parents, where appropriate, shall be given within a more general context of information on sexuality and shall pay special attention to situations of risk, especially those involving the use of new information and communication technologies."

72 The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2022b. National family centre network (website).

Ongoing work

Children's own awareness of their right to be safe and of measures to protect themselves form the cornerstone of sexual abuse prevention. This calls for cooperation between children's living environments (home, early childhood education and care, schools and educational institutions) and other operators (including health and social welfare services and organisations providing services and coordination). The topic is widely discussed, for example, on the following pages of the Finnish National Agency for Education⁷³ and the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare:

- The Finnish National Agency for Education has a website with support material for equality work in educational institutions (in Finnish) that contains a great deal of material for preventing and dealing with sexual harassment at school. In 2020, the Finnish National Agency for Education also published a handbook⁷⁴ on preventing and addressing sexual abuse in schools and educational institutions.
- The Finnish-language website for the Non-violent childhoods action plan contains sections on sexual abuse⁷⁵ and on safety skills education and sexual education⁷⁶.
- The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare's website on violence prevention contains sections on sexual abuse⁷⁷ and sexual education in violence prevention⁷⁸, as well as safety skills education⁷⁹.

These websites contain a host of links to other websites dealing with the topics, including those of organisations.

Schools and educational institutions work continuously and systematically to prevent sexual abuse and intervene in it. This work should also be systematically assessed and developed. In student welfare, social workers, psychologists and nurses organise group

73 The Finnish National Agency for Education. 2022a. Work against sexual abuse (website)

74 Laitinen et al. 2020. Prevention of and intervention in sexual harassments at schools and educational institutions Guides and handbooks 2020: 4c. Finnish National Agency for Education.

75 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021f. Sexual abuse (website in Finnish).

76 Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021g. Violence and safety skills education in operating environments outside the home (website in Finnish).

77 The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2022c. Sexual abuse (website in Finnish).

78 The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2022d. Sexual education and sexual abuse prevention (website in Finnish).

79 The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2022e. Safety skills education (website in Finnish).

meetings dealing with, for example, sexual abuse prevention. Sexual health is discussed during health inspections, and sexual health guidance is provided. Questions on violence, threat of violence and sexual harassment are included in the background information questionnaires used by maternity and child health clinics and pupil and student health care services⁸⁶. Based on the information gained from them, and whenever required, forms for filtering and surveying intimate partner violence can be used during inspections. Special tools exist for bringing up the theme of violence with the parents of small children, school-age children and young people. These include the Turva10 tools offered by the Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters. Systematically addressing the theme also makes it easier for the client to bring it up.⁵⁵

The provision of support for socio-emotional skills, as well as safety skills education and sexual education for digital environments, the home and various services, ensures that children and young people gain important skills and knowledge for their peer and family relationships and support for their mental health. Skills like these help prevent and protect children and young people from different forms of violence, as well as make it easier to obtain help and act in threatening or dangerous situations.⁵⁵

Municipalities have their own ways of providing safety skills education and materials. For example, the City of Oulu has produced several publications for its safety skills education⁶⁸. The publications include comic books for children, as well as books for professionals and parents that also include exercises for children.

Several non-governmental organisations produce materials and communication targeted directly at children. These include materials for children, parents and adults or professionals working with children, which deal with sexual harassment and solicitation, sexual abuse and ways to prevent it and bring it up, as well as relevant safety skills. For example:

The “droplet” early intervention model⁸⁰ developed by the Family Federation of Finland and the University of Oulu⁸¹ is one possible model and is freely available online. The model enables occasional violence and all forms of harassment occurring between children to be addressed in advance, without stigmatising children. Lectures on the model and friendship skills, as well as related videos are available online.

80 The Family Federation of Finland. 2020. Pisarapuuttuminen kiusaamisen ja häirinnän ennaltaehkäisyyn [Early intervention to prevent bullying and harassment] (online publication).

81 The Family Federation of Finland. N.d.c. Harassment prevention (website in Finnish, a model developed in cooperation with Huukin, T. in the “Leikki 1” project).

The Victim Support Finland website⁸² and the Nuortennetti youth website offered by the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare also provide information on where to get help and support⁸³.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3c**.

Table 4. Action/Education for children

8. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Produce various types of materials to provide children and young people in basic and upper secondary education with information appropriate to their age and development concerning child sexual abuse and safety skills, including dating abuse. Special attention must be paid to children and young people in a particularly vulnerable position.	Municipalities and wellbeing services counties, cooperation with non-governmental organisations	Number of training events provided by various operators The school classes and citizens reached The feedback collected on the material produced and the training offered
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Finnish National Agency for Education, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: Will produce publications and update existing websites with content related to socio-emotional skills, safety skills, sexual education and sexual abuse as part of national supervisory efforts.		
Tampere University: Contested Consent (CoCo): Social and Digital Borders and Orders of Intimacy in Young People's Romantic Engagements (2019–2023) is a project that studies the significance and negotiations related to sexual consent in the social relationships and daily environments of young people. ⁸⁴		
Save the Children: Will produce multilingual material for adults who are in contact with children, including parents, to support the adults' ability to provide children with information appropriate to their age and development on child sexual abuse and safety skills.		
Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters: Will add information and material on sexual harassment, grooming and dating abuse to the Online Shelter ⁸⁵ service for children and young people. Will create a test for explaining what sexual harassment or abuse means and will add instructions for children and young people for situations in which they experience sexual harassment.		

82 Victim Support Finland (RIKU N.d. Children and young people as victims of crime (website).

83 Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2021a. Nuortennetti. Apua seksuaaliseen häirintään ja väkivaltaan [Help for sexual harassment and abuse] (online article in Finnish, 27 August 2021).

84 Tampere University. N.d.b. Contested Consent (CoCo): Social and Digital Borders and Orders of Intimacy in Young People's Romantic Engagements (2019–2023).

85 Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters. N.d. Online Shelter (website).

Save the Children: Will produce multilingual material for adults who are in contact with children, including parents, to support the adults' ability to provide children with information appropriate to their age and development on child sexual abuse and safety skills.

Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters: Will add information and material on sexual harassment, grooming and dating abuse to the Online Shelter⁸⁶ service for children and young people. Will create a test for explaining what sexual harassment or abuse means and will add instructions for children and young people for situations in which they experience sexual harassment.

Protect Children Association and regional state administrative agencies: Will continue its measures to make the Stop, Slow & Go Online Road Safety materials familiar to professionals in early childhood education and care and the first two grades of basic education. The materials are available on the Association's website.⁸⁷

Mannerheim League for Child Welfare: Will produce material on sexual harassment and solicitation online and in games, as well as on digital safety skills and safe media use that promotes wellbeing for parents and professional educators working with children, as well as for youth workers. The material will be available on the League's website for parents⁸⁸ and the website for young people⁴¹.

Family Federation of Finland:

- Will produce information, skills, models and materials for parents and professionals working with children to support an open discussion culture, age-appropriate sexual growth and development, body confidence, sexual rights and safety skills through empowerment.
- Will produce a support service ("Et ole yksin", [You're not alone])⁸⁹ that an athlete or another person involved in sports hobbies can contact and that can provide assistance in cases of sexual abuse and harassment, inappropriate behaviour or bullying. In addition, the Federation will boost children's and young people's right to self-determination and promote parents' and coaches' knowledge about the prevention of abuse and harassment experienced by young people.
- A phone and online service will be offered to children and young people who identify as boys to provide them with answers to questions they wonder about.
- Materials on sexuality will be produced for young people in the "Hyvä kysymys" online service.⁹⁰

86 Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters. N.d. Online Shelter (website).

87 The Protect Children Association. N.d.c. Stop, Slow & Go! Online Road Safety (website).

88 Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. N.d.a. Website for parents.

89 The Family Federation of Finland. N.d.d. Urheiluharrastuksen on oltava turvallista. Et ole yksin [Sports must be safe. You are not alone] (website).

90 The Family Federation of Finland. 2019. Family Federation services for young people. Hyvä kysymys (website).

9. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Various participants collaborate with teaching and education providers on topics related to sexual harassment and abuse and visit early childhood education and care units and educational institutions.	Finnish National Agency for Education, municipalities and wellbeing services counties (student welfare), non-governmental organisations	The school classes and citizens reached The volumes of material downloaded

Implementation in 2022–2025

The Finnish National Agency for Education has produced material on the topic (see, e.g., Laitinen et al. 2020)⁷³.

The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters: Activities for children and young people of different ages aimed at improving their safety and helping them to identify their boundaries and know how to react in threatening situations. Different forms of violence, including sexual abuse, will be brought up during visits to schools and educational institutions. Dating abuse is a theme of its own, and a separate package on it is available for use in schools and educational institutions. Use will be made of the My Space Not Yours⁹¹ anti-violence materials and methods for secondary schools and upper secondary schools (groups and individuals lessons).

Save the Children and Mannerheim League for Child Welfare: Jointly organised training tour on sexual harassment, solicitation and violence, as well as digital safety skills to protect the child.

Protect Children: Will promote the Stop, Slow & Go Online Road Safety materials in early childhood education and care and the first two grades of basic education by involving children⁸⁵.

6.4 Article 7 Preventive intervention programmes or measures

“Each Party shall ensure that persons who fear that they might commit any of the offences established in accordance with this Convention may have access, where appropriate, to effective intervention programmes or measures designed to evaluate and prevent the risk of offences being committed.”

91 De Boer, E., Hiltunen, S. & Kainulainen, T. N.d. My Space Not Yours. Menetelmäopas seksuaalisen häirinnän ja väkivallan ilmiöiden käsittelemiseen nuorten kanssa [Method for handling sexual harassment and violent phenomena with young people]. Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters.

Ongoing work

The Barnahus project report includes a model of effective care pathways for people with paedophilic or hebephilic tendencies⁹². The model provides guidelines for transferring the responsibility for the services from the third sector to the public sector, to be provided as free services. The next concrete step is to commit all the different operators to the piloting and assessment of the model. To ensure the success of these efforts, a coordinator should most likely be appointed, for example, at the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.

Preventive measures are carried out by several stakeholders. Examples include the following:

- Save the Children has collaborated with the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa and the Training Institute for Prison and Probation Services to produce a self-care programme⁹³ for individuals concerned about their sexual interest in children. The programme is available on the [Mielenterveystalo.fi](https://mielenterveystalo.fi) site.
- The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare and Save the Children are part of the Finnish Safer Internet Centre⁹⁴, coordinated by the National Audiovisual Institute, which improves the media and internet safety of children and young people by producing materials and training for children, young people, parents and professionals.
- In connection with the grooming work carried out by Koordinaatti⁹⁵, various organisations and participants have jointly compiled all the material on grooming found in Finland and produced a handbook on the phenomenon, as well as provided training for youth workers across Finland.
- Protect Children has developed a ReDirection research survey, which in itself serves as an intervention, and collected data on the dark web. Based on the

92 Talvaloja n. & Nurminen N. 2020. Support and forms of treatment as well as preventive rehabilitation of perpetrators of potential sexual offences against children. In the book: How is psychosocial support realised for children who have experienced violence? Laajasalo et al. 2020.

93 Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS) N.d. Self-care programme for sexual interest in children. [Mielenterveystalo.fi](https://mielenterveystalo.fi) (website).

94 National Audiovisual Institute. N.d. The Finnish Safer Internet Centre (FISIC, website).

95 Koordinaatti. N.d.a. Grooming project (website).

results, the association has created the ReDirection self-help programme for individuals who search for, use and distribute illegal child sexual abuse material (CSAM)⁹⁶. The ReDirection self-help programme, produced to prevent online child sexual abuse, has been developed in solid cooperation involving experts from Protect Children and the Criminal Sanctions Agency (Nurminen & Ylipekka), as well as from the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa's IT psychiatry and psychosocial treatments division and the Mental Health Hub. The ReDirection programme can also be used anonymously on the dark web.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3d**.

Table 5. Actions/Preventive intervention programmes or measures

10. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
A model produced by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare and the Barnahus project will be piloted nationwide among people at risk of committing child sexual offences.	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, municipalities, wellbeing services counties, university hospitals, non-governmental organisations	Number of clients reached at the level of wellbeing services counties (and other levels)
Implementation in 2022–2025		
The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare and the Barnahus activities play a key role in implementation , but the work will require resourcing, for example, a coordinator hired for the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. The plan is that the national production model produced and piloted will make use of the ReDirection research data produced by Protect Children, experiences gained in organisations and through the activities of the SeriE network, as well as research conducted in academic university collaboration.		

⁹⁶ The Protect Children Association. N.d.d. The ReDirection project prevents child sexual offences (website).

11. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Information about low-threshold self-help programmes will be distributed nationwide, and it will be made easier for potential sexual offenders to seek treatment, for example, by providing information about sexual interest targeting children.	In cooperation: Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, municipalities, wellbeing services counties and non-governmental organisations	The number of visitors to the self-help programme websites and the number of users in 2022 Feedback on the material

Implementation in 2022–2025

The services should be low threshold, free and confidential. For example, continuing education can be provided to the current staff of health centres who have the resources for support work and service guidance. The expertise of organisations (e.g. **Serita**, **Välitä!**, **SeriE**, **Protect Children**, **Criminal Sanctions Agency**) can be used in training and education.

Save the Children: Will produce material on sexual interest targeting children. The material is expected to be completed in 2022–2023.

12. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Support and promote studies concerning individuals who search for, use and distribute illegal child sexual abuse material (CSAM).	The university and non-governmental organisations in cooperation	The number of research participants, the number of scientific research articles

Implementation in 2022–2025

Protect Children, **University of Eastern Finland**: Research carried out in 2022–2023 in international academic research cooperation.

6.5 Article 8 Measures for the general public

“1. Each Party shall promote or conduct awareness raising campaigns addressed to the general public providing information on the phenomenon of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children and on the preventive measures which can be taken.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to prevent or prohibit the dissemination of materials advertising the offences established in accordance with this Convention.”

Ongoing work

Many of the families of children under school age are met in the context of early childhood and care. The 2022 National core curriculum for early childhood education and care⁹⁷ includes an entry on practising safety-related matters in daily situations together with children. More specific content concerning sexual education and safety skills is provided, including methods for supporting children's sense of safety, for offering them resources for requesting and seeking help, as well as for teaching them to act safely in various situations and environments. The goal of media education, which is part of the content of work in early childhood education and care, is to support children's opportunities to actively express themselves in their communities. The staff guides children in using media responsibly, taking into account their own and others' wellbeing.

Campaigns for the general public require clearly visible measures and cooperation involving different participants. Organisations (incl. Save the Children, Mannerheim League for Child Welfare and Protect Children) continuously disseminate information to increase awareness about child sexual abuse and its prevention.

Examples of ongoing campaigns and measures include the following:

- The Online Road Safety campaign of Protect Children emphasises that preventive measures against child sexual harassment, solicitation and sexual abuse must be initiated at an early stage. The parents of small children are an important target group because children begin to use digital media at an increasingly younger age and therefore need basic digital safety skills.
- Protect Children is cooperating with TeleNor (DNA) in making Online Road Safety materials, TV ads and digital displays visible in all DNA shops.
- Telia and Save the Children have jointly produced support material for parents, as well as handbooks for media education and for supporting children. For example, in autumn 2021, a digital parenting package⁹⁸ was launched to help parents make daily digital life and internet use safer for their children.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3e**.

97 The Finnish National Agency for Education. 2022b. National core curriculum for early childhood education and care 2022.

98 Telia. N.d. Digital parenting package (website).

Table 6. Actions/Measures for the general public

13. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Research-based campaigns, social media communication and articles on safety skills and sexual abuse for children and young people	Various organisations independently and in cooperation	The size of the target group reached The volumes of material downloaded
Implementation in 2022–2025		
<p>National Audiovisual Institute, Finnish National Agency for Education, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: National operators will produce publications and update website materials, as well as cooperate with various organisations in campaigns related to safety skills education and the prevention of sexual abuse.</p> <p>Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters and Save the Children: Campaigns will focus on different topics related to the prevention of sexual abuse in different years.</p> <p>Protect Children: Making Online Road Safety an established part of the annual digital traffic campaigns. Producing new materials to increase awareness.</p>		
14. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
<p>The themes of the Lanzarote Convention will be raised at least once in the following connections during the 2022–2025 period of the action plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 9 February, during the international Safer Internet Day, which is celebrated as part of the Media Literacy Week, with the goal of promoting a safer and more responsible use of technology and phones. • On 18 November, the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, which coincides with the Child Rights Week. 	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finnish National Agency for Education, non-governmental organisations and their cooperation partners, companies	The theme days actually organised
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Cooperation will be carried out and communication will be coordinated with the implementation of the National Child Strategy and the implementation of the Istanbul Convention. The campaign materials provided by the Council of Europe will be used as appropriate for the Finnish context and within the limits of translation resources.		

6.6 Article 9 Participation of children, the private sector, the media and civil society

“1. Each Party shall encourage the participation of children, according to their evolving capacity, in the development and the implementation of state policies, programmes or others initiatives concerning the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children.

2. Each Party shall encourage the private sector, in particular the information and communication technology sector, the tourism and travel industry and the banking and finance sectors, as well as civil society, to participate in the elaboration and implementation of policies to prevent sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children and to implement internal norms through self-regulation or co-regulation.

3. Each Party shall encourage the media to provide appropriate information concerning all aspects of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, with due respect for the independence of the media and freedom of the press.

4. Each Party shall encourage the financing, including, where appropriate, by the creation of funds, of the projects and programmes carried out by civil society aiming at preventing and protecting children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.”

Ongoing work

Finland is funding the UNICEF’s two-year AI for Children project⁹⁹. In the context of the project, and with Finland’s support and guidance, UNICEF will draw up global policy guidance on how children and their rights must be taken into account in artificial intelligence systems. The project is a channel for multi-participant efforts that will help states, organisations, companies and other parties that use and develop AI to pay attention to children’s needs and rights .

The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, the Pesäpuu organisation and the Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters have jointly organised several annual Violence forums in early August, with a different theme each year. At the Violence forum, themes can be addressed jointly with children and young people. When discussing very sensitive matters, it is particularly important to organise the peer meetings ethically and safely. Attention must be paid to the potential activation of symptoms caused by questions

99 Unicef. N.d.a. All for children (website).

related to the topic, and a plan must be made for the provision of psycho-social support, if required.

Other examples of work carried out by the private sector and the media include the following:

- Save the Children promotes the Children’s Rights Business Principles¹⁰⁰ in companies. The implementation of the Lanzarote Convention is also promoted as part of this business cooperation.
- The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters has conducted a survey of dating abuse among children and young people. Sexual abuse plays a key role. The resulting publication¹⁰¹ also contains children’s and young people’s own descriptions of the topic.
- Protect Children has developed art workshops related to the Online Road Safety media education which offer children the opportunity to use art to express their ideas based on the traffic light model. The workshops begin with a media education session. The model can be transferred to early childhood education and care and the first and second grades of basic education. With the parents’ consent, the children’s artworks can be used to demonstrate children’s voices through art. A children’s art exhibition related to the Lanzarote Convention would raise awareness among the general public. Protect Children carried out a digital exhibition due to the Covid-19 restrictions.
- The Nuortennetti youth website⁴¹ maintained by the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare is a website open to all. Young people can also contribute to its content with topics that they find to be important. Young people produce content for the site and take part in the discussions conducted on the site on topics such as sexual harassment, solicitation, sexual abuse and safe media use. The volunteer editors (adolescents) also administer the Nuortennetti social media channels (Instagram, TikTok, Discord) and produce content for them.

100 Unicef, UN Global Compact & Save the Children (Eds.). 2012. Children’s Rights and Business Principles.

101 Kovanen, T. 2019. Seurustelun ei kuulu satuttaa. Suomalaisten nuorten kokemuksia seurusteluväkivallasta [Dating is not supposed to hurt. Finnish adolescents’ experiences of dating abuse] (online publication 9 December 2019). Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters.

- The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare annually coordinates the Finnish participants to the international BIK (Better Internet for Kids¹⁰²) Youth seminar, where young people get to express their ideas and experiences about safe media use.
- Telia strives to support digital participation and the promotion of equality, especially concerning population groups that are in a weaker position in terms of digitalisation. The company has for many years worked in close cooperation with Save the Children to promote children's rights in digital environments, such as the right to privacy, information and participation, play and leisure, protection and wellbeing. This cooperation has resulted in support material for parents and handbooks for media education and for supporting children. The parties also promote children's, parents' and teachers' skills and ability to ensure online safety and data protection with the help of workshops, handbooks and videos, for example. The cooperation also extends to e-sports, where Telia and Save the Children jointly promote responsible gaming. Their jointly drafted principles for responsible gaming are one example of this. Telia also trains its staff to increase their awareness and understanding of children's rights in digital environments.

Table 7. Actions/Participation of children, the private sector, the media and civil society

15. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Choose sexual abuse as one of the themes for adolescents' peer meetings at the Violence forum for young people.	Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finnish National Agency for Education, non-governmental organisations.	The theme being discussed at the forum
Implementation in 2022–2025		
The theme will be implemented at least once during the action plan period.		
The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters: Making the topic a theme of the Violence forum and, through the forum, conveying the message to adults and professionals in cooperation with other stakeholders.		

102 Better Internet for Kids (BIK). N.d. Creating a safer and better internet for children and young people (website).

6.7 Article 10 National measures of coordination and collaboration

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary measures to ensure the co-ordination on a national or local level between the different agencies in charge of the protection from, the prevention of and the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, notably the education sector, the health sector, the social services and the law-enforcement and judicial authorities.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to set up or designate:

(a) independent competent national or local institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, ensuring that they are provided with specific resources and responsibilities;

(a) mechanisms for data collection or focal points, at the national or local levels and in collaboration with civil society, for the purpose of observing and evaluating the phenomenon of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, with due respect for the requirements of personal data protection.

3. Each Party shall encourage co-operation between the competent state authorities, civil society and the private sector, in order to better prevent and combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children.”

Ongoing work

The National Youth Work and Youth Policy Programme 2020–2023³⁴ includes a measure for preventing child and youth grooming. An inter-ministerial coordination project has been set up for this purpose. The measures include improving young people’s and guardians’ digital skills and understanding of the digital environment, using media education to build knowledge and developing concrete practices for guiding and teaching young people, their guardians and those who work with young people to operate in the multimedia world with greater safety, awareness and knowledge of their rights. The measures of different administrative branches will be coordinated in order to identify long-term and effective operating models and to support the appropriate targeting of government appropriations.

In the context of the health and social services reform, it is important to ensure the continuity of multisectoral cooperation. The 2022–2025 action plan for the Istanbul Convention also includes a measure related to the topic, according to which existing

guidelines on the right to information of professionals involved in violence work will be expanded to promote multisectoral cooperation, and current legislation will be reviewed to determine any need for amendments concerning the right to information. This part of the action plan for the Istanbul Convention also promotes the efforts related to the Lanzarote Convention.

The City of Helsinki is an example of cooperation spanning an area comparable to a wellbeing services county. The Social Services and Health Care Division is part of the working group for intimate partner violence included in the City's network for the promotion of wellbeing and health. The working group coordinates measures for preventing violence city-wide. As of 10 January 2022, the City of Helsinki has a coordinator for intimate partner violence, whose contribution further enhances the network's operations across the city. In 2021, the City of Helsinki also joined the UNICEF-led Child-Friendly Cities Initiative¹⁰³, which is based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and especially focuses on enforcing the rights of children and young people in a vulnerable position. Activities were launched with a survey of the present state of affairs, and in that context, addressing violence, bullying and harassment was pinpointed as a city-wide area of development. Schools and other educational institutions in Helsinki carry out an anti-bullying programme, ABP13¹⁰⁴, in multisectoral cooperation. The programme offers a toolkit for preventing, intervening in and following up on bullying.

Information exchange between authorities has been improved since 2019 by establishing LASTA screening activities, part of the Barnahus project, on a firmer footing⁵³. The efforts have spread into new areas in 2019–2021, but the work has also made clear that legislation regulating information exchange poses a number of challenges and is ambiguous. For example, questions have arisen concerning the right to share essential health-related background information with child welfare and the police in the context of multisectoral cooperation. Uncertainties such as these may make it more difficult to determine the need for a pre-trial investigation and to form an overall picture of the child's situation. As part of the Barnahus activities and with the support of the Commission's technical support instrument, a report will be prepared in 2021–2023 on any required legislative amendments related to information exchange.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3f**.

103 Unicef. N.d.b. Municipalities involved in the Child-Friendly Cities Initiative (website).

104 City of Helsinki. N.d. Anti-bullying programme (website)

Table 8. Actions/National measures of coordination and collaboration

16. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
A report will be drawn up on any required legislative amendments concerning information exchange.	Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare:	A summary of the state of legislation and required amendments has been published and presented to the key stakeholders by 2023.
Implementation in 2022–2025		
The Barnahus project and representatives of the Council of Europe will jointly draw up the report by the end of 2023.		

PART 2

Protection



7 Protecting the rights of child victims of sexual violence

7.1 Article 11 Principles

“1. Each Party shall establish effective social programmes and set up multidisciplinary structures to provide the necessary support for victims, their close relatives and for any person who is responsible for their care.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that when the age of the victim is uncertain and there are reasons to believe that the victim is a child, the protection and assistance measures provided for children shall be accorded to him or her pending verification of his or her age.”

Ongoing work

In 2021–2023, participants in the Barnahus project will continue to model service pathways and spread effective psycho-social methods suitable for victims of sexual offences (incl. an evidence-based care model (TF-CBT)) in accordance with the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan. A new year-long training for approximately 35 participants was launched in 2021. To support implementation, in spring 2022, regional TF-CBT coordinators will be offered training in service guidance and in supporting the method's establishment. More national supervisors and TF-CBT instructors (in addition to the present two instructors) will be needed to ensure that expertise does not rely solely on instructors from other countries.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3g**.

Table 9. Actions/Principles of protection

17. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Draw up a plan and provide training for national TF-CBT coordinators/supervisors and national instructors.	Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare	The network of trained TF-CBT supervisors and the number of qualified instructors trained by the end of 2024
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: Mainly responsibility for the training of national TF-CBT supervisors and instructors through Barnahus activities in 2022–2024		
18. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Organise peer support groups for parents or guardians whose child has been a victim of sexual offence.	Municipalities, wellbeing services counties, organisations	- Number of participants - Customer feedback
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Protect Children and MIELI Mental Health Finland: Will organise peer support groups in 2021 to help families and parents support a child who has become a victim of sexual offence. The goal is to make these peer groups an established part of the basic operations of Protect Children.		

7.2 Article 12 Reporting suspicion of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the confidentiality rules imposed by internal law on certain professionals called upon to work in contact with children do not constitute an obstacle to the possibility, for those professionals, of their reporting to the services responsible for child protection any situation where they have reasonable grounds for believing that a child is the victim of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to encourage any person who knows about or suspects, in good faith, sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children to report these facts to the competent services.

Ongoing work

The duty to notify child welfare is discussed in chapter 3 (see p. 14–17). In view of implementation, it is essential to continue to increase awareness of the duty to notify and

of how anyone can report a suspected offence. Municipalities and the future wellbeing services counties, among others, play an important role in this.

Parties that interact with people in acute crises, such as social and crisis emergency services, Victim Support Finland, the Nollalinja helpline, and homes and shelters for mothers and children, can provide victims and people close to them important initial information about filing a report. Many organisations engage in extensive influencing work to reduce hidden crime and to encourage people to report child sexual abuse to the police. For example, the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare's phone and chat hotline helps children and young people report sexual abuse to the authorities¹⁰⁵. If required, the League's employee can help the child contact the emergency response centre through a group call. The League's phone and chat service for parents, in turn, helps parents file a report¹⁰⁶.

As part of the operations of the Centre of Expertise for Digital Youth Work, Koordinaatti, a centre of expertise in youth information and counselling, coordinates cooperation within the forum for online activities targeting young people. The forum comprises nearly 60 organisations, all of which carry out online activities involving children and young people. The parties involved have observed challenges in reporting suspected sexual abuse to the police. Therefore, the forum has focused on cooperation with the police and has drawn up common guidelines for reporting suspected offences.

The Nettivihje hotline²⁶, maintained by Save the Children, offers citizens an important channel for reporting observations of child sexual abuse. Save the Children communicates actively to encourage anyone who knows or suspects, in good faith, that a child has experienced sexual abuse to report such information through the Nettivihje hotline or directly to the police. Save the Children engages in hotline operations, within the limits of Finnish legislation, in cooperation with the National Bureau of Investigation, the international network of hotlines (INHOPE¹⁰⁷) and Interpol.

The information provided by Save the Children's Nettivihje hotline is also essential to the CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) team operating at the Cybercrime Centre of the National Bureau of Investigation. In addition to maintaining cyber security, the team works to prevent child sexual offences online. Among other things, the CSE team annually handles thousands of tips, disclosures and reports provided by national and international

105 Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2022a. Phone service for children and young people (website).

106 Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2022b. Phone service for parents (website).

107 INHOPE. N.d. A Global Network. Fighting Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM, website).

operators and service providers concerning suspected child sexual offences and the distribution of child sexual abuse material (CSAM).

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3h**.

Table 10. Actions/Reporting suspicion of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse

19. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Pay attention to the duty to notify in continuing education for professionals.	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finnish National Agency for Education, municipalities, wellbeing services counties and organisations	Number of training events provided
Implementation in 2022–2025		
General information about the duty to notify will be produced for the websites of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare and the Finnish National Agency for Education and will be included in various forms of training. Municipalities and future wellbeing services counties will also be encouraged to include this information in their training.		

7.3 Article 13 Helplines

“Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to encourage and support the setting up of information services, such as telephone or Internet helplines, to provide advice to callers, even confidentially or with due regard for their anonymity.”

Ongoing work

Children and young people are met in connection with various phone and chat helplines provided by municipalities, parishes and organisations. It is important to ensure that children and young people receive competent support and guidance, whatever the service, and that the threshold for contacting is low. Anonymity may make it easier for people to contact a helpline and discuss matters. Access from the helplines to the service

system and to help provided by health and social services professionals must be ensured so that children and young people can get support as seamlessly as possible.

Koordinaatti is one of the stakeholders promoting smooth services. It is a centre of expertise in youth information and counselling, which annually trains youth work professionals in guidance and counselling work and offers expertise in online interaction with young people. Measures related to boosting competence are available free of charge to all organisations working with youth.¹⁰⁸

The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare maintains a phone service¹⁰³ and chat service¹⁰⁹ for children and young people, which compile large amounts of spontaneous information about the experiences of children and young people, including sexual abuse and harassment. Both statistical and qualitative data are systematically collected from these interactions. Sexual harassment and abuse come up weekly in the phone and chat service of the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. The anonymous phone and chat service for children and young people helps children and young people contact the authorities, and if required, the authorities can be contacted on behalf of the child or adolescent, if adequate personal data can be obtained. Children are also assisted in seeking help from professional services and in submitting a report to the authorities. If required, the League's employee can help the child contact the emergency response centre through a group call. The volunteers who work with the phone and chat hotlines for children, young people and parents¹⁰⁴ have been trained in questions concerning sexual abuse on the internet and in social media. Free and anonymous phone and message services are also available in Swedish for children and young people¹¹⁰.

Netari¹¹¹, an online youth centre maintained by Save the Children, provides young people a safe community where they can meet friends and reliable adults, discuss questions on their mind and receive personal support, as well as participate in youth centre activities if this would not be possible otherwise due to long distances or, for example, social fears.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3i**.

108 Koordinaatti. N.d.b. What is youth information and counselling (website).

109 Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2021b. Lasten ja nuorten chat (Chat for children and young people in Finnish) (website).

110 Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2020. Barn- och ungdomstelefonen samt nätbrevstjänsten (Chat and message services for children and young people in Swedish) (website).

111 Save the Children. N.d.d. Netari.fi (website).

Table 11. Actions/Hotlines

20. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Strengthen chat and phone helpline operators' awareness of sexual abuse.	Parties providing chat and phone helplines	Implementation of training
Implementation in 2022–2025		
<p>Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: Information and training material about sexual abuse is available in, for example, the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan from 2019 (chapters 10–12), various publications by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare^{78,81-85}, online materials, online courses⁷⁷ dealing with, for example interventions in violent behaviour, as well as Barnahus online schools.</p> <p>FINNISH NATIONAL AGENCY FOR EDUCATION: The website for equality work in educational institutions contains a great deal of material on preventing and dealing with sexual harassment. In 2020, the Finnish National Agency for Education also published a handbook⁷³ on preventing and addressing sexual abuse in schools and educational institutions. These materials can also be adapted to other environments.</p> <p>The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters: Training will be offered to professional chat respondents in 2022 to help them provide better chat service to children and young people in questions related to divorce and violence.</p>		

7.4 Article 14 Assistance to victims

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to assist victims, in the short and long term, in their physical and psycho-social recovery. Measures taken pursuant to this paragraph shall take due account of the child’s views, needs and concerns.

2. Each Party shall take measures, under the conditions provided for by its internal law, to co-operate with non-governmental organisations, other relevant organisations or other elements of civil society engaged in assistance to victims.

3. When the parents or persons who have care of the child are involved in his or her sexual exploitation or sexual abuse, the intervention procedures taken in application of Article 11, paragraph 1, shall include:

- the possibility of removing the alleged perpetrator;
- the possibility of removing the victim from his or her family environment. The conditions and duration of such removal shall be determined in accordance with the best interests of the child.

4. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the persons who are close to the victim may benefit, where appropriate, from therapeutic assistance, notably emergency psychological care.”

Ongoing work

Various measures for assisting victims are already under way. The implementation of the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan alone includes 12 related measures. However, sexual abuse must continue to be addressed as one of the forms of violence discussed with children.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3j**.

Table 12. Actions/Assistance to victims

21. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Address sexual abuse as one of the forms of violence discussed with children.	Municipalities, joint municipal authorities, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finnish National Agency for Education, organisations.	Success in bringing up the theme
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: National responsibility and coordination related to the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan, Barnahus activities, the systemic child welfare model and universal services (child health clinics, school and student health care) enable the topic to be promoted at the national level.		
Finnish National Agency for Education: A website on the prevention of bullying, harassment and violence will be completed by the end of 2022.		
The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters: A special theme that will be brought up with the Federation’s employees working with children as of 2022.		

Part 3

Promotion of national and international collaboration to combat child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse



8 Intervention programmes and measures

8.1 Articles 15–17

Article 15 General principles

“1. Each Party shall ensure or promote, in accordance with its internal law, effective intervention programmes or measures for the persons referred to in Article 16, paragraphs 1 and 2, with a view to preventing and minimising the risks of repeated offences of a sexual nature against children. Such programmes or measures shall be accessible at any time during the proceedings, inside and outside prison, according to the conditions laid down in internal law.

2. Each Party shall ensure or promote, in accordance with its internal law, the development of partnerships or other forms of cooperation between the competent authorities, in particular health-care services and the social services, and the judicial authorities and other bodies responsible for following the persons referred to in Article 16, paragraphs 1 and 2.

3. Each Party shall provide, in accordance with its internal law, for an assessment of the dangerousness and possible risks of repetition of the offences established in accordance with this Convention, by the persons referred to in Article 16, paragraphs 1 and 2, with the aim of identifying appropriate programmes or measures.

4. Each Party shall provide, in accordance with its internal law, for an assessment of the effectiveness of the programmes and measures implemented.”

Article 16 Recipients of intervention programmes and measures

“1. Each Party shall ensure, in accordance with its internal law, that persons subject to criminal proceedings for any of the offences established in accordance with this Convention may have access to the programmes or measures mentioned in Article 15, paragraph 1, under conditions which are neither detrimental nor contrary to the rights of the defence and to the requirements of a fair and impartial trial, and particularly with due respect for the rules governing the principle of the presumption of innocence.

2. Each Party shall ensure, in accordance with its internal law, that persons convicted of any of the offences established in accordance with this Convention may have access to the programmes or measures mentioned in Article 15, paragraph 1.

3. Each Party shall ensure, in accordance with its internal law, that intervention programmes or measures are developed or adapted to meet the developmental needs of children who sexually offend, including those who are below the age of criminal responsibility, with the aim of addressing their sexual behavioural problems.”

Article 17 Information and consent

“1. Each Party shall ensure, in accordance with its internal law, that the persons referred to in Article 16 to whom intervention programmes or measures have been proposed are fully informed of the reasons for the proposal and consent to the programme or measure in full knowledge of the facts.

2. Each Party shall ensure, in accordance with its internal law, that persons to whom intervention programmes or measures have been proposed may refuse them and, in the case of convicted persons, that they are made aware of the possible consequences a refusal might have.”

Ongoing work

Chapter 6.4 (Preventive intervention programmes or measures, 48) describes the Barnahus project model on effective care pathways for people with paedophilic and hebephiliac tendencies¹¹². One aspect that comes up in child welfare and Barnahus activities is that sometimes perpetrators themselves are minors, but the guidelines and operating models for such cases are inadequate.

According to Protect Children²⁸, a large share of users of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) have first come across CSAM when they were still children themselves. To prevent sexual offences, measures must be adopted at an early stage. In accordance with children’s rights, both child victims of sexual offences and child perpetrators of sexual offences/

112 Taivaloja N. & Nurminen N. 2020. “Tuki ja hoitomuodot sekä potentiaalisten lapsiin kohdistuvien seksuaalirikosten tekijöiden ehkäisevä kuntoutus [Support, forms of treatment and preventive rehabilitation of child sexual offenders]. In: Miten toteutuu väkivaltaa kokeneen lapsen psykososiaalinen tuki? – Tuki ja hoitomuodot sekä potentiaalisten lapsiin kohdistuvien seksuaalirikosten tekijöiden ehkäisevä kuntoutus. (Ed.) T. Laajasalo. THL Raportti 17:2020.

children with an elevated risk of committing violent crime must have access to low-threshold services.

According to children, sexual harassment and abuse occurs in all the places they move around in¹¹³. It has been found that in schools and educational institutions, pupils and students often experience sexual abuse and violence committed by another pupil or student, and this can be recurring. It is essential to pay attention to all the various environments where children and young people are active and the operating culture in each of these. How is sexual abuse observed, how is it discussed and what interventions are used? As described by the Finnish National Agency for Education¹¹⁴, to identify violence and its consequences, professionals in schools and educational institutions must be made aware of the phenomenon. The ERASE GBV project¹¹⁵, for example, has examined practices for dealing with violence in the education sector. Its online course on dealing with gender-based violence¹¹⁶ can be helpful for intervening in violence among children and young people. The course increases awareness of gender-based violence experienced by children and young people and provides tools for identifying violence and intervening in it. The course, offered on the website of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, is designed for the education sector and the health and social services sector. The Finnish Education Evaluation Centre is conducting an evaluation of anti-bullying methods, in which it collects information from pupils concerning their experiences of anti-bullying measures at schools. The evaluation will also provide information about the ways in which emotional and physical violence that occurs among children and young people at schools is addressed and how it is reduced.

Regional work to describe care pathways has been carried out in municipalities to help both victims and perpetrators find help. For example, the City of Turku has a working group for the prevention of sexual abuse, which has drawn up a local service map featuring operators that provide assistance to victims of sexual abuse in the Turku region, as well as operational guidelines for different situations. The service map explains

113 Youth participation work, Pesäpuu.

114 The Finnish National Agency for Education. N.d. Young people and gender-based violence – opportunities for encounters and intervention (website).

115 Tampere University. N.d.a. Sukupuolistunut väkivalta, vastuullisuus ja eettisesti kestävä toimijuus kouluissa ja kasvatusalalla [Gender-based violence, responsibility and ethically sustainable agency in schools and the education sector]. ERASE GBV (Education and Raising Awareness in Schools to Prevent and Encounter Gender-Based Violence. Developing and implementing a training programme for teachers and other professionals).

116 Erase GBV. N.d. Dealing with gender-based violence at schools, online course in Finnish. Verkkokoulut.thl.fi.

the situations in which different services are available and where to find additional information for one's own situation.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3k**.

Table 13. Actions/Intervention programmes and measures

22. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Intervene in violence involving young people in different operating environments by influencing their operating cultures.	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of the Interior, Finnish Institute For Health and Welfare, Finnish National Agency For Education	- The number of online course participants
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Education and Culture, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finnish National Agency for Education: Make the online course offered by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare concerning young people and gender-based violence (“Nuoret ja sukupuolistunut väkivalta – kohtaamisen ja puuttumisen mahdollisuudet”) better known among professionals and share the good experiences gained in the project on a systemic approach for schools (“Systeminen työote kouluissa”), carried out by the Sote Academy of the University of Turku.		
Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Education and Culture, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: Multisectoral and multiprofessional anchor work promotes the wellbeing of adolescents and prevent crime at an early stage. Anchor work is carried out in a team with experts from the police, social services, healthcare services and youth services. The team meets the adolescent and their family as early as possible, so that the adolescent can be supported and referred to other help or support, if required. ¹¹⁷		
University of Turku, Ministry of Education and Culture: The goal of the KiVa programme is to prevent bullying, effectively intervene in bullying and continuously monitor the situation. In Finland, the KiVa programme encompasses more than 900 primary schools. The programme has also been adopted in more than 20 other countries. ¹¹⁸		

117 Ankkuri. n.d. To promote the wellbeing of adolescents. Early stage crime prevention. Multiprofessional. (website)

118 KiVa. N.d. KiVa (website). University of Turku.

Children of the Station: The organisation follows various approaches for preventing and intervening in violence among children and young people, and for solving violent situations. Street mediation, for example, is a form of mediation in which youth work professionals take the role of mediators. The method can be used to resolve various types of conflicts. B-Stop activities focus on challenging and persistent bullying at school. In conflict resolution, an appointed professional creates a network for solving and monitoring the situation. Project Pasila works with minors involved in criminal activities, while Project Ripa aims to curb spirals of crime and substance abuse among young people with the help of professionals, as well as the knowledge of trained experts by experience.¹¹⁹

All operators: Pay attention to the operating cultures of the environments in which children and young people spend time. Each operator can contribute to strengthening an operating culture that is non-violent and safe for children and that intervenes in violence among children and young people.

23. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Compile recent research and draw up a roadmap for care programmes.	The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, municipalities, wellbeing services counties, organisations	Amount of data Resulting material

Implementation in 2022–2025

Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: Carried out as part of Barnahus activities. Violence among children and young people will also be taken into consideration. The roadmap includes psychosocial support.

Protect Children: Will conduct aReDirection survey in extensive academic cooperation involving international researchers and universities about people who use and distribute child sexual abuse material (CSAM).

24. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Strengthen the influencing work and communication of stakeholders concerning the importance of checking the criminal record certificate of adults who participate in children's hobbies and leisure activities.	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, organisations	Influencing work carried out

Implementation in 2022–2025

All the stakeholders can contribute to the influencing work and communication concerning the importance of checking the criminal record certificate of adults who participate in children's hobbies and leisure activities.

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: Will strengthen communication and promote measures to ensure that the criminal record certificates of the staff and holders of positions of trust in religious communities/churches are checked, as well as monitor and assess the measures in accordance with the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan.

119 Children of the Station. N.d. Street mediation, B-Stop and Project Pasila (website).

9 Substantive criminal law

9.1 Articles 18–29

Sexual abuse

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the following intentional conduct is criminalised:

- (a) engaging in sexual activities with a child who, according to the relevant provisions of national law, has not reached the legal age for sexual activities;
- (b) engaging in sexual activities with a child where:
 - use is made of coercion, force or threats; or
 - abuse is made of a recognised position of trust, authority or influence over the child, including within the family; or
 - abuse is made of a particularly vulnerable situation of the child, notably because of a mental or physical disability or a situation of dependence.

2. For the purpose of paragraph 1 above, each Party shall decide the age below which it is prohibited to engage in sexual activities with a child.

3. The provisions of paragraph 1.a are not intended to govern consensual sexual activities between minors.”

Article 19 Offences concerning child prostitution

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the following intentional conduct is criminalised:

- a. recruiting a child into prostitution or causing a child to participate in prostitution;
- b. coercing a child into prostitution or profiting from or otherwise exploiting a child for such purposes;
- c. having recourse to child prostitution.

2. For the purpose of the present article, the term “child prostitution” shall mean the fact of using a child for sexual activities where money or any other form of remuneration or consideration is given or promised as payment, regardless if this payment, promise or consideration is made to the child or to a third person.”

Article 20 Offences concerning child pornography

"1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the following intentional conduct, when committed without right, is criminalised:

- (a) producing child pornography;
- (b) offering or making available child pornography;
- (c) distributing or transmitting child pornography;
- (d) procuring child pornography for oneself or for another person;
- (e) possessing child pornography;
- (f) knowingly obtaining access, through information and communication technologies, to child pornography.

2. For the purpose of the present article, the term "child pornography" shall mean any material that visually depicts a child engaged in real or simulated sexually explicit conduct or any depiction of a child's sexual organs for primarily sexual purposes.

3. Each Party may reserve the right not to apply, in whole or in part, paragraph 1.a and e to the production and possession of pornographic material:

- consisting exclusively of simulated representations or realistic images of a nonexistent child;
- involving children who have reached the age set in application of Article 18, paragraph 2, where these images are produced and possessed by them with their consent and solely for their own private use.

4. Each Party may reserve the right not to apply, in whole or in part, paragraph 1.f.

Article 21 Offences concerning the participation of a child in pornographic performances

"1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the following intentional conduct is criminalised:

- (a) recruiting a child into participating in pornographic performances or causing a child to participate in such performances;
- (b) coercing a child into participating in pornographic performances or profiting from or otherwise exploiting a child for such purposes;
- (c) knowingly attending pornographic performances involving the participation of children.

2. Each Party may reserve the right to limit the application of paragraph 1.c to cases where children have been recruited or coerced in conformity with paragraph 1.a or b."

Article 22 Corruption of children

“Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to criminalise the intentional causing, for sexual purposes, of a child who has not reached the age set in application of Article 18, paragraph 2, to witness sexual abuse or sexual activities, even without having to participate.

Article 23 Solicitation of children for sexual purposes

“Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to criminalise the intentional proposal, through information and communication technologies, of an adult to meet a child who has not reached the age set in application of Article 18, paragraph 2, for the purpose of committing any of the offences established in accordance with Article 18, paragraph 1.a, or Article 20, paragraph 1.a, against him or her, where this proposal has been followed by material acts leading to such a meeting.”

Article 24 Aiding or abetting and attempt

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish as criminal offences, when committed intentionally, aiding or abetting the commission of any of the offences established in accordance with this Convention.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish as criminal offences, when committed intentionally, attempts to commit the offences established in accordance with this Convention.

3. Each Party may reserve the right not to apply, in whole or in part, paragraph 2 to offences established in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 1.b, d, e and f, Article 21, paragraph 1.c, Article 22 and Article 23.

Article 25 Jurisdiction

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over any offence established in accordance with this Convention, when the offence is committed:

- (a) in its territory; or
- (b) on board a ship flying the flag of that Party; or
- (c) on board an aircraft registered under the laws of that Party; or
- (b) by one of its nationals; or
- (e) by a person who has his or her habitual residence in its territory.

2. Each Party shall endeavour to take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over any offence established in accordance with this

Convention where the offence is committed against one of its nationals or a person who has his or her habitual residence in its territory.

3. Each Party may, at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, by a declaration addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, declare that it reserves the right not to apply or to apply only in specific cases or conditions the jurisdiction rules laid down in paragraph 1.e of this article.

4. For the prosecution of the offences established in accordance with Articles 18, 19, 20, paragraph 1.a, and 21, paragraph 1.a and b, of this Convention, each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that its jurisdiction as regards paragraph 1.d is not subordinated to the condition that the acts are criminalised at the place where they were performed.

5. Each Party may, at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, by a declaration addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, declare that it reserves the right to limit the application of paragraph 4 of this article, with regard to offences established in accordance with Article 18, paragraph 1.b, second and third indents, to cases where its national has his or her habitual residence in its territory.

6. For the prosecution of the offences established in accordance with Articles 18, 19, 20, paragraph 1.a, and 21 of this Convention, each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that its jurisdiction as regards paragraphs 1.d and e is not subordinated to the condition that the prosecution can only be initiated following a report from the victim or a denunciation from the State of the place where the offence was committed.

7. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over the offences established in accordance with this Convention, in cases where an alleged offender is present on its territory and it does not extradite him or her to another Party, solely on the basis of his or her nationality.

8. When more than one Party claims jurisdiction over an alleged offence established in accordance with this Convention, the Parties involved shall, where appropriate, consult with a view to determining the most appropriate jurisdiction for prosecution.

9. Without prejudice to the general rules of international law, this Convention does not exclude any criminal jurisdiction exercised by a Party in accordance with its internal law.

Article 26 Corporate liability

"1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that a legal person can be held liable for an offence established in accordance with this Convention, committed for its benefit by any natural person, acting either individually or as part of an organ of the legal person, who has a leading position within the legal person, based on:

- (a) power of representation of the legal person;
- (b) an authority to take decisions on behalf of the legal person;
- (c) an authority to exercise control within the legal person.

2. Apart from the cases already provided for in paragraph 1, each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that a legal person can be held liable where the lack of supervision or control by a natural person referred to in paragraph 1 has made possible the commission of an offence established in accordance with this Convention for the benefit of that legal person by a natural person acting under its authority.

3. Subject to the legal principles of the Party, the liability of a legal person may be criminal, civil or administrative.

4. Such liability shall be without prejudice to the criminal liability of the natural persons who have committed the offence.

Article 27 Sanctions and measures

"1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the offences established in accordance with this Convention are punishable by effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions, taking into account their seriousness. These sanctions shall include penalties involving deprivation of liberty which can give rise to extradition.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that legal persons held liable in accordance with Article 26 shall be subject to effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions which shall include monetary criminal or non-criminal fines and may include other measures, in particular:

- (a) exclusion from entitlement to public benefits or aid;

- (b) temporary or permanent disqualification from the practice of commercial activities;
 - (c) placing under judicial supervision;
 - (d) judicial winding-up order.
3. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to:
- (a) provide for the seizure and confiscation of:
 - goods, documents and other instrumentalities used to commit the offences established in accordance with this Convention or to facilitate their commission;
 - proceeds derived from such offences or property the value of which corresponds to such proceeds;
 - (b) enable the temporary or permanent closure of any establishment used to carry out any of the offences established in accordance with this Convention, without prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties, or to deny the perpetrator, temporarily or permanently, the exercise of the professional or voluntary activity involving contact with children in the course of which the offence was committed.
4. Each Party may adopt other measures in relation to perpetrators, such as withdrawal of parental rights or monitoring or supervision of convicted persons.
5. Each Party may establish that the proceeds of crime or property confiscated in accordance with this article can be allocated to a special fund in order to finance prevention and assistance programmes for victims of any of the offences established in accordance with this Convention.”

Article 28 Aggravating circumstances

“Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the following circumstances, in so far as they do not already form part of the constituent elements of the offence, may, in conformity with the relevant provisions of internal law, be taken into consideration as aggravating circumstances in the determination of the sanctions in relation to the offences established in accordance with this Convention:

- (a) the offence seriously damaged the physical or mental health of the victim;
- (b) the offence was preceded or accompanied by acts of torture or serious violence;
- (c) the offence was committed against a particularly vulnerable victim;

- (d) the offence was committed by a member of the family, a person cohabiting with the child or a person having abused his or her authority;
- (e) the offence was committed by several people acting together;
- (f) the offence was committed within the framework of a criminal organisation;
- (g) the perpetrator has previously been convicted of offences of the same nature.”

Article 29 Previous convictions

“Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to provide for the possibility to take into account final sentences passed by another Party in relation to the offences established in accordance with this Convention when determining the sanctions.”

Ongoing work

The obligations under Articles 18–29 and 33 of the Lanzarote Convention have been implemented (government proposal HE 282/2010)¹²⁰. The act on the implementation of the provisions of a legislative nature in the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse entered into force in Finland on 1 October 2011.

The comprehensive reform of legislation on sexual offences (see Chapter 6) will include an assessment of any required legislative amendments to criminal law concerning the obligations under these articles. Training on such legislative amendments will be offered to criminal investigation and criminal procedure authorities prior to the act entering into force.

Regarding Article 28 (Aggravating circumstances), the government has submitted a proposal that would make the committing of an offence based on the victim’s gender an aggravating circumstance (government proposal HE 7/2021¹²¹). The proposal is being considered by Parliament.

An action plan against human trafficking was approved by government resolution in spring 2021¹²². The action plan includes a total of 55 actions. As stated in it, child victims

120 Parliament of Finland. 2011. Government proposal to Parliament on the acceptance of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse and related acts (HE 282/2010, online publication in Finnish).

121 Parliament of Finland. 2021. Government proposal HE 7/2021. Government proposal to Parliament for an act on the amendment of the Criminal Code (2 December 2021, online publication).

122 Ministry of Justice. 2020. Anti-trafficking action (OM031:00/2020).

of human trafficking are afforded special protection. The plan also includes actions that mention children, in particular. The goal of the action plan is to incorporate anti-trafficking efforts focusing on children and young people in the development work of centres of expertise and support and to ensure that this development work is carried out jointly with the working group monitoring the implementation of the action plan. Moreover, to increase the effectiveness of the prevention and investigation of human trafficking offences, the modelling developed in connection with the programme for tackling the shadow economy will be leveraged, and particular attention will be paid to child trafficking offences when preparing models. Ensuring that anti-trafficking work is incorporated into the implementation of the National Child Strategy is also included as an action.

At the EU level, efforts are under way to establish long-term regulation for service providers, aimed at preventing child sexual offences. A proposal for legislation is expected in 2022.¹²³

Save the Children maintains a hotline (Nettivistihje), where cases or suspicions of grooming (solicitation of children for sexual purposes) can be reported. Any activity assessed to be illegal is reported to the National Bureau of Investigation. The hotline professionals from Save the Children also have a duty to notify child welfare. Save the Children actively disseminates information about the Nettivistihje hotline, how to submit a report and what to include in it to ensure that the child and their family receive timely and appropriate assistance. Suspicions of human trafficking related to child sexual abuse can also be reported through the Nettivistihje hotline.²⁶

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3I**.

123 Insight Eu Monitoring. 2021. EU Commission welcomes political agreement on interim rules for voluntary detection measures by online service providers to combat sexual abuse of children.

Table 14. Actions/Substantive criminal law

25. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Increase cooperation between low-threshold services and awareness of the link between child sexual abuse and human trafficking.	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Justice/Action plan against trafficking in human beings, Assistance system for victims of human trafficking, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, municipalities/ wellbeing services counties, organisation	- Guidance through information carried out in practice
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: Will cooperate with the parties responsible for the Action plan against trafficking in human beings. Will strive to jointly strengthen the awareness of professionals in low-threshold services about the link between child sexual abuse and human trafficking and provide guidance concerning the duty to notify.		

10 Investigation, prosecution and procedural law

10.1 Articles 30–37

Article 30 Principles

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that investigations and criminal proceedings are carried out in the best interests and respecting the rights of the child.

2. Each Party shall adopt a protective approach towards victims, ensuring that the investigations and criminal proceedings do not aggravate the trauma experienced by the child and that the criminal justice response is followed by assistance, where appropriate.

3. Each Party shall ensure that the investigations and criminal proceedings are treated as priority and carried out without any unjustified delay.

4. Each Party shall ensure that the measures applicable under the current chapter are not prejudicial to the rights of the defence and the requirements of a fair and impartial trial, in conformity with Article 6 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

5. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures, in conformity with the fundamental principles of its internal law:

- to ensure an effective investigation and prosecution of offences established in accordance with this Convention, allowing, where appropriate, for the possibility of covert operations;
- to enable units or investigative services to identify the victims of the offences established in accordance with Article 20, in particular by analysing child pornography material, such as photographs and audiovisual recordings transmitted or made available through the use of information and communication technologies.”

Article 31 General measures of protection

"1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to protect the rights and interests of victims, including their special needs as witnesses, at all stages of investigations and criminal proceedings, in particular by:

- (a) informing them of their rights and the services at their disposal and, unless they do not wish to receive such information, the follow-up given to their complaint, the charges, the general progress of the investigation or proceedings, and their role therein as well as the outcome of their cases;
- (b) ensuring, at least in cases where the victims and their families might be in danger, that they may be informed, if necessary, when the person prosecuted or convicted is released temporarily or definitively;
- (c) enabling them, in a manner consistent with the procedural rules of internal law, to be heard, to supply evidence and to choose the means of having their views, needs and concerns presented, directly or through an intermediary, and considered;
- (d) providing them with appropriate support services so that their rights and interests are duly presented and taken into account;
- (e) protecting their privacy, their identity and their image and by taking measures in accordance with internal law to prevent the public dissemination of any information that could lead to their identification;
- (f) providing for their safety, as well as that of their families and witnesses on their behalf, from intimidation, retaliation and repeat victimisation;
- (g) ensuring that contact between victims and perpetrators within court and law enforcement agency premises is avoided, unless the competent authorities establish otherwise in the best interests of the child or when the investigations or proceedings require such contact.

2. Each Party shall ensure that victims have access, as from their first contact with the competent authorities, to information on relevant judicial and administrative proceedings.

3. Each Party shall ensure that victims have access, provided free of charge where warranted, to legal aid when it is possible for them to have the status of parties to criminal proceedings.

4. Each Party shall provide for the possibility for the judicial authorities to appoint a special representative for the victim when, by internal law, he or she may have the status of a party to the criminal proceedings and where the holders of parental

responsibility are precluded from representing the child in such proceedings as a result of a conflict of interest between them and the victim.

5. Each Party shall provide, by means of legislative or other measures, in accordance with the conditions provided for by its internal law, the possibility for groups, foundations, associations or governmental or nongovernmental organisations, to assist and/or support the victims with their consent during criminal proceedings concerning the offences established in accordance with this Convention.

6. Each Party shall ensure that the information given to victims in conformity with the provisions of this article is provided in a manner adapted to their age and maturity and in a language that they can understand."

Article 32 Initiation of proceedings

"Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that investigations or prosecution of offences established in accordance with this Convention shall not be dependent upon the report or accusation made by a victim, and that the proceedings may continue even if the victim has withdrawn his or her statements."

Article 33 Statute of limitation

"Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the statute of limitation for initiating proceedings with regard to the offences established in accordance with Articles 18, 19, paragraph 1.a and b, and 21, paragraph 1.a and b, shall continue for a period of time sufficient to allow the efficient starting of proceedings after the victim has reached the age of majority and which is commensurate with the gravity of the crime in question."

Article 34 Investigations

"1. Each Party shall adopt such measures as may be necessary to ensure that persons, units or services in charge of investigations are specialised in the field of combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children or that persons are trained for this purpose. Such units or services shall have adequate financial resources.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that uncertainty as to the actual age of the victim shall not prevent the initiation of criminal investigations."

Article 35 Interviews with the child

"1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that:

- (a) interviews with the child take place without unjustified delay after the facts have been reported to the competent authorities;
- (b) interviews with the child take place, where necessary, in premises designed or adapted for this purpose;
- (c) interviews with the child are carried out by professionals trained for this purpose;
- (d) the same persons, if possible and where appropriate, conduct all interviews with the child;
- (e) the number of interviews is as limited as possible and in so far as strictly necessary for the purpose of criminal proceedings;
- (f) the child may be accompanied by his or her legal representative or, where appropriate, an adult of his or her choice, unless a reasoned decision has been made to the contrary in respect of that person.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that all interviews with the victim or, where appropriate, those with a child witness, may be videotaped and that these videotaped interviews may be accepted as evidence during the court proceedings, according to the rules provided by its internal law.

3. When the age of the victim is uncertain and there are reasons to believe that the victim is a child, the measures established in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be applied pending verification of his or her age.”

Article 36 Criminal court proceedings

“1. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures, with due respect for the rules governing the autonomy of legal professions, to ensure that training on children’s rights and sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children is available for the benefit of all persons involved in the proceedings, in particular judges, prosecutors and lawyers.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure, according to the rules provided by its internal law, that:

- (a) the judge may order the hearing to take place without the presence of the public;
- (b) the victim may be heard in the courtroom without being present, notably through the use of appropriate communication technologies.”

Article 37 Recording and storing of national data on convicted sexual offenders

“1. For the purposes of prevention and prosecution of the offences established in accordance with this Convention, each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to collect and store, in accordance with the relevant provisions on the protection of personal data and other appropriate rules and guarantees as prescribed by domestic law, data relating to the identity and to the genetic profile (DNA) of persons convicted of the offences established in accordance with this Convention.

2. Each Party shall, at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, communicate to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe the name and address of a single national authority in charge for the purposes of paragraph 1.

3. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the information referred to in paragraph 1 can be transmitted to the competent authority of another Party, in conformity with the conditions established in its internal law and the relevant international instruments.”

Ongoing work

The following acts, which implement the obligations set out in Articles 30, 31 and 36, are discussed in the government proposal on the acceptance of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse and related acts (HE 282/2010).

- Criminal Investigation Act (chapter 3, section 11; chapter 3, section 3, subsection 1; chapter 4, sections 7–10, 12, 13, 18 and 19; chapter 7, sections 10, 12, 14 and 21; chapter 9, section 4; chapter 11, sections 7, 9, and 9a)
- Coercive Measures Act (especially chapter 10, section 27)
- Criminal Procedure Act (chapter 1, section 6; chapter 2, sections 1a and 10; chapter 5, section 12)
- Act on the National Prosecution Authority (chapter 1, section 9)
- Act on Organising the Investigation of Sexual and Assault Offences against Children
- Act on the Publicity of Court Proceedings in General Courts (section 6, section 9 and section 15, subsection 1)
- Code of Judicial Procedure (chapter 17, section 24, subsection 3; chapter 17, section 51 and chapter 17, subsection 52)
- Imprisonment Act (chapter 19, section 4)
- Remand Imprisonment Act (chapter 16, section 1)

- Act on the Treatment of Persons in Police Custody (chapter 16, section 2)
- Act on the Openness of Government Activities (section 24)

Under Article 30, each party must ensure that the investigations and criminal proceedings are carried out without any unjustified delay. The Parliamentary Ombudsman has pointed out shortcomings in regulations on the duration of criminal offences against children. A working group of the Ministry of Justice examining the enhancement of the criminal procedure and amendments to the Criminal Investigation Act has assessed needs for legislative amendments in cases in which the complainant is under the age of 18, and the crime is one against life, health, privacy, peace, personal reputation, liberty or sexual self-determination, in which case criminal investigation and the consideration of charges must be carried out urgently and the main hearing held within 30 days of the date the case becomes pending. The working group has also assessed the need to require that investigators-in-charge be adequately familiar with offences against children, as well as questions concerning the assignment of a temporary trustee for complainants and witnesses under the age of 18. The working group's term ended on 31 December 2021. Its report will be circulated for comments in early 2022.

In the summer of 2020, the Ministry of Justice also appointed a working group to examine the needs for amendments to the Coercive Measures act and to carry out the required legislative amendments. The group's term ended on 31 December 2021. Its report will be circulated for comments until the end of March 2022.

Suspected crimes against children involve demanding criminal investigations carried out in cooperation with authorities from multiple sectors. Such crimes have special characteristics due to the vulnerability of children and because interviews with children also form part of the court proceedings. According to two recent reports, centralisation has a direct positive impact on the quality of investigations of crimes against children^{124, 125}. The achievement and maintenance of the required special competence call for centralisation and adequate resourcing at all levels of operations involved in the investigation of crimes against children. In addition, the notable increase in online sexual offences against children must be considered in the content of training and education. A

124 Lehtinen, M. & Rossi, M. 2021. Poliisin lapsirikostutinnan tila 2020. Report POL-2021-27495. Restricted use.

125 Fagerlund, M. & Toivonen, V-M. 2020. Rikosprosessin kesto lapsiin kohdistuvissa seksuaalirikoksissa [Duration of criminal proceedings relating to sexual offences against children]. Publications of the Government's analysis, assessment and research activities 2021:3.

handbook for the investigation of violent and sexual crimes against children (available in Finnish) was also published in January 2022¹²⁶.

In connection with the Barnahus project, a survey was carried out of the facilities in which child victims are heard. It was found that the facilities of police stations must be made appropriate for interviews with children. As recordings of child interviews are used as evidence in criminal proceedings, they must be of a high quality, which poses further requirements on the recording equipment.

Descriptions of the relevant actions included in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan^{11,12} can be found in **Appendix 3m**.

Table 15. Actions/Investigation, prosecution and procedural law

26. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Support the implementation of the plan drawn up in the Barnahus project concerning the trusteeship of children during criminal investigation. If required, the practices of appointing trustees nationwide will be harmonised and accelerated.	Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare, National Police Board, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training related to the trusteeship of children - Use of registers of national trustees and quality criteria for trusteeship, as well as the monitoring of these - Revision of the National Police Board's guidelines and implementation of any updates required to them
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: The action will be carried out at least partly in connection with Barnahus activities.		
Ministry of the Interior and National Police Board: Will ensure that the existing guidelines are up to date and take part in the organisation of joint training.		
27. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Develop and secure the investigation of crimes against children and the functioning of multiprofessional cooperation in cooperation with the national network for child crime investigation, as proposed in the Barnahus project.	National Police Board, Barnahus/police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of annual meetings of the national network Police departments with centralised operations and good cooperation networks: qualitative assessment and number Number of investigators and investigators-in-charge trained in and familiar with crimes against children per police department

126 Lehtinen, M. & Rossi, M. (Eds.). 2022. Käsikirja lapsiin kohdistuvien väkivalta- ja seksuaalirikosten tutkintaan [Handbook on the investigation of violent and sexual offences against children]. Publication by the National Police Board.

Implementation in 2022–2025

Ministry of the Interior and National Police Board: The criminal investigation of crimes against children will be regionally centralised in police departments, or special groups will be set up for it, and the group members' competence, the functioning of cooperation networks and other operating conditions will be ensured.

28. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Strengthen/develop the special competence required of those in charge of investigations of crimes against children.	National Police Board and Police University College	- Number of students trained per year - Development of professional expertise in connection with training (beginning and end), based on the feedback collected.

Implementation in 2022–2025

Ministry of the Interior and National Police Board: Operations will continue to be developed under the lead of the National Police Board in cooperation with the Barnahus project and the Police University College. Monitoring will be organised in connection with the follow-up survey related to the report on the current state of child crime investigation, prepared as part of the Barnahus project, and in connection with the National Police Board's annual monitoring.

29. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Continue to develop training focused on the prevention and investigation of online sexual offences against children and related child sexual abuse material. Ensure that training is provided.	National Police Board, Police University College	- Number of students trained per level of education and year - Development of professional expertise in connection with special training (beginning and end), based on the feedback collected.

Implementation in 2022–2025

Ministry of the Interior and National Police Board: Operations will continue to be developed under the lead of the National Police Board in cooperation with the Barnahus project and the Police University College. Monitoring will be organised in connection with the follow-up survey related to the report on the current state of child crime investigation, prepared as part of the Barnahus project, and in connection with the National Police Board's annual monitoring.

30 Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Ensure the development of cooperation among different authorities, in accordance with the Barnahus model, implement LASTA screening meetings at police departments and collect information on their use.	National Police Board, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare	- Number of police departments that engage in cooperation involving multiple authorities, in accordance with the Barnahus model - Number of LASTA screening meetings per police department Number of LASTA forms completed per police department

Implementation in 2022–2025

Ministry of the Interior and National Police Board: Operations will continue to be developed under the lead of the National Police Board in cooperation with the Barnahus project and the Police University College. Monitoring will be organised in connection with the follow-up survey related to the report on the current state of child crime investigation, prepared as part of the Barnahus project, and in connection with the National Police Board's annual monitoring.

31. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Conduct a detailed survey of the need and opportunity for centralised procurement of interview equipment and draw up a detailed proposal on the basis of the results.	Supported by the National Police Board, Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	- Completed survey
Implementation in 2022–2025		
Ministry of the Interior and National Police Board: Operations will continue to be developed under the lead of the National Police Board in cooperation with the Barnahus project. Monitoring will be organised in connection with the follow-up survey related to the report on the current state of child crime investigation, prepared as part of the Barnahus project.		

11 International co-operation

11.1 Article 38 General principles and measures for international co-operation

“1. The Parties shall co-operate with each other, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, and through the application of relevant applicable international and regional instruments, arrangements agreed on the basis of uniform or reciprocal legislation and internal laws, to the widest extent possible, for the purpose of:

- (a) preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children;
- (b) protecting and providing assistance to victims;
- (c) investigations or proceedings concerning the offences established in accordance with this Convention.

2. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that victims of an offence established in accordance with this Convention in the territory of a Party other than the one where they reside may make a complaint before the competent authorities of their State of residence.

3. If a Party that makes mutual legal assistance in criminal matters or extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty receives a request for legal assistance or extradition from a Party with which it has not concluded such a treaty, it may consider this Convention the legal basis for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters or extradition in respect of the offences established in accordance with this Convention.

4. Each Party shall endeavour to integrate, where appropriate, prevention and the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children in assistance programmes for development provided for the benefit of third states.”

Ongoing work

International cooperation is important, because online child sexual abuse does not stop at country borders. Finland should seek to be an active member of international networks and engage in influencing and communication, for example, to harmonise legislation concerning CSAM (child sexual abuse material) crimes in the EU.

Non-governmental organisations are also active stakeholders in international networks. For example:

- **Save the Children** participates in international cooperation through the INHOPE network¹⁰⁵ and cooperates with Interpol to accelerate the removal of CSAM from the internet, help the victims and catch the perpetrators. The organisation is involved in a development project in Burkina Faso, which addresses child sexual abuse.
- **Protect Children** carries out influencing work to harmonise legislation in the EU¹²⁷.

Table 16. Actions/International cooperation

32. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Provide Finnish professionals with international research and knowledge, engage in international cooperation and information exchange.	Ministries, organisations	Follow-up will be handled by the working group tasked with monitoring the implementation of this plan. The forms of international cooperation engaged in during the implementation period will be used as an indicator.
Implementation in 2022–2025		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the parties involved want to ensure that Finland is an active participant in key international networks focusing on child sexual abuse and that information from these networks can be made available to the working group monitoring the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention Action Plan. Through their activities, the parties strive to ensure that the authorities possess the latest technological resources. 		

127 The Protect Children Association. N.d.e. The Future of Online Child Protection in Europe (online publication).

12 Monitoring mechanism

12.1 Article 39 Committee of the Parties

“1. The Committee of the Parties shall be composed of representatives of the Parties to the Convention.

2. The Committee of the Parties shall be convened by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. Its first meeting shall be held within a period of one year following the entry into force of this Convention for the tenth signatory having ratified it. It shall subsequently meet whenever at least one third of the Parties or the Secretary General so requests.

3. The Committee of the Parties shall adopt its own rules of procedure.”

Ongoing work

The implementation of the Lanzarote Convention is monitored by a committee of the parties to the Convention, known as the Lanzarote Committee. This approach to monitoring differs from that of other human rights conventions and declarations of the Council of Europe and the United Nations, which are monitored by independent and impartial bodies. According to the Lanzarote Committee’s Rules of Procedure, monitoring is based on thematic rounds and related questionnaires. The time limit for completing the questionnaires is set by the Lanzarote Committee. After the Convention’s entry into force, each party to the Convention must respond to a general questionnaire and thereafter notify the Committee of any substantial changes to their answers.

Compilations of the parties’ responses to the general questionnaire and thematic questionnaires are published on the Lanzarote Committee’s website¹²⁸. Civil society then has two months to comment on the responses. When the parties and civil society have provided their responses, the Committee’s rapporteurs compile reports of all the responses to each individual question. These responses form the actual implementation report. The parties can supplement their information by submitting reports to the Committee until the final implementation report has been adopted.

128 Council of Europe. N.d.a. Committee (Sexual Violence, Lanzarote Convention). (website)

The Lanzarote Committee's final implementation report concerns all parties to the Convention. The implementation report includes three types of recommendations to the parties, expressed in the form of "the Committee requires", "the Committee requests" or "the Committee invites". Recommendations in which the word "require" is used follow directly from the Lanzarote Convention. Recommendations in which the word "request" is used are based on the Convention, but may include the Committee's own interpretation and thus have a wider scope than the obligations actually posed by the Convention's provisions. Recommendations in which the word "invite" is used have an even wider scope than the "requests" in terms of the obligations under the Convention.

Finland responded to the first general questionnaire in March 2014 and to the thematic questionnaire in May 2014. The Lanzarote Committee adopted the 1st implementation report of the first monitoring round concerning all the parties (Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust: The framework¹²⁹), including the recommendations, in December 2015. The Lanzarote Committee adopted the 2nd implementation report of the first monitoring round concerning all the parties (Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust: The strategies¹³⁰), including the recommendations, in January 2018.

If the Lanzarote Committee detects a situation that calls for immediate action to prevent a serious violation it can request an urgent launch of a special monitoring round. This has already happened twice. The theme of the first urgent monitoring round was the protection of children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. The second urgent monitoring round concerned Hungary alone.¹³¹

The theme of the Lanzarote Committee's second monitoring round is the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies¹³². It is still under way. Finland responded to the thematic questionnaire of the second monitoring round in November 2017 and has later supplemented its responses in writing in October 2020, and in September, October and December 2021. The implementation report of the second monitoring round

129 Lanzarote Committee. 2019. 1st Implementation report. Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust (online publication). Council of Europe.

130 Lanzarote Committee. 2018. Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust: workable strategies (13 February 2018, online publication). Council of Europe.

131 Lanzarote Committee. 2017. Special report. Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (online publication). Council of Europe.

132 Council of Europe. N.d.b. The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies (ICTs). 2nd Monitoring round (online publications).

(T-ES(2020)22 rev.1, The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies (ICTs)) is to be adopted in February 2022.

Table 17. Actions/Monitoring mechanism

33. Action	Implementers	Follow-up and indicators
Finland actively participates in the Lanzarote Committee's annual meetings and seminars.	Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Unit for Human Rights Courts and Conventions) in cooperation with other ministries, Save the Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting attendance - Responses to the Committee's requests for information - The appropriate consideration of Finland's implementation measures in the Committee's reports - Raising awareness of the recommendations approved by the Committee

Implementation in 2022–2025

The Committee member comes from the **Ministry for Foreign Affairs**.

Save the Children Finland represents Save the Children International as an official observer (since September 2021) on the Lanzarote Committee and actively participates in the Committee's meetings and seminars.

Appendix 1 Composition of the working group

Marjo Malja, Senior Ministerial Adviser, Social Affairs, from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health is the chair of the working group, and Martta October, Development Manager, from the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare is the expert secretary.

The working group has the following members:

- Elina Ruuskanen, Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Justice (deputy member: Ministerial Adviser Mervi Saramo),
- Kirsi Alila, Senior Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Education and Culture (deputy member: Senior Ministerial Adviser Tarja Kahiluoto),
- Kimmo Halme, Chief Superintendent, Ministry of the Interior (deputy member: Ministerial Adviser Heidi Kankainen),
- Katja Kuuppelomäki, Legal Officer, Ministry for Foreign Affairs (1 November 2020–March 2021), Helinä Heikkinen, Legal Officer, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, (from April 2021 onward) (deputy member: Legal Counsellor Satu Sistonen),
- Leena Hakavuori, Special Prosecutor, National Prosecution Authority (deputy member: Special Prosecutor Yrjö Reenilä),
- Pekka Heikkinen, Chief Superintendent, National Police Board (deputy member: Chief Superintendent Måns Enqvist),
- Ira Vainio, Sustainability Manager, Telia Finland Oyj,
- Satu Räsänen, Senior Officer, Valvira (deputy member: Senior Officer Minna Malviniemi),
- Annika Korpela, Legal Counsel, Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, (deputy member: Legal Counsel Minna Antila),
- Taina Laajasalo, Chief Specialist, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (deputy member: Tanja Koivula 2020–2021, Ulla Korpilahti from 2022 onward),
- Marja Salonen, Head of Services, City of Oulu (deputy member: Head of Services Marja Salo),
- Minna Joki-Erkkilä, Assistant Chief Medical Officer, Tampere University Hospital,
- Annukka Paasivirta, Senior Advisor, Central Union for Child Welfare (deputy member: Programme Director Miia Pitkänen),
- Tiina Muukkonen, Development Manager, Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters (deputy member: Specialist Johanna Matikka, and from June 2021 onward, Specialist Katri Kyllönen),

- Esa Iivonen, Chief Specialist, Mannerheim League for Child Welfare (deputy member: Programme Director Marie Rautava),
- Hanna-Leena Laitinen, Director of Public Affairs and Advocacy, Protect Children (until May 2021), Nina Vaaranen-Valkonen, Executive Director, Protect Children (deputy member: Anna Ovaska (from June 2021 onward)),
- Jari Ketola, Executive Director, Pesäpuu (deputy member: Development Manager Johanna Barkman).

Permanent specialists on the working group include:

- Ritva Halila, Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health,
- Merike Helander, Lawyer, Office of the Ombudsman for Children (deputy member: Ombudsman for Children Elina Pekkarinen),
- Tiina-Maria Levamo, Senior Specialist / Save the Children.

On 16 November 2021, the working group heard Seta (Lotte Telakivi) and the Family Federation of Finland, and on 17 June 2021, it heard Anti-Trafficking Coordinator Venla Ruth and Senior Specialist Minna Viuhko from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

Appendix 2 Definitions

Child means a person under the age of 18.

Child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse means behaviour referred to in Articles 18–23 of the Convention. These include:

- (a) Article 18 Sexual abuse
- (b) Article 19 Child sexual trafficking
- (c) Article 20 Child Sexual Abuse Material
- (d) Article 21 Performance of Child Sexual Abuse
- (e) Article 22 Corruption of children
- (f) Article 23 Solicitation of children for sexual purposes

Victim means any child exposed to sexual abuse or sexual exploitation.

Appendix 3 Relevant actions in the Non-Violent Childhoods Action Plan (2019) and the Implementation Plan (2021)

-
- A** **Chapter 11, Action 4.** Clear cooperation practices to remove illegal images containing depictions of sexual abuse against children have been established nationwide. The operations are based on strong international cooperation, and the time that it takes to remove such material from the internet is also monitored at the national level. Teenagers are a challenging group in terms of identification, and they are therefore often at risk of not receiving help.
- Chapter 12, Action 5.** Conducting a nationwide study on children's access to legal protection with regard to individual harm assessments.
-
- B** **Chapter 7, Action 5.** A study will be conducted on the safety-related practices of operators who organise voluntary friend/support person activities for children and young people.
- Chapter 8, Action 1.** Child and family services (maternity and health clinic services, early childhood education and care, school and educational institutions including pupil and student healthcare and welfare services, social work and child welfare, child guidance and family counselling clinics, specialised medical care, NGOs and church family counselling will 1) systematically address the prerequisites of children's safe growth and growth environment. The needs for culturally sensitive information among parents from immigrant and refugee backgrounds and support for good parenting will be taken into account. 2) The risk factors for violence will be identified together with families.
- Chapter 9, Action 4.** Addressing the threat and experiences of bullying, violence and harassment (including online violence) will be ensured in all contacts with school and student healthcare, as well as with school social workers and psychologists. Suitable work practices and tools will be developed for this purpose, and training and guidance will be provided. Special attention will be paid to children and young people in a vulnerable situation in addressing bullying, violence and harassment and in developing tools, training and guidance.
- Chapter 9, Action 6.** Sports clubs and other providers of guided exercise activities must systematically implement guidelines for work against hurtful treatment, bullying and harassment. Such guidelines cover training for instructors and coaches on identifying situations related to bullying, harassment and exclusion in hobby environments, as well as addressing such situations in an age-appropriate manner.
- Chapter 9, Action 7.** The prevalence of bullying and sexual harassment in guided sports and exercise activities and in the morning and afternoon activities of schools will be surveyed regularly through nationwide studies, so that the impacts of actions can be assessed.
- Chapter 10, Action 1.** As a first step, adding content related to sexual abuse and its prevention to the basic and continuing education for public health nurses and midwives, also paying attention to children and young people in particularly vulnerable situations In 2022, after the mid-term review of the Action Plan, the training content will be expanded to cover other occupational groups.
- Chapter 11, Action 1.** Continuing education on sexual harassment, solicitation, sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in digital media will be provided to people working with children and young people in their daily lives. Methods will also be developed for guiding and teaching children and young people to behave with greater awareness in social media, as well as understand their rights and ways to react in cases of solicitation.
-

B Chapter 11, Action 5. The authorities and professionals have sufficient information and resources to address online sexual offences against children. The following guidelines are taken into account in the development of multiprofessional work by the authorities and organisations and in national guidelines: UN Guidelines regarding the implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (UN 2019) and Guidelines to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child in the digital environment – Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)7 of the Committee of Ministers (CoE 2018).

Chapter 12, Action 3. Adding harm assessment content, including forensic psychiatric/psychological and legal considerations, to training and education provided to psychiatric doctors and psychologists by 2022.

Chapter 12, Action 4. Increasing awareness of the harmful effects of sexual abuse and the basis for assessing harm among stakeholders by organising targeted training (lectures, courses) for guardians, trustees, police officers and prosecutors, judges and lawyers.

Chapter 13.4, Action 2. Confirming competence in violence-aware substitute care as one of the prerequisites in procurement, selection and monitoring of substitute care facilities at municipal and child-specific levels, in both family and institutional care. Including violence-awareness competence and safety skills education for children in the self-supervision plans of child welfare institutions.

Chapter 13.4, Action 3. Reinforcing children's and young people's awareness of their rights to safe, non-violent relationships and environments in substitute care and their capacity to recognise certain acts and practices as violent. Developing materials for children on what violence means, especially in substitute care settings. Creating a national operating model for violence reporting procedures.

Chapter 13.5, Action 1. Creating a training package about sexual orientation, gender diversity and rainbow families for professionals working with children and young people (e.g. school health nurses, school social workers and other participants in student welfare, child welfare professionals). The training will provide capabilities to identify these children and young people and information about factors affecting their wellbeing, risk of violence and means of reducing it.

Chapter 13.5, Action 2. A training package on sexual orientation, gender identity and rainbow families was created in 2020–2022, and a training pilot will be carried out in 2023–2025.

Chapter 14.7, Action 2. The backgrounds of employees and, if the requirements are fulfilled, holders of positions of trust in religious communities/churches are checked in accordance with relevant legislation, and people who have engaged in inappropriate behaviour are released from their duties or positions of trust.

-
- C Chapter 7, Action 3.** Including an obligation to provide age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate sexuality education in national guidelines (national core curricula for early childhood education, pre-primary education and basic education), taking vulnerable groups into account in particular.
- Chapter 7, Action 4.** Increasing the knowledge and competences of early childhood education, pre-primary education and basic education staff concerning age-appropriate safety skills and sexuality education through continuing education and professional development. Particular attention will be paid to the special needs of children and young people in vulnerable situations.
- Chapter 11, Action 2.** All children and young people within the age range for basic education are provided with safety skills training in the digital media environment in municipalities that receive special government grants for this purpose. The training provides children and young people with basic digital safety skills, an understanding of the risks of digital media and ways to act safely online. The methods developed can be used in the operations of other basic education providers nationwide.
-
- D Chapter 10, Action 2.** As part of the Barnahus project, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare will make an inventory of treatment programmes available for people with paedophilic and hebephiliac tendencies and the numbers of clients enrolled in these by 2023. The availability of effective treatment programmes for people with paedophilic/hebephiliac tendencies will be improved in keeping with the nationwide inventory.
-
- E Chapter 10, Action 4.** Contents dealing with safety skills and sexuality education will be added to national guidelines and recommendations for maternity and child health clinic services.
-

F Chapter 6, Action 1. A multisectoral expert group on anti-violence work will be established at least for each hospital district/region and in large cities. The groups will have expertise in the phenomenon of violence in all sectors and at all levels. They will be responsible for providing education at the basic level and implementing practical cooperation between the basic level, special level and demanding special level.

Implementation in 2020–2025:

- **Regional State Administrative Agencies:** Regional State Administrative Agencies can play the role of convener and coordinator in the field of violence prevention, but a clearer specification of their role is required.
- **Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL):** THL will conduct a survey of the municipalities' anti-violence work at large, including a mapping of the number and composition of multisectoral expert groups in municipalities, by 2025.
- **Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare:** The implementation of this action depends on the progress made in the health and social services reform. The drafting of the action plan for the Lanzarote Convention (Finnish Treaty Series 88/2011) began in late 2020, coordinated by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

Chapter 6, Action 2. Nationally comprehensive multisectoral cooperation in line with the European Barnahus Quality Standards and the LASTA/screening model will be established to ensure the equal implementation, taking into account the service structures, of child-centred investigation, information sharing and support for all children and young people suspected of having been subjected to abuse or sexual violence, regardless of their place of residence.

Chapter 10, Action 7. Child victims of sexual offences will be referred for treatment in cases where inter-agency cooperation does not require executive assistance from healthcare services. Cross-sectoral operating models will be created to improve cooperation between the police, social welfare and healthcare in keeping with the standards of the Barnahus model. Local cooperation partners and their roles will be designated and integrated care pathways will be created. Public officials will be provided with regular training in the operating models.

Chapter 14.7, Action 1. The social work departments or boards of directors of the local and central organisations of religious communities/churches will prepare a clear operating model for addressing situations related to violence against children (cooperation with child welfare services, the police and healthcare).

-
- G Chapter 10, Action 10.** Regional integrated care pathways will be developed for sexually victimised children. The responsibilities for monitoring the timeliness and effectiveness of the integrated care pathways will be determined. Victims and their families will be provided with care in keeping with Barnahus quality standards nationwide.
- Chapter 10, Action 11.** Practices in keeping with trauma-focused cognitive behavioural therapy expertise and the Current Care Guideline for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder will be promoted in healthcare units responsible for treating sexually victimised children.
- Chapter 10, Action 12.** University hospitals will be entrusted with the responsibility for training regional parties on the use of therapeutic techniques for sexually victimised children.
- Chapter 12, Action 2.** The interfaces between harm assessments and assessments of the clinical care needs of children who have experienced sexual abuse will be considered and developed. A national responsible body and individuals in charge of developing these assessments will be appointed by 2022.
- Chapter 12, Action 6.** Harm assessment statements will be reviewed and harm reported.
-
- H Chapter 13.4, Action 4.** One of the confirmed focal points of the supervision of substitute care is to ensure that each substitute care facility has notified the children and their close family, as well as everyone involved in its operations, about the procedures in place for reporting violence occurring at the facility or in the childrens' other settings. Each substitute care facility must have in place an agreed procedure, known to everyone, for monitoring the actions taken to address any identified incidents of violence. Institutional care units document in their self-supervision plans the risk factors related to violence and to preparing for, preventing and dealing with incidents in their unit.
-
- I Chapter 11, Action 3.** Children and young people get information and guidance on where to get help and where to report sexual harassment, solicitation and sexual abuse, including violence experienced in digital media. A survey will be conducted on low-threshold nationwide services developed and used in other Nordic countries for reporting various types of sexual harassment, solicitation and sexual abuse and for receiving advice and assistance, regardless of place of residence and background.
- Implementation plan 2021: By 2023, information will be collected from parties that provide children and young people with assistance for reporting sexual harassment, solicitation and sexual abuse, as well as for getting help.
-
- J Chapter 10, Action 5.** The quality of emergency physical examinations relating to sexual offences against children will be improved and standardised by concentrating examinations in specialised units. A requirement concerning emergency examinations for sexual offence victims will be added to the specialisation programmes in paediatrics, gynaecology and obstetrics. Registered nurses will be provided with continuing training for emergency examinations of sexual offence victims. Physical follow-up examinations will be conducted after emergency examinations. Medical statements will be reviewed by experts.
- Chapter 10, Action 6.** The prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and referral for treatment will be handled in accordance with the Seri Support Centre model as part of investigations of sexual offences against children and young people. An integrated care pathway and cooperation model will be created between different parties. Intranet guidelines will be drawn up and responsibilities related to their regular updating will be assigned in specialised medical care. During the investigation, the child or adolescent will be asked whether they know of the crime or any part of it being recorded.
-

-
- J** **Chapter 10, Action 7.** Child victims of sexual offences will be referred for treatment in cases where inter-agency cooperation does not require executive assistance from healthcare services. Cross-sectoral operating models will be created to improve cooperation between the police, social welfare and healthcare in keeping with the standards of the Barnahus model. Local cooperation partners and their roles will be designated and integrated care pathways will be created. Public officials will be provided with regular training in the operating models.
- Chapter 10, Action 8.** Regional integrated care pathways will be developed for sexually victimised children in medical units. Sexual offence victims will be offered integrated care pathways from psychiatric units to physical examinations and from medical units to psychosocial support and care needs assessments. First-line psychological support will be deployed in cooperation between child and adolescent psychiatry units and units investigating offences against children and young people. Victims will be provided with care nationwide in keeping with Barnahus quality standards.
- Chapter 10, Action 9.** Social paediatrics units will be established in all university and central hospitals. Follow-up examinations will be organised in unclear, alarming cases. Cooperation with child welfare services will be developed and improved.
- Chapter 10, Action 10.** Regional integrated care pathways will be developed for sexually victimised children. The responsibilities for monitoring the timeliness and effectiveness of the integrated care pathways will be determined. Victims and their families will be provided with care in keeping with Barnahus quality standards nationwide.
- Chapter 10, Action 11.** Practices in keeping with trauma-focused cognitive behavioural therapy expertise and the Current Care Guideline for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder will be promoted in healthcare units responsible for treating sexually victimised children.
- Chapter 10, Action 12.** University hospitals will be entrusted with the responsibility for training regional parties on the use of therapeutic techniques for sexually victimised children.
- Chapter 12, Action 1.** National guidelines will be drawn up to help doctors assess medical harm as part of assessing the individual harm caused to a child as a result of a sexual offence (a statement on the harm from digital sexual abuse will also be drawn up in the Barnahus project).
- Chapter 12, Action 2.** The interfaces between harm assessments and assessments of the clinical care needs of children who have experienced sexual abuse will be considered and developed. A national responsible body and individuals in charge of developing these assessments will be appointed by 2022.
- Chapter 12, Action 6.** Harm assessment statements will be reviewed and harm reported.
- Chapter 12, Action 7.** A research-based position will be taken on biomarker development as part of a national recommendation for doctors on assessing medical harm by 2026. International biomarker development will be assessed and any potential biomarkers will be put into use in scientific research into the harmful effects of sexual abuse against children by 2026.
-
- K** **Chapter 10, Action 2.** As part of the Barnahus project, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare will make an inventory of treatment programmes available for people with paedophilic and hebephiliac tendencies and the numbers of clients enrolled in these by 2023. The availability of effective treatment programmes for people with paedophilic/hebephiliac tendencies will be improved in keeping with the nationwide inventory.
- Chapter 10, Action 14.** The psychiatric care needs assessments of juvenile sexual offenders will be developed. National integrated care pathways will be created.
-

L Chapter 14.2, Action 4. Figures concerning suspected and provisionally identified child victims of human trafficking, children of victims of human trafficking receiving assistance, as well as the forms of human trafficking that children have been subjected to, will be collected from available information sources: municipalities, the assistance system and NGOs helping victims (known as “four-leaf clover” organisations). The compilation of statistics on children and young people who have become victims of human trafficking will be further developed within the criminal justice system. In the future, statistics on crimes reported to the police, prosecuted cases and punishments will be compiled based on the victim’s age and gender. An annual report will be compiled based on the analysis of these data.

M Chapter 6, Action 2. Nationally comprehensive multisectoral cooperation in line with the European Barnahus Quality Standards and the LASTA/screening model will be established to ensure the equal implementation, taking into account the service structures, of child-centred investigation, information sharing and support for all children and young people suspected of having been subjected to abuse or sexual violence, regardless of their place of residence.

- **Implementation: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL):** Deployment of the LASTA screening model in the Barnahus project in 2020–2023 in cooperation with forensic psychology units for children and young people. In 2021, the LASTA model will be deployed in the Satakunta region and strengthened in North Karelia. In 2022, it will be expanded to the Pirkanmaa, Häme and South Ostrobothnia regions. The method of collecting background information will be standardised by 2023. In some cases, hearing and/or support in family centres by 2023. Equal access to services will be ensured through the use of electronic tools. THL will conduct a survey of the municipalities’ anti-violence work at large, including a mapping of the number and composition of multisectoral expert groups in municipalities, in 2022.
- **Ministry of the Interior and National Police Board:** The experts in the Barnahus project will continue to set up and develop nationally comprehensive, multisectoral cooperation in accordance with the European Barnahus quality standards and the LASTA screening model.

Chapter 6, Action 3. Special training in investigating crimes against children will be made a permanent part of the continuing education offered by the Police University College.

- **The action** was implemented in 2020, when special training in the investigation of crimes against children was established as a permanent part of the education provided by the Police University College. A total of 36 students, 28 of whose background must be that of a police officer, can be admitted annually to the one-year, five-credit course.

Chapter 6, Action 4. In police departments and the prosecution authorities, investigations of suspected offences against children are centrally handled by specialists, who will be provided with adequate resources. The structure of operations will be further specified in cooperation with the police and the prosecution authorities.

- **Implementation: Barnahus project/THL:** Police officers and a prosecutor have been hired for the project (1 person-year for the prosecutor and 2 person-years for the police officers until the end of 2021). An operating manual will be prepared in the project in 2020–2021. In 2022–2025, the National Police Board will monitor the implementation of the measures described in the manual.
 - **Ministry of the Interior and National Police Board:** Operations will continue to be developed under the lead of the National Police Board. Development will be carried out by the police and prosecutor experts in the Barnahus project. The National Police Board has conducted a survey of the present state of child crime investigation and has requested police departments to pay attention to the areas of development indicated in the survey.
-

M Chapter 8, Action 6. Knowledge of different forms of violence, including emotional violence and neglect, will be improved among various parties involved in child and family services and in the criminal justice system, while also increasing awareness of the harmful effects and long-term consequences of violence. Competence will be enhanced by means such as training programmes provided by forensic psychology/psychiatry units for children and young people within the collaborative areas for healthcare and social welfare and by the Barnahus project, including e-learning programmes.

Chapter 10, Action 13. The resources of and cooperation between law-enforcement and prosecution authorities will be increased to speed up pre-trial investigations and court proceedings. Investigations of sexual offences against children and young people will be centrally handled by specially trained investigators, officers in charge of investigations, and prosecutors. The practices of appointing trustees nationwide will be harmonised and accelerated. The flow of information to families at different stages of criminal investigations will be improved.

REFERENCES

- Alanko, K. 2014. Mitä kuuluu sateenkaarinuorille Suomessa? Finnish Youth Research Society/ Finnish Youth Research Network, electronic publications 72. Setä, Setä publications 23 (online publication). <http://www.nuorisotutkimusseura.fi/images/julkaisuja/sateenkaarinuori.pdf>
- All-Youth. 2022. The Virtual Council for young people (website). Accessed 7 February 2022. <https://www.allyouthstn.fi/digiraati-nuorten-kansalaisraati-webissa/>
- Ankkuri. n.d. Edistämään nuorten hyvinvointia, ennalta estämään rikoksia moniammatillisesti (website). Accessed 7 March 2022. <https://ankkuritoiminta.fi/etusivu>
- Children of the Station. N.d. Katusovittelu, K-0 ja Pasila (website). Accessed 8 March 2022. <https://asemanlapset.fi/toimintamuotomme/katusovittelu-kiusaamiseen-puuttuminen-ja-pasila-hanke/>
- Better Internet for Kids (BIK). N.d. Creating a safer and better internet for children and young people (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/home>
- Canadian Centre for Child protection. 2018. Project Arachnid (website). Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://projectarachnid.ca/en/>
- Convention on the Rights of the Child. 1989. United Nations Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/ProfessionalInterest/crc.pdf>
- Council of Europe (CoE). 1991. Recommendation No. R(91) 11 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States Concerning Sexual Exploitation, Pornography and Prostitution of, and Trafficking in, Children and Young Adults. <https://polis.osce.org/council-europe-committee-ministers-recommendation-no-r91-11-member-states-concerning-sexual>
- Council of Europe (CoE). 1996. European Social Charter (Revised), ETS No. 163 (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://rm.coe.int/168007cf93>
- Council of Europe (CoE). 2001a. Recommendation Rec(2001) 16 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the protection of children against sexual exploitation. <https://polis.osce.org/council-europe-committee-ministers-recommendation-rec2001-16-member-states-protection-children>
- Council of Europe (CoE). 2001b. Convention on Cybercrime, ETS No. 185 (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://rm.coe.int/1680081561>
- Council of Europe (CoE). 2011. Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on child-friendly justice (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectID=09000016804b2cf3
- Council of Europe (CoE). 2012. Participation of children and young people under the age of 18 – Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the Participation of children and young people under the age of 18 (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://rm.coe.int/168046c478>
- Council of Europe (CoE). 2005. Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, CETS No. 197 (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://rm.coe.int/168008371d>
- Council of Europe (CoE). 2018. Guidelines to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child in the digital environment. Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)7 of the Committee of Ministers. <https://edoc.coe.int/en/children-and-the-internet/7921-guidelines-to-respect-protect-and-fulfil-the-rights-of-the-child-in-the-digital-environment-recommendation-cm-rec20187-of-the-committee-of-ministers.html>
- Council of Europe (CoE). 2021. Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, ETS No. 005 (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://rm.coe.int/1680a2353d>

- Council of Europe (CoE). N.d.a. Committee (Sexual Violence, Lanzarote Convention) (website). Accessed 10 February 2022. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/children/lanzarote-committee>
- Council of Europe. N.d.b. The protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by information and communication technologies (ICTs). 2nd Monitoring round (online publications). Accessed 10 February 2022. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/children/2nd-monitoring-round>
- Crowley, A., Larkins, C. & Pinto, M. 2020. "Listen – Act – Change" – Council of Europe Handbook on children's participation for professionals working for and with children (online publication). Council of Europe (CoE). 15–16, 18–19. <https://rm.coe.int/publication-handbook-on-children-s-participation-eng/1680a14539>
- De Boer, E., Hiltunen, S. & Kainulainen, T. N.d. My Space Not Yours. Menetelmäopas seksuaalisen häirinnän ja väkivallan ilmiöiden käsittelemiseen nuorten kanssa [Method for handling sexual harassment and violent phenomena with young people]. Ensi ja turvakotien liitto (ETKL, online publication). https://ensijaturvakotienliitto.fi/violary/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2020/03/MSNY-opaskirja_.pdf
- Parliament of Finland. 2011. Hallituksen esitys Eduskunnalle lasten suojelemista seksuaalista riistoa ja seksuaalista hyväksikäyttöä vastaan koskevan Euroopan neuvoston yleissopimuksen hyväksymiseksi ja siihen liittyviksi laeiksi (HE 282/2010 vp). Parliament (online publication). Accessed 10 February 2022. <https://www.eduskunta.fi/FI/Vaski/sivut/trip.aspx?triptype=ValtiopaivaAsiat&docid=he+282/2010>
- Parliament of Finland. 2021. Asian käsittelytiedot HE 7/2021 vp. Hallituksen esitys eduskunnalle laiksi rikoslain muuttamisesta (2 December 2021 online publication). Accessed 10 February 2022. https://www.eduskunta.fi/FI/vaski/KasittelytiedotValtiopaivaasia/Sivut/HE_7+2021.aspx
- Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters. N.d. Nettiturvakoti (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://nettiturvakoti.fi/>
- Eriksson P. & Korhonen P. 2022. "Kiitos kun pidätte huolta, että asiat olisi minulla hyvin": Kysy ja kuuntele –project final report 3/2022. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-343-851-4>
- Esitutkintalaki 805/2011. <https://finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2011/20110805>
- European Commission. 2020. Communication from the commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. EU strategy for a more effective fight against child sexual abuse (online publication). Brussels, 24 July 2020. Page 1. Accessed 7 February 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/system/files/2020-07/20200724_com-2020-607-commission-communication_en.pdf
- European Commission. 2021. 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. Accessed 14 February 2022. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:e769a102-8d88-11eb-b85c-01aa75ed71a1.0014.02/DOC_1&format=PDF
- Euroopan unionin neuvosto. 2001. Neuvoston puitepäätös 2001/220/YOS, tehty 15 päivänä maaliskuuta 2001, uhrin asemasta rikosoikeudenkäyntimenettelyissä. European Union Publications Office (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://op.europa.eu/fi/publication-detail/-/publication/baa3e644-164a-444f-9006-1a50f10bddd4/language-fi/format-PDF/source-251062978>
- Euroopan unionin neuvosto. 2002. Neuvoston puitepäätös 2002/629/YOS, tehty 19 päivänä heinäkuuta 2002, ihmiskaupan torjunnasta. European Union Publications Office (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://op.europa.eu/fi/publication-detail/-/publication/a4d2dba7-2435-49cc-8156-e96c664ac7fb/language-fi/format-PDF/source-251063534>
- Euroopan unionin neuvosto. 2004. Neuvoston puitepäätös 2004/68/YOS, annettu 22 päivänä joulukuuta 2003, lasten seksuaalisen hyväksikäytön ja lapsipornografian torjumisesta. European Union Publications Office (online publication).

- Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://op.europa.eu/fi/publication-detail/-/publication/ab763fba-2d7d-487a-8835-e93035324e69/>
- Erase GBV. N.d. sukupuolittuneen väkivallan kohtaaminen kouluissa (online publication). Verkkokoulut.thl.fi. Accessed 15 February 2022. https://www.oph.fi/sites/default/files/documents/Verkkokoulutus_Sukupuolistuneen%20v%C3%A4kivallan%20kohtaaminen%20kouluissa%20%28003%29.pdf
- Fagerlund, M. & Toivonen, V-M. 2020. Rikosprosessin kesto lapsiin kohdistuvissa seksuaalirikoksissa. Publications of the Government's analysis, assessment and research activities 2021:3. Government analysis, assessment and research activities. Helsinki: Government. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-013-4>
- Halila R, Hoikkala S, Malja M. & Tapiola M. (toim.). 2021. Lasten ja nuorten vaativimpien palveluiden osaamis- ja tukikeskuksia valmistelevan työryhmän raportti. Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2021:18. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-5430-4>
- Halme, N., Hedman, L., Ikonen, R. & Rajala, R. 2018. Lasten ja nuorten hyvinvointi 2017. Kouluterveyskyselyn tuloksia. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (online publication). <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-343-115-7>
- Helsingin ja Uudenmaan sairaanhoitopiiri (HUS). N.d. seksuaalinen kiinnostus lapsiin –oma-hoito. Mielenterveystalo.fi (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.mielenterveystalo.fi/aikuiset/itsehoito-ja-oppaat/itsehoito/seksuaalinen-kiinnostus-lapsiin>
- City of Helsinki. N.d. Anti-bullying programme (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.hel.fi/kasvatuksen-ja-koulutuksen-toimiala/kiusaamisen-vastainen-ohjelma/>
- Huuki, T. 2002. "Popularity, Real Lads and Violence on the Social Field of School." In Gendered and Sexualised Violence in Educational Environments. Eds. V. Sunnari, J. Kangasvuo & M. Heikkinen. Femina Borealis 6. Oulu: Oulu University Press, 41–59. <http://jultika.oulu.fi/files/isbn9514271505.pdf>
- Huuki, T., Manninen, S. & Sunnari, V. 2010. Humour as a Resource and Strategy for Boys to Gain Status in the Field of Informal School. *Gender and Education*, 22, 369–383. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09540250903352317>
- Human Rights Centre. 2021. EN-Lanzarote Convention. The Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (2007) (Lanzarote Convention). (26 July 2021 online publication). Accessed 10 February 2022. <https://www.ihmisoikeuskeskus.fi/seuranta/maaraaikaisraportointi-yk-en/raportoinnin-aikataulut/en-lanzaroten-sopimus/>
- Iivonen E. & Pollari K. 2020. Kansallisen lapsistrategian oikeudellinen perusta. Reports and Memorandums of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2020:20. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-5417-5>
- Iivonen, E & Pollari, K. 2021. Lapsivaikutusten arvioinnin käsikirja lainvalmistelijoille. Publications of the Prime Minister's Office 2021:5. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-370-8>
- Ikonen, R. & Helakorpi, S. 2019. Lasten ja nuorten hyvinvointi – kouluterveyskysely 2019. Statistical report 33/2019. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (online publication). <https://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi-fe2019091528281>
- Inhope. N.d. A Global Network. Fighting Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM, website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.inhope.org/EN>
- Insight Eu Monitoring. 2021. EU Commission welcomes political agreement on interim rules for voluntary detection measures by online service providers to combat sexual abuse of children (online publication, 29 February 2021.) Accessed 10 February 2022. https://portal.ieu-monitoring.com/editorial/eu-commission-welcomes-political-agreement-on-interim-rules-for-voluntary-detection-measures-by-online-service-providers-to-combat-sexual-abuse-of-children?utm_source=ieu&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=portal
- Insoll, T., Ovaska, A. & Vaaranen-Valkonen, N (Eds.). 2021. CSAM users in the Dark Web: Protecting Children Through Prevention. Protect Children (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://suojellaanlapsia.fi/2021/09/23/redirection-survey-report/>

- Isokuortti, N. & Aaltio, E. 2021. Lastensuojelun tutkimusperustan vahvistamisen haasteita ja mahdollisuuksia. Research article, Kasvun tuki. <https://kasvuntuki.fi/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/kasvun-tuki-02-2021-aaltio.pdf>
- University of Jyväskylä. N.d. TUIKKU – Tunnetaitoja ja osallisuutta varhaiskasvatukseen (online publication). Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://www.jyu.fi/edupsy/fi/tutkimus/tutkimushankkeet/kotisivut/tuikka>
- Kaltokohdeltu lapsi. 2019. Käsikirja kaltokohdellun lapsen kanssa työskenteleville (online publication). City of Tampere. Accessed 8 February 2022. https://www.tampere.fi/tiedos-tot/k/unnamed_7426/kaltokohdeltu_lapsi_kasikirja.pdf
- National Audiovisual Institute. N.d. The Finnish Safer Internet Centre (FISIC, website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/sic/finland>
- The Finnish Education Evaluation Centre. N.d. Kiusaamista ehkäisevien sekä hyvinvointia ja työrauhaa parantavien menetelmien arviointi (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://karvi.fi/esi-ja-perusopetus/teema-ja-jarjestelmaarviointit/kiusaamista-ehkaisevien-seka-hyvinvointia-ja-työrauhaa-parantavien-menetelmien-arviointi/>
- Karjalainen, P. 2021. Parenting intervention to help children with behaviour problems in child protection and other family support services. Doctoral dissertation, University of Helsinki. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-7144-3>
- Kestavakehitys.fi. N.d. Kestävän kehityksen globaali toimintaohjelma Agenda2030 (website). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://kestavakehitys.fi/agenda-2030>
- Kiriakos, S., Kimpimäki, M., Korkman, J., Lehtinen, M., Melander, S., Paakkanen, K., Piha, O., Rask, R., Reenilä, Y. & Tarvainen, L. (Eds.). 2020. Seksuaalirikoslainsäädännön kokonaisuudistus. Publications of the Ministry of Justice, Memorandums and statements 2020:9. Ministry of Justice Helsinki 2020. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-259-874-5>
- KiVa. N.d. KiVa Koulu – kiusaamisen vastainen toimenpideohjelma (website). University of Turku. Accessed 8 March 2022. <https://www.kivakoulu.fi/>
- Koordinaatti. N.d.a. Grooming project (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.koordinaatti.fi/fi/koordinaatti/palvelut/kehittaminen/grooming-hanke>
- Koordinaatti. N.d.b. Mitä on nuorten neuvonta ja tietotyö (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://koordinaatti.fi/fi/nuorten-tieto-ja-neuvontatyo/mita-nuorten-tieto-ja-neuvontatyo>
- Korpilahti, U., Kettunen, H., Nuotio, E., Nummi, V.-M. & Lillsunde, P. (Eds.). 2019. Väkivallaton lapsuus – toimenpidesuunnitelma lapsiin kohdistuvan väkivallan ehkäisystä 2020–2025. Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2019; 27: 517–528, 546. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-4123-6>
- Korpilahti, U. (Ed.) 2021a. Väkivallaton lapsuus 2020–2025: toimeenpano ja viestintä. Reports and Memorandums of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2021:17. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-5406-9>
- Korpilahti, U., Tupola, SM. & Piispa, M. 2021b. Väkivallan ehkäisy – Tue, tunnista ja puutu varhain. Duodecim terveystietä (online publication 23 November 2011). Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://www.terveysportti.fi/apps/dtk/nko/article/nla00063?toc=111223>
- Kovanen, T. 2019. Seurustelun ei kuulu satuttaa. Suomalaisten nuorten kokemuksia seurusteluväkivallasta (online publication 9 December 2019). Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters. Accessed 9 February 2022. https://issuu.com/ensi-jaturvakotienliitto/docs/seurusteluvv_2019_verkkojulkaisu_final
- Laajasalo, T., Rajala, R., Julin, E., Huittinen, M. & Juusola, A. N.d. Barnahus project. Hankkeessa tehty työ vuosina 2019–2021; Hankesuunnitelma vuosille 2022–2023. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (online publication). https://thl.fi/documents/10531/2851931/Barnahus-hankesuunnitelma+2022_2023_1.pdf

- Lahtinen, H-M., Laitila, A., Korkman J. & Ellonen, N. 2018. Children's disclosures of sexual abuse in a population-based sample. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 76, 84–94. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2017.10.011>
- Laitinen, K, Lahtinen, M., Haanpää, S., Järvinen, J., Granskog, P. & Turunen-Zwinger, S. 2020. Prevention of and intervention in sexual harassments at schools and educational institutions Guides and handbooks 2020: 4c. Finnish National Agency for Education. https://www.oph.fi/sites/default/files/documents/opas_seksuaalisen_hairinnan_ennaltaehkaisyseksi_ja_siihen_puuttumiseksi_kouluissa_ja_oppilaitoksissa.pdf
- Laki ammatillisesta koulutuksesta 531/2017. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/alkup/2017/20170531>
- Laki oikeudenkäynnistä rikosasioissa 689/1997. <https://finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1997/19970689>
- Laki lapsen huollosta ja tapaamisoikeudesta 361/1983. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1983/19830361>
- Laki lapseen kohdistuneen seksuaali- ja pahoinpitelyrikoksen selvittämisen järjestämisestä 1009/2008. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2008/20081009>
- Laki oikeudenkäynnin julkisuudesta yleisissä tuomioistuimissa 370/2007. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2007/20070370>
- Laki poliisin säilyttämien henkilöiden kohtelusta 841/2006. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2006/20060841>
- Laki Syyttäjälaitoksesta 32/2019. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2019/20190032>
- Laki viranomaisten toiminnan julkisuudesta 621/1999. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1999/19990621>
- Lanzarote Committee. 2017. Special report. Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (online publication). Council of Europe. Accessed 10 February 2022. <https://rm.coe.int/special-report-protecting-children-affected-by-the-refugee-crisis-from/16807912a5>
- Lanzarote Committee. 2018. Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust: workable strategies (13 February 2018, online publication). Council of Europe. Accessed 10 February 2022. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/protection-of-children-against-sexual-abuse-in-the-circle-of-trust-workable-strategies>
- Lanzarote Committee. 2019. 1st Implementation report. Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust (online publication). Council of Europe. Accessed 10 February 2022. <https://rm.coe.int/1st-implementation-report-protection-of-children-against-sexual-abuse-/16808ae53f>
- Lapsistrategia. N.d. Julkaisut (website for Child Strategy). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.lapsenoikeudet.fi/kampanja/lapsistrategia/julkaisut/>
- Lastensuojelulaki 417/2007. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2007/20070417>
- Leander L. 2010. Police interviews with child sexual abuse victims: patterns of reporting, avoidance and denial. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 2010; 34:192–205. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2009.09.011>
- Lehtinen, M. & Rossi, M. 2021. Poliisin lapsirikostutkinnan tila 2020. Report POL-2021-27495. Restricted use. Helsinki, National Police Board.
- Lehtinen, M. & Rossi, M. (Eds.). 2022. Käsikirja lapsiin kohdistuvien väkivalta- ja seksuaalirikosten tutkintaan. National Police Board publications (13 January 2022, online publication). <https://poliisi.fi/documents/25235045/33939256/K%C3%A4sikirja-lapsiin-kohdistuvien-v%C3%A4kivalta-ja-seksuaalirikosten-tutkintaan-web.pdf/01b971f6-8ebb-eb54-d97-6c1663d616b3/K%C3%A4sikirja-lapsiin-kohdistuvien-v%C3%A4kivalta-ja-seksuaalirikosten-tutkintaan-web.pdf?t=1642679496880>
- Lukiolaki 714/2018. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/alkup/2018/20180714>

- Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2021a. Apua seksuaaliseen häirintään ja väkivaltaan. Nuorten netti (online publication 27 August 2021) Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.nuortennetti.fi/apua-ja-tukea/apua-seksuaaliseen-hairintaan-ja-vakivaltaan/>
- Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2021b. Lasten ja nuorten chat (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.nuortennetti.fi/apua-ja-tukea/lasten-ja-nuorten-puhelin/lasten-ja-nuorten-chat/>
- Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2022a. Lasten ja nuorten puhelin (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.mll.fi/vanhemmille/toiminta-lapsiperheille/lasten-ja-nuorten-puhelin/>
- Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2022b. vanhempainpuhelin (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.mll.fi/vanhemmille/toiminta-lapsiperheille/vanhempainpuhelin/>
- Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. 2020. Barn- och ungdomstelefonen samt nätbrevstjänsten (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. www.mll.fi/sv/hemsida/barn-och-ungdomstelefonen-samt-natbrevtjansten/
- Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. N.d.a. Vanhempainnetti (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.mll.fi/vanhemmille/>
- Mannerheim League for Child Welfare. N.d.b. Nuortennetti (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.nuortennetti.fi/>
- Naisten syrjinnän poistamista käsittelevän komitean ja lapsen oikeuksien komitean yhteinen yleissuositus/yleiskommentti (CEDAW/C/GC/31 – CRC/C/GC/18). Yleiskommentti Nro. 18 (2014) - haitallisista käytännöistä. Ombudsman for Children. https://lapsiasia.fi/documents/25250457/37289406/CRC_C_GC_18_julkaisu.pdf/3c6b9803-2043-3720-918e-901ae0a85318/CRC_C_GC_18_julkaisu.pdf?t=1494586058000
- Nikolovska, M. 2020. The Internet as a creator of a criminal mind and child vulnerabilities in the cyber grooming of children. University of Jyväskylä, Faculty of Information Technology. University of Jyväskylä. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-39-7963-8>
- Oikeudenkäymiskaari 4/1734. <https://finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1734/17340004000>
- Ministry of Justice. 2020. Ihmiskaupan vastainen työ, OM031:00/2020 (online publication). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://oikeusministerio.fi/ihmiskaupan-vastainen-tyo-hanketiedot-ja-asiakirjat>
- Ministry of Justice. 2021. Yhdenvertaisuuslain osittaisuudistus, OM013:00/2021 (online publication). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://oikeusministerio.fi/hanke?tunnus=OM013:00/2021>
- The Finnish National Agency for Education. 2020. Oikeus osata -ohjelma käynnistyi 42 kehittämishankkeen voimin (online publication 16 February 2020). Accessed 15 February 2022. <https://www.oph.fi/fi/uutiset/2020/oikeus-osata-ohjelma-kaynnistyi-42-kehittamishankkeen-voimin>
- The Finnish National Agency for Education. 2022a. Seksuaalisen häirinnän vastainen työ (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.oph.fi/fi/koulutus-ja-tutkinnot/seksuaalisen-hairinnan-vastainen-tyo>
- The Finnish National Agency for Education. 2022b. Varhaiskasvatussuunnitelman perusteet 2022 (website). Accessed 7 March 2022. <https://www.oph.fi/fi/koulutus-ja-tutkinnot/varhaiskasvatussuunnitelmien-perusteet>
- The Finnish National Agency for Education. N.d. Nuoret ja sukupuolistunut väkivalta - Kohtaamisen ja puuttumisen mahdollisuudet (website). Accessed 15 February 2022. <https://www.oph.fi/fi/koulutus-ja-tutkinnot/nuoret-ja-sukupuolistunut-vakivalta-kohtaamisen-ja-puuttumisen-mahdollisuudet>
- Ministry of Education and Culture. 2020. Valtakunnallisen nuorisotyön ja – politiikan ohjelma 2002-2023 (VANUPO). Tavoitteena nuoren merkityksellinen elämä ja osallisuus yhteiskunnassa. Publications of the Ministry of Education and Culture 2020:2. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-263-697-3>

- Ministry of Education and Culture. 2021a. Toimenpideohjelma kiusaamisen ehkäisemiseksi – keskiössä resurssit, koulutus ja lainsäädännön päivittäminen (26 January 2021 online publication). Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://minedu.fi/-/toimenpideohjelma-kiusaamisen-ehkaisu-keskiossa-resurssit-koulutus-ja-lainsaadannon-paivittaminen>
- Ministry of Education and Culture. 2021b. High-quality and accessible upper secondary school. Lukiokoulutuksen laatu- ja saavutettavuusohjelma 2021–2022 (online publication). Accessed 15 February 2022. <https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/163403/LaadukasLukio.pdf>
- Ministry of Education and Culture. N.d. Toimenpideohjelma kiusaamisen ehkäisemiseksi (online publication). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://okm.fi/kiusaamisen-ehkaisu-ohjelma>
- City of Oulu. 2021. Rikoksiin syyllistyneet nuoret saavat apua NURRI-hankkeesta (online publication). Accessed 8 February 2022. https://www.ouka.fi/oulu/kehittamishankkeet/ajankohtaista-turvallinen-oulu/-/asset_publisher/2fVr/content/rikoksiin-syyllistyneet-nuoret-saavat-apua-nurri-hankkeesta/6593335
- City of Oulu. N.d.a. Turvallinen Oulu –hanke 2019–2020 (website). Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://www.ouka.fi/oulu/kehittamishankkeet/turvallinen-oulu-hanke>
- City of Oulu. N.d.b. Turvataitokasvatus. Turvallinen Oulu –hanke 2019–2020 (online publications). Accessed 9 February 2022. www.turvataitokasvatus.fi
- Pakkokeinolaki 806/2011. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2011/20110806>
- Save the Children. 2018. Report: Lapset ja nuoret kokevat seksuaalista häirintää ja siihen liittyvää kiusaamista digitaalisessa mediassa (online publication). Accessed 7 February 2022. <https://www.pelastakaalapset.fi/uutiset/selvitys-lapset-ja-nuoret-kokevat-seksuaalista-hairintaa-ja-siihen-liittyvaa-kiusaamista-digitaalisessa-mediassa/>
- Save the Children. 2021. Grooming lasten silmin –selvitys lasten ja nuorten kokemasta groomingista netissä. (Eds.) A. Juusola, T. Simola, J. Tasa, E. Karhu & P. Sillfors. Online publication. Accessed 7 February 2022. https://pelastakaalapset.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/main/2021/05/06153034/grooming_lasten_silmin_2021.pdf
- Save the Children. N.d.a. Nettivihje ja seksuaalisen väkivallan ehkäisy (website) Accessed 7 February 2022. <https://www.pelastakaalapset.fi/kehittamis-ja-asiantuntijatyo/nettivihje-ja-seksuaalivakivallan-ennaltaehkaisy/>
- Save the Children. N.d.b. lapsikeskeinen palvelumuotoilu (website). Accessed 7 February 2022. <https://www.pelastakaalapset.fi/lapsikeskeinen-palvelumuotoilu/>
- Save the Children. N.d.c. Lapsikeskeinen palvelumuotoilu, myönteinen tunnistaminen ja lapsikeskeisyys (website). Accessed 7 February 2022. <https://www.pelastakaalapset.fi/lapsikeskeinen-palvelumuotoilu/myonteinen-tunnistaminen-ja-lapsikeskeisyys/>
- Save the Children. N.d.d. Netari.fi (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.netari.fi/>
- Perusopetuslaki 628/1988. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1998/19980628>
- Pesäpuu. 2022. Turvallisen sijaishuollon puolesta X-ketju-hanke (website). Accessed 7 February 2022. <https://pesapuu.fi/toiminta/turvallinen-sijaishuolto/turvallisen-sijaishuollon-puolesta-x-ketju-hanke/>
- Pesäpuu ry. 2021. Oma boxi – Nuoren ja omaohjaajan väliseen vuorovaikutukseen (online publication 16 June 2021). Accessed 7 February 2022. <https://pesapuu.fi/2021/06/oma-boxi-nuoren-ja-omaohjaajan-valiseen-vuorovaikutukseen/>
- Prinz, R. J., Sanders, M. R., Shapiro, C. J., Whitaker, D. J. & Lutzker, J. R. 2009. Population based prevention of child maltreatment: the U.S. Triple p system population trial. *Prevention Science*, 2009 10, 1, 1–12. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19160053>
- Rikoslaki 39/1889. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1889/18890039001>
- Rikosuhripäivystys (RIKU) N.d. Lapsi ja nuori rikoksen uhrina (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.riku.fi/rikoksen-uhrina/lapsi-ja-nuori-rikoksen-uhrina/>

- Ruuskanen E. 2020. Naisiin kohdistuvan väkivallan torjuntaohjelma (NKVT) vuosille 2020–2023. Publications of the Ministry of Justice, Memorandums and statements 2020:15. <https://jurn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-259-835-6>
- Saariluoma, L., Eriksson, P. & Korhonen, P. 2021. Sijoitettujen lasten koulunkäynti ja vapaa-aika: kyselytutkimuksen tuloksia. THL Tutkimuksesta tiiviisti 51/2021. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-343-732-6>
- Sandell, T. (Ed.) N.d. Kansainvälisen työjärjestön ILO: n yleissopimukset. Työministeriö (TM), Suomen ILO-Neuvottelukunta. 2. ja uudistettu painos (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. https://tem.fi/documents/1410877/2971009/ilo_yleissopimukset.pdf/995fef91-ccf5-4a3e-ada1-82c836cd347f
- Protect Children. N.d.a. Stop, Slow & Go! Turvallisesti digiliikenteessä 5-6-vuotiaille (online publication). https://suojellaanlapsia.fi/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/5-6_vuotiaat_FIN_update.pdf
- Protect Children. N.d.b. Stop, Slow & Go! Turvallisesti digiliikenteessä 7-9-vuotiaille (online publication). https://suojellaanlapsia.fi/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/7-9_vuotiaat_FIN_update.pdf
- Protect Children. N.d.c. Stop, Slow & Go! Turvallisesti digiliikenteessä (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://suojellaanlapsia.fi/digiliikenteessa/ammattilaisille/>
- Protect Children. N.d.d. ReDirection-hanke ennaltaehkäisee lapsiin kohdistuvaa seksuaalirikollisuutta (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://suojellaanlapsia.fi/redirection-fi/>
- Protect Children. N.d.e. The Future of Online Child Protection in Europe / Lasten suojelun tulevaisuus Euroopassa (online publication). <https://suojellaanlapsia.fi/2021/04/19/the-future-of-online-child-protection-in-europe-lasten-suojelun-tulevaisuus-euroopassa/>
- The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland. N.d. Lapsiystävällinen seurakunta (website). Accessed 15 February 2022. <https://evl.fi/plus/seurakuntaelama/kasvatus/lava/lapsiystavallinen-seurakunta>
- Suomen perustuslaki 731/1999. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1999/19990731>
- Official Statistics of Finland (OSF). 2020. Rikos ja pakkokeinotilasto (online publication). Accessed 8 December 2021. https://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/fi/StatFin/StatFin_oik_rpk_uhri/statfin_rpk_pxt_11cn.px/table/tableViewLayout1/?loadedQueryId=9d-d491b3-8ae6-4598-9d26-ce72f25f4ffb&timeType=from&timeValue=2009
- Sops 7/1976. Laki kansalaisyhteisöistä ja poliittisista oikeuksista koskevan kansainvälisen yleissopimuksen eräiden määräysten hyväksymisestä. <https://finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopviite/1976/19760007>
- Sops 8/1976. Asetus kansalaisyhteisöistä ja poliittisista oikeuksista koskevan kansainvälisen yleissopimuksen sekä siihen liittyvän valinnaisen pöytäkirjan voimaansaattamisesta. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/1976/19760008>
- Sops 18/1990. Laki ihmisoikeuksien ja perusvapauksien suojaamiseksi tehdyn yleissopimuksen ja siihen liittyvien lisäpöytäkirjojen eräiden määräysten hyväksymisestä. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/1990/19900018>
- Sops 19/1990. Asetus ihmisoikeuksien ja perusvapauksien suojaamiseksi tehdyn yleissopimuksen ja siihen liittyvien lisäpöytäkirjojen voimaansaattamisesta sekä yleissopimuksen ja lisäpöytäkirjojen eräiden määräysten hyväksymisestä annetun lain voimaantulosta. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/1990/19900019>
- Sops 59/1991. Laki lapsen oikeuksia koskevan yleissopimuksen eräiden määräysten hyväksymisestä. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/1991/19910059>
- Sops 60/1991. Asetus lapsen oikeuksia koskevan yleissopimuksen voimaansaattamisesta sekä yleissopimuksen eräiden määräysten hyväksymisestä annetun lain voimaantulosta. <https://finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/1991/19910060>
- Sops 71/2006. Tasavallan presidentin asetus kansainvälisen järjestäytyneen rikollisuuden vastaisen Yhdistyneiden Kansakuntien yleissopimuksen ihmiskauppaa koskevan lisäpöytäkirjan voimaansaattamisesta ja lisäpöytäkirjan lainsäädännön alaan kuuluvien määräysten

- voimaansaattamisesta annetun lain voimaantulosta. <https://finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2006/20060071>
- Sops 87/2011. Laki lasten suojelemisesta seksuaalista riistoa ja seksuaalista hyväksikäyttöä vastaan tehdyn Euroopan neuvoston yleissopimuksen lainsäädännön alaan kuuluvien määräysten voimaansaattamisesta. <https://finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2011/20110087>
- SopS 88/2011. Tasavallan presidentin asetus lasten suojelemisesta seksuaalista riistoa ja seksuaalista hyväksikäyttöä vastaan tehdyn Euroopan neuvoston yleissopimuksen voimaansaattamisesta sekä yleissopimuksen lainsäädännön alaan kuuluvien määräysten voimaansaattamisesta annetun lain voimaantulosta (Lanzarote Convention). <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2011/20110088>
- Sops 40/2012. Laki lasten myynnistä, lapsiprostituutiosta ja lapsipornografiasta tehdyn lapsen oikeuksia koskevan yleissopimuksen valinnaisen pöytäkirjan lainsäädännön alaan kuuluvien määräysten voimaansaattamisesta. <https://finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2012/20120040>
- Sops 41/2012. Valtioneuvoston asetus lasten myynnistä, lapsiprostituutiosta ja lapsipornografiasta tehdyn lapsen oikeuksia koskevan yleissopimuksen valinnaisen pöytäkirjan voimaansaattamisesta sekä pöytäkirjan lainsäädännön alaan kuuluvien määräysten voimaansaattamisesta annetun lain voimaantulosta. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2012/20120041>
- SopS 53/2015. Euroopan neuvoston yleissopimus naisiin kohdistuvan väkivallan ja perheväkivallan ehkäisemisestä ja torjumisesta. Istanbulin sopimus. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2015/20150053>
- Sops 5/2016. Valtioneuvoston asetus lapsen oikeuksia koskevan yleissopimuksen valitusmenettelyä koskevan valinnaisen pöytäkirjan voimaansaattamisesta ja pöytäkirjan lainsäädännön alaan kuuluvien määräysten voimaansaattamisesta annetun lain voimaantulosta. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2016/20160005>
- Sops 26/2016. Laki vammaisten henkilöiden oikeuksista tehdyn yleissopimuksen ja sen valinnaisen pöytäkirjan lainsäädännön alaan kuuluvien määräysten voimaansaattamisesta. <https://finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2016/20160026>
- Sops 27/2016. Valtioneuvoston asetus vammaisten henkilöiden oikeuksista tehdyn yleissopimuksen ja sen valinnaisen pöytäkirjan voimaansaattamisesta sekä yleissopimuksen ja sen valinnaisen pöytäkirjan lainsäädännön alaan kuuluvien määräysten voimaansaattamisesta annetun lain voimaantulosta. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/sopimukset/sopsteksti/2016/20160027>
- The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. 2017. Istanbulin sopimuksen toimeenpanosuunnitelma 2018-2021. Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2017:16. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-3970-7>
- Sosiaalihuoltolaki 1301/2014. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2014/20141301>
- Taivaloja N. & Nurminen N. 2020. "Tuki ja hoitomuodot sekä potentiaalisten lapsiin kohdistuvien seksuaalirikosten tekijöiden ehkäisevä kuntoutus [Support, forms of treatment and preventive rehabilitation of child sexual offenders]. In: Miten toteutuu väkivaltaa kokeneen lapsen psykososiaalinen tuki? – Tuki ja hoitomuodot sekä potentiaalisten lapsiin kohdistuvien seksuaalirikosten tekijöiden ehkäisevä kuntoutus. (Ed.) T. Laajasalo. Raportti 17:2020. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-343-587-2>
- Tampere University. N.d.a. Sukupuolistunut väkivalta, vastuullisuus ja eettisesti kestävä toimijuus kouluissa ja kasvatusalalla. ERASE GBV (Education and Raising Awareness in Schools to Prevent and Encounter Gender-Based Violence. Developing and implementing a training programme for teachers and other professionals). Accessed 15 February 2022. <https://www.tuni.fi/fi/tutkimus/sukupuolistunut-vakivalta-vastuullisuus-ja-eettisesti-kestava-toimijuus-kouluissa-ja>

- Tampere University. N.d.b. Kiistelty suostumus: läheisyyden sosiaalinen ja digitaalinen rajankäynti nuorten romanttisissa suhteissa (2019-2023). Online publication. Accessed 7 March 2022. <https://projects.tuni.fi/suostumus/>
- Telia. N.d. Digitaalinen vanhemmuuspakkaus (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.telia.fi/telia-yrityksena/yritysvastuu/digitaalinen-vanhemmuuspakkaus>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2019. Barnahus-hanke (website). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/tutkimus-ja-kehittaminen/tutkimukset-ja-hankkeet/barnahus-hanke>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021a. Kouluterveyskyselyn tulokset (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/tutkimus-ja-kehittaminen/tutkimukset-ja-hankkeet/kouluterveyskysely/kouluterveyskyselyn-tulokset>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021b. Kouluterveyskysely 2019 (no equivalent data collected in 2021). https://sampon.thl.fi/pivot/prod/fi/ktk/ktk4/fact_ktk_ktk4?row=measure-200283.&row=measure-200141.199490.199975.199987.&column=time-199465.403056.601069.&column=gender-143993.&filter=measure-199799&fo=1
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021c. Rikosprosessin näkymää verkkovälitteisistä lapsiin kohdistuvista seksuaalirikoksista. Webcast 27 August 2021. Verkkovälitteiset lapsiin kohdistuvat seksuaalirikokset. Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://webcast.sst.fi/cast/verkkovalitteiset-lapsiin-kohdistuvat-seksuaalirikokset-27-8/public>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021d. Kysy ja kuuntele - sijoitettujen lasten hyvinvointi ja systemaattinen kuuleminen (online publication). Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/tutkimus-ja-kehittaminen/tutkimukset-ja-hankkeet/kysy-ja-kuuntele-sijoitettujen-lasten-hyvinvointi-ja-systemaattinen-kuuleminen>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021e. Väkivallaton lapsuus toimenpidesuunnitelma (website). Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/tutkimus-ja-kehittaminen/tutkimukset-ja-hankkeet/vakivallaton-lapsuus-toimenpidesuunnitelma>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021f. Seksuaaliväkivalta (website). Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/tutkimus-ja-kehittaminen/tutkimukset-ja-hankkeet/vakivallaton-lapsuus-toimenpidesuunnitelma/seksuaalivakivalta>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2021g. Väkivalta ja turvataitokasvatus kodin ulkopuolisissa toimintaympäristöissä (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/tutkimus-ja-kehittaminen/tutkimukset-ja-hankkeet/vakivallaton-lapsuus-toimenpidesuunnitelma/vakivalta-ja-turvataitokasvatus-kodin-ulkopuolisissa-toimintaymparistoissa>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. 2022a. Verkkokoulut (website). Accessed 8 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/palvelut-ja-asiointi/verkkokoulut>
- The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2022b. Valtakunnallinen perhekeskusverkosto (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/web/lapset-nuoret-ja-perheet/sote-palvelut/perhekeskus/valtakunnallinen-perhekeskusverkosto>
- The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2022c. Seksuaaliväkivalta (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/web/lapset-nuoret-ja-perheet/hyvinvointi-ja-terveys/vakivallan-ehkaisy/seksuaalivakivalta>
- The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2022d. Seksuaalikasvatus ja seksuaaliväkivallan ehkäisy (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/web/lapset-nuoret-ja-perheet/hyvinvointi-ja-terveys/vakivallan-ehkaisy/seksuaalivakivalta/seksuaalikasvatus-seksuaalivakivallan-ehkaisyssa>
- The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2022e. Safety skills education (website in Finnish). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/web/lapset-nuoret-ja-perheet/hyvinvointi-ja-terveys/vakivallan-ehkaisy/lapsiin-kohdistuva-vakivalta/turvataitokasvatus>
- Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. N.d. Osallisuusindikaattori mittaa osallisuuden kokemusta (website). Accessed 7 February 2022. <https://thl.fi/fi/web/hyvinvoinnin-ja-terveyden-edistamisen-johtaminen/>

- osallisuuden-edistaminen/heikoimmassa-asemassa-olevien-osallisuus/tutkimus/osallisuusindikaattori-mittaa-osallisuuden-kokemusta
- Terveydenhuoltolaki 1326/2010. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2010/20101326>
- Tulensalo, H., Kalliomeri, R. & Laimio, J. (Eds.). 2021a. Kohti lapsen näköistä osallisuutta. Save the Children (online publication). <https://pelastakaalapset.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/main/2021/05/20140644/kohti-lapsen-nakoista-osallisuutta-kirja.pdf>
- Tulensalo, H., Laimio, J., Kalliomeri, R., Törn, L., Ylhäinen, M. & Levamo, T-M (Eds.). 2021b. Lapsivaikutusten arviointia lasten kanssa. Save the Children (online publication). <https://pelastakaalapset.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/main/2021/08/12100753/pelastakaa-lapset-lapsivaikutusarviointi.pdf>
- Tutkintavankeuslaki 768/2005. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2005/20050768>
- The Ministry for Foreign Affairs. 2021. Nuoret, rauha ja turvallisuus: Suomen kansallinen toimintaohjelma 2021-2024. Publications of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs 2021:3. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-281-352-7>
- Unicef, UN Global Compact & Save the Children (Ed). 2012. Children's Rights and Business Principles (online publication). <https://www.unicef.org/media/96136/file/Childrens-Rights-Business-Principles-2012.pdf>
- Unicef. N.d.a. All for children (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/globalinsight/featured-projects/ai-children>
- Unicef. N.d.b. Lapsiystävällinen kunta -mallia toteuttavat kunnat (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.lapsiystavallinenkunta.fi/lapsiystavallinen-kunta-mallia-toteuttavat-kunnat>
- United Nations. N.d. UN Study on Violence against children (website). Accessed 4 February 2022. <https://violenceagainstchildren.un.org/content/un-study-violence-against-children>
- United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. N.d. Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children (online publication). Accessed 14 February 2022. <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Children/Pages/ChildrenIndex.aspx>
- Finnish Government. 2019. Pääministeri Sanna Marinin hallituksen ohjelma 2019. Osallistava ja osaava Suomi – sosiaalisesti, taloudellisesti ja ekologisesti kestävä yhteiskunta. Publications of the Finnish Government 2019; 31: 91. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-287-808-3>
- Finnish Government. 2021a. Kansallinen lapsistrategia: Komiteamietintö. Kansallisen lapsistrategian parlamentaarinen komitea. Publications of the Government 2021:8. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-777-5>
- Finnish Government. 2021b. Kansallinen lapsistrategia toimeenpanosuunnitelma: Valtioneuvoston periaatepäätös. Publications of the Government 2021;81:22, 25. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-868-0>
- Vankeuslaki 767/2005. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2005/20050767>
- Varhaiskasvatuslaki 540/2014. <https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/alkup/2018/20180540>
- Virrankari, L., Leemann, L. & Kivimäki, H. 2021a. Osallisuuden kokemus ja vanhempien henkinen väkivalta: Kouluterveyskyselyn 2019 tuloksia. Tutkimuksesta tiiviisti 38/2021. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-343-693-0>
- Virrankari, L., Leemann, L. & Kivimäki, H. 2021b. Osallisuuden kokemus ja vanhempien fyysisen väkivalta: Kouluterveyskyselyn 2019 tuloksia. Tutkimuksesta tiiviisti 39/2021. Terveyden ja hyvinvoinnin laitos (THL). <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-343-694-7>
- Virrankari, L. & Leeman, L. 2022. Osallisuuden kokemus ja seksuaaliväkivalta [Experience of participation and sexual violence]. Kouluterveyskyselyn 2019 tuloksia. Tutkimuksesta tiiviisti: 14/2022. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-343-838-5>
- The Family Federation of Finland. 2019. Nuorten väestöliitto. Hyvä kysymys (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.hyvakyksymys.fi/artikkeli/nuorten-vaestoliitto-artikkelit/>

- The Family Federation of Finland. 2020. Pesarapuuttuminen kiusaamisen ja häirinnän ennaltaehkäisyyn (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.hyvakysymys.fi/artikkeli/pesarapuuttuminen-kiusaamisen-ennaltaehkaisyyn/>
- The Family Federation of Finland. N.d.a. Puheeksi ottamisen kuvakortit (POK- kortit). <https://www.vaestoliitto.fi/uploads/2020/11/831dba42-pok-kortit-arvioitavaksi.pdf>
- The Family Federation of Finland. N.d.b. Puheeksi ottamisen kortit, ohjaajan opas (verkojulkaisu). Accessed 15 February 2022. <https://www.vaestoliitto.fi/uploads/2020/11/f0b63d85-pok-opas-arvioitavaksi.pdf>
- The Family Federation of Finland. N.d.c. Häirinnän ennaltaehkäisy (website, model developed in cooperation with Huukin, T. Leikki 1 –hanke). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.vaestoliitto.fi/ammattilaiset/lasten-kehotunnekasvatus/keho-ja-tunteet/seksuaalisen-hairinnan-ennaltaehkaisy/>
- The Family Federation of Finland. N.d.d. Urheiluharrastuksen on oltava turvallista. Et ole yksin (website). Accessed 9 February 2022. <https://www.etoleyksin.fi/>
- YK:n lapsen oikeuksien komitea. 2006. Yleiskommentti Nro. 8 (2006). Lapsen oikeus suojeluun ruumiilliselta kuritukselta ja muilta julmilta tai halventavilta rankaisumuodoilta (muun muassa 19 artikla, 28 artiklan 2 kohta ja 37 artikla). Ombudsman for Children. https://lapsiasia.fi/documents/25250457/37288006/CRC_C_GC_8_julkaisu.pdf/1c789c60-f530-3395-b664-0a43caaf75c0/CRC_C_GC_8_julkaisu.pdf?t=1465380679000
- YK:n lapsen oikeuksien komitea. 2009. Yleiskommentti nro. 12 (2009) - Lapsen oikeus tulla kuulluksi. https://lapsiasia.fi/documents/25250457/37288006/CRC_C_GC_12_julkaisu.pdf/9daac47a-f69f-3258-be52-0d0e34380e69/CRC_C_GC_12_julkaisu.pdf?t=1465380818000
- YK:n lapsen oikeuksien komitea. 2011. Yleiskommentti Nro. 13. Lapsen oikeus olla joutumatta minkäänlaisen väkivallan kohteeksi. Ombudsman for Children. https://lapsiasia.fi/documents/25250457/37288006/CRC_C_GC_13_julkaisu.pdf/2afdd448-aa96-398b-a09f-4c49d46ba09a/CRC_C_GC_13_julkaisu.pdf?t=1465381159000
- YK:n lapsen oikeuksien komitea. 2019. Yleiskommentti nro 24 (2019) - lapsen oikeuksista rikosoikeusjärjestelmässä. Ombudsman for Children. https://lapsiasia.fi/documents/25250457/37295507/CRC_CGC_24_julkaisu.pdf/5d907375-0076-32c9-83c1-b748e7aae8e8/CRC_CGC_24_julkaisu.pdf?t=1599551736000
- YK:n lapsen oikeuksien komitea. 2021. Yleiskommentti nro 25 (2021) - digitaaliseen ympäristöön liittyvistä lapsen oikeuksista. Ombudsman for Children. https://lapsiasia.fi/documents/25250457/38754461/CRC_CGC_25.pdf
- Yliruka, L. & Tasala, T. Lastensuojelun systemaattisen toimintamallin kansallinen tilannekuva vuonna 2021. Tutkimuksesta tiiviisti 9/2022. Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (online publication). Accessed 16 February 2022. <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-343-827-9>



Internet: stm.fi/en/publications

PUBLICATION SALES:
julkaisutilaukset.valtioneuvosto.fi

ISSN PDF 1797-9854
ISBN PDF 978-952-00-5443-4