



LA VOIX DE L'ENFANT TRAIN TOGETHER



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**FOUNDATION MEDERI –
HELP THE CHILDREN**
Memorial Hospital «The children's
Memorial Health Institute »
Al. Dzieci Polskich 20
04- 730 Warsaw
POLAND
Tel: + 48 22 815 76 03
Fax: + 48 22 815 76 02

**FUNDATIA INTERNATIONALA PENTRU
COPIL SI FAMILIE**
Occidentului street N° 44
Cod 010982 Sector 1
Bucharest
ROMANIA
Tél: + 40 21 311 19 15
Fax: + 40 21 311 23 05

I.RE.FORR. SOCIETÀ COOPERATIVA
C.da Malvaccano, s.n.c.
85100 Potenza
ITALY
Tel. +39 0971 51737
Fax. +39 0971 440390

ISTITUTO DEGLI INNOCENTI
Piazza SS Annunziata 12
50122 Firenze
ITALY
Tél: + 39 055 203 73 21
Fax: + 39 055 241 66 3

KARO E.V.
Altmarkt 3
08523 Plauen
GERMANY
Tel.: +49 3741/ 276851
Fax: +49 3741/ 276853

LA VOIX DE L'ENFANT
76, rue du Faubourg St Denis
75010 Paris
FRANCE
Tel: + 33 (0) 1 40 22 04 22
Fax: + 33 (0) 1 40 22 02 90

NOBODY'S CHILDREN FOUNDATION
Walecznych 59
03-926 Warsaw
POLAND
Tél: + 48 226 160 268
Fax: + 48 226 160 314

SOS ENFANTS
Rue Haute, 322,
1000 Bruxelles
BELGIUM
Tel : +32 (0)2 5421408
Fax : +32 (0)25421263

THE CHILDREN'S LEGAL CENTRE
International Policy and Programmes
University of Essex
Wivenhoe Park
Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ
ENGLAND
Tel: + 44 (0) 1206 873 368
Fax: + 44 (0) 1206 874 026

« TRAINING OF PROFESSIONALS WORKING FOR THE TAKING IN CHARGE AND COLLECTION OF THE EVIDENCE OF CHILD VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCES »

On February 12th, 2007, the European Council adopted the decision n°2007/125/JAI establishing the programme "**Prevention of and Fight against Crime**" as part of the general programme "**Security and Safeguarding Liberties**".

Some of the objectives of the programme are the following:

- To promote and develop best practices for the protection and support of victims and witnesses of crimes.
- To establish in cities a police and judicial cooperation with the social services, schools and hospitals in order to strengthen the mechanisms of protection of victims.
- To promote exchanges between law enforcement officials, training, and seminars; to share knowledge and/or best practices aimed to increase mutual confidence; to strengthen criminal investigations and/or improve policy standards.

The Child's Voice, due to all the work done before and to share its knowledge on subject of maltreated children and the collection of the child's evidence and his taking care, wants to propose a new European project, "**TRAIN TOGETHER – SE FORMER ENSEMBLE**", on the training of professionals working close to minors victims.

This programme, retained by the European Commission in February 2008, is made in partnership with 9 associations from 7 different European Countries: *The Children's Legal Centre* in England, *SOS Enfants* in Belgium, *The Child's Voice* in France, *Karo e.V.* in Germany, the *Istituto degli Innocenti* and *I.Re.Forr* in Italy, *the Mederi Foundation* and *the Nobody's Children Foundation* in Poland and, finally, *the Fundatia Internationala Pentru Copil si Familie* in Romania.

Strong due to its experience with the Medical Judicial Units in a hospital environment for child victims in France, to its multidisciplinary work and with the partners of the AGIS programme, the Child's Voice, wishes to define the content of a real common and specific training for professionals with the different partner countries.

The multidisciplinary training allows professionals having different skills to discover their role and their complementarity, as well as to better answer to the needs of a suffering child. This training should avoid the confusion of roles and competences.



The TRAIN TOGETHER project will also allow the departmentalization of competences to lead professionals of different countries to work together with the aim of withdrawing the best existing practices concerning the training of professionals who work close to children, victims of sexual violence and to release fundamental criteria.

The specific objectives of the programme are:

- To identify the good practices and the gaps that exist in the partners' countries concerning the training of professionals working with children victims, before, during and after the interview/hearing.
- To discuss on the different possibilities of creating a basic training module, common to all professionals working close to the child, which will lead afterwards towards specific trainings for each activity: judicial, police service, psychological, medical or social.
- To discuss about the content of a common procedure to train professionals, which will be the best adapted for the needs defined before between the partners.
- To promote the multidisciplinary and international cooperation thanks to the organisation of several International Meetings between the partners.

This programme is at destination of all professionals working in the frame of the taking in charge and collection of the evidence of the children, victims of sexual violence: doctors and medical team, police officers, public prosecutor, lawyers and judges, psychologists, social workers, *ad hoc* administrators, associations for childhood's protection.

The TRAIN TOGETHER programme, of the duration of two years (January 2008 – December 2009), **plans:**

- The organisation of a first International Meeting among the partners of the programme that will take place in Paris in May 2008.
- The taking place of a National Steering Committee in each country to establish the situation analysis of the practices concerning the training of professional working on the taking in charge and collection of evidence of children, victims of sexual violence. Each Committee will be formed by professionals.
- The organisation of the second International Meeting that will take place in Brussels in December 2008 for the discussion of the basics lines of a common professional training among the partners.
- The organisation of several meetings of the National Steering Committee.
- The organisation of a third International Meeting in Warsaw in May 2009. This meeting will have the aim to reach the taking place of a training and specialisation programme and the proposition of cooperation agreement at the European level among the professional engaged in the programme.
- The preparation of the final report and the CD Rom with the information collected.
- The organisation of a Final International Conference, open to public and public authorities, for the diffusion of the programme results and the final report. This Conference will take place in Paris in November 2009.