



GERMAN PRESIDENCY
2022-2023



Children
at Risk

Council of the Baltic Sea States Expert Group on Children at Risk

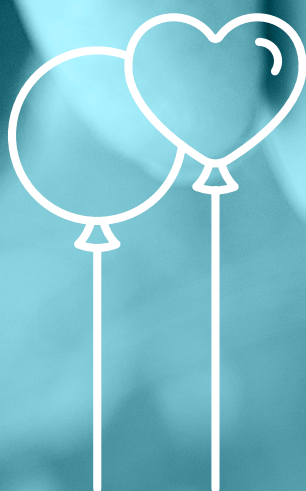
Annual Report
German Presidency 2022–2023



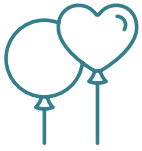
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The **CBSS Expert Group on Children at Risk (EGCAR)** consist of senior officials appointed by the ministries responsible for children’s issues in the member countries to the Council of the Baltic Sea States; Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, and Sweden.



Executive summary



THE GERMAN PRESIDENCY was shaped by the suspension and later withdrawal of Russia from the Council of the Baltic Sea States. While continuing to forge strong ties and mutual trust among the members, the expert group navigated through a period of reflection on the future of the CBSS.

The Expert Group contribution to the reflection process reiterated its strong commitment to the CBSS as an important platform for collaboration and exchange on children at risk, including in times of crisis. The important role and contribution of the Expert group on children at risk, and the Children at Risk Unit at the CBSS Secretariat, to the CBSS long-term priority on a Safe and Secure region, was subsequently recognised and further cemented as a result of the reflection process.

The German Presidency took place as societies in the region slowly opened up and recovered from the pandemic. Two meetings were held in Berlin, with a focus on the German Presidency priority on sexual violence against children. The members discussed the protection of children

and adolescents against sexual violence and exploitation, both on the institutional frameworks in the member states and on specific areas of concern, including children and adolescents with harmful sexual behaviour.

The experts emphasised the significance of maintaining a continuous exchange of good practices, and committed to continued dialogue regarding sexual violence, especially on sexual violence in the digital environment, harmful sexual behaviour among children and adolescents, and sexual violence within peer relationships and trusted circles.

Mid-term through our 5-year strategy, the Expert group remains fully committed to continue to play an important role in building stronger ties and mutual trust between the countries in our region, to facilitate a common understanding of the challenges we are confronted with and to continue to take leadership in generating innovative tools and practice to address current and future challenges to children in our region.

Some of the members of the Expert Group on Children at Risk AR, from left to right: Teresa Roscinka, Ministry of Social Security and Labour (Lithuania); Almut Hornschild, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Germany); Sven Wilson (Children at Risk Unit, CBSS Secretariat); Anna Maria Lemcke, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Germany); Olöf Astra Farestveit, Government Agency for Child Protection (Iceland); Olivia Lind Haldorsson (Children at Risk Unit, CBSS Secretariat); Marjo Malja, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Finland); Merli Lauri, Estonian Social Insurance Board (Estonia); Andrea Hormazabal, National Board of Health and Welfare (Sweden); Unni Nygaard, Bufdir (Norway); Rasmus Bruun National Board of Social Services (Denmark); Anne Kristine Iván, Bufdir (Norway); Shawna von Blixen (Children at Risk Unit, CBSS Secretariat)



German Presidency & Children at Risk Expert Group at a glance

German Chair of the CBSS Expert Group on Children at Risk

Ms **Anna Maria Lemcke**, Policy Advisor, Child protection, early prevention, protection of children and youths from sexual violence and exploitation, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth.

Ms **Almut Hornschild**, Head of Unit, Child protection, early prevention, protection of children and youths from sexual violence and exploitation, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth.

Finnish vice-chair of the CBSS Expert Group on Children at Risk

Ms **Marjo Malja**, Ministerial Counsellor, Department for Social and Health Services, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

The CBSS Expert Group on Children at Risk

The CBSS Expert Group on Children at Risk (CAR) consists of 10 Member States: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden, and Norway. Russia was suspended in February 2022 and subsequently resigned in May 2022.

Authorities in the CBSS member states dealing with children's issues, including Ministries and State Agencies designated to children, have appointed representatives to the Expert Group.

The European Commission Coordinator for the Rights of the Child has an open invitation to take part in the meetings and in other expert meetings organised by the Expert Group.

The website of the Expert Group on Children at Risk is: childrenatrisk.cbss.org/

The Children at Risk Unit at the CBSS Secretariat

Since 2002, the implementation of the strategy and annual activity plans, as approved by the CBSS Expert Group on Children at Risk, are implemented with the support of the Children at Risk Unit in the Permanent International Secretariat of the Council of the Baltic Sea States. The Children at Risk Unit provides secretarial and professional support to the Expert Group, interfaces with strategic partners, drafts relevant documents and reports, and develops and executes projects.

- Senior Advisor and Head of Unit: **Olivia Lind Haldorsson**
- Advisor and Promise Network Coordinator: **Shawna von Blixen**
- Programme Coordinator: **Laura Daoud**
- Policy and Research Assistant: **Sven Wilson**

The work is actively supported by CBSS staff specially assigned to support the Children at Risk Unit:

- Team Leader & Advisor for Communications: **Dominik Littfass**
- Media and Communication Officer: **Ewa Strozniak**
- Financial Controller: **Mia Skytén**

Finance

The Children at Risk Unit operates on a budget which is financed by the member states' contributions. In 2022-23, all Member States contributed to the Children at Risk Unit, and the Children at Risk Unit operating budget was in balance. During the German Presidency, the Children at Risk Unit has been successful in securing funds for specific actions through the European Commission, the Swedish Institute, the EEA Norway Grants and the Oak Foundation. Co-financing, a regular feature of external funding for projects, was covered by the employment costs of the Children at Risk Unit staff.

Mandate and Regional Strategy

The German Presidency took the leadership in implementing the Children at Risk Expert group mandate and strategy, which run until 2025. The mandate sets out the Expert Group's vision, mission, organisational structure, finance, and evaluation mechanisms.

To make our exchange even more effective and productive, the expert group, under the leadership of the German Presidency, adopted procedural changes to the exchange, which will be implemented during the Finnish Presidency.

To monitor progress, the expert group adopted an annual activity plan, which formed the basis for bi-annual progress reports.

German Presidency July 2022–June 2023

The role of the CBSS Expert Group on Children at Risk embraces the two fundamental pillars of CBSS – political dialogue between States and practical cooperation based on tangible projects. This provides the Member States opportunities to move forward positions in our three priority areas: Strengthening child protection systems, Justice and Recovery for child victims and witnesses of violence and, building partnerships for children's rights, child protection and non-violent childhoods.

Prevention and Early Intervention: Strengthening National Child Protection Systems

The core strategic area and priority of the CAR Expert Group is to promote and facilitate regional exchange on key issues of concern to the CAR Expert Group Members with the purpose of identifying and promoting actions to strengthen national child protection systems, in particular measures for prevention and early interventions to protect children at risk.

To implement our role, we act as convenors, facilitating dialogue and exchange with the aim of identifying promising and good practice, building mutual trust and promoting a regional approach and culture on children's rights and child protection.

Priority 1. Regional exchange on children at risk

The German Presidency hosted two expert group meetings during its presidency, with a specific focus on protecting children from sexual violence and exploitation.

Beyond adopting the annual activity plans, reports from the Secretariat, including financial

reports, and the budget for 2023, the experts engaged in dialogue and exchange of good practice, including systematic collection of information from the respective Member States about their country situation and measures to address challenges concerning the protection of children from sexual violence and exploitation.

At the **10-11 November 2022** meeting, the regional exchange focussed on issues related to sexual violence against children. The members highlighted the importance of equity of access to quality services for all children, as well as the significance of maintaining a continuous exchange of good practices with regard to violence against children. The Expert Group members discussed the value and the importance of working with survivors.

The Expert group also engaged in a roundtable discussion on the protection of children from sexual violence and exploitation. The group expressed concern regarding the widespread occurrence of sexual violence against children and adolescents in the region. There was a joint commitment to continued dialogue regarding sexual violence, especially in the digital environment, harmful sexual behaviour among children and adolescents, and sexual violence within peer relationships and trusted circles.

At the **4-5 May 2023** meeting, the group focussed on children with harmful sexual behaviour and sexualised violence among peers.

The Expert Group members engaged in a roundtable discussion on the topic of children with harmful sexual behaviour. The Expert Group on Children at Risk agreed that both victims of harmful sexual behaviour and peer violence and the offenders must be identified and given support. There is also a strong need for increased access to evidence-based methods and practices. Specific attention should be given to children and adolescents with special needs, and children and adolescents at heightened risk of discrimination.

Priority 2.
Mapping of national child protection systems and practice for prevention and early intervention in the Baltic Sea Region

In May 2023, the CBSS launched the summary of the results of the mapping of national child protection systems in seven countries in the Baltic Sea Region (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Lithuania and Norway), which was conducted during the Norwegian presidency.

The mapping identified good practice and core elements of inclusive, sustainable, and resilient national child protection systems, that provide a continuum of protection, including in times of crisis. The mapping also made note of good cross-border practice that contributes to mutual trust and cross-border collaboration between national child protection systems.

The report emphasised that the willingness to constantly question the functionality, organisation, and impact of the systems, has incrementally nudged systems forward towards becoming more integrated, inclusive, and resilient.

Internal and external review contribute to flexibility and responsiveness, which impacts on the system's ability to adapt to emerging challenges and crisis. Involving diverse actors - including children - in review and reform can contribute to innovation and trust.

Trust between agencies and professionals, but also trust between the system and the children and their caregivers, is a key element of well-functioning and inclusive systems. An important aspect of this process is to develop a common language, that forms the foundation for mutual understanding and pulling in same direction towards a common goal.

Investing in a committed, healthy, and professional workforce was identified as a key example of good practice from the region. This includes using the results of research on workload, work environment, health and capacity to reform systems, education, resources and practice.

Participation of children and caregivers is paramount. Examples to promote child participation include law reform and practical guidelines and tools for participatory case management.

Special efforts should be made to define a common language and ensure individual adaptations so that the path towards protection, recovery and justice becomes a joint venture that everyone understands and signs up to, both at a system level and in individual cases.

The Registry of Baltic child protection practice was launched on the Children at Risk website. The registry is a showcase for how the CBSS members are working individually and together to fulfil the vision of its Expert Group on Children at risk: a region where children enjoy the full range of human rights as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The registry aims to contribute to a collective understanding of how child protection works in this region of Europe and supports mutual trust among these systems. **The Second Addendum to the Guidelines On Promoting the Human Rights and the Best Interests of the Child in Transnational Child Protection Cases** was finalised and published. The Guidelines are directed at professionals and officials working with and for children on the move in the fields of childcare, protection and social welfare, immigration and asylum, law enforcement and the judiciary, healthcare and education. The Second Addendum describes standards and obligations under international and European law that ensure children's safety and well-being regardless of their national origin or immigration status. The updated Guidelines provide a comprehensive step-by-step approach to transnational cooperation, starting from the initial identification of a child and relevant assessments, and leading to the identification and implementation of a durable solution, which may include the possibility of return.

Building on the results of the mapping of national child protection systems, and the updated addendum, the project **Promise Soteria** commenced in March 2023, with the aim to promote inclusive and resilient child protection systems, including in times of crisis. The project will specifically contribute to strengthening national practice of well-functioning, accessible and resilient child protection systems and their ability to work on transnational cases. The project also aims at enhancing the contribution of Barnahus as one important component of the broader child protection systems.

Protection, Support and Justice: Promoting multidisciplinary and interagency services for child victims and witnesses of violence (Barnahus)

Priority 1. Promoting multidisciplinary and interagency services for child victims and witnesses of violence through path-finding initiatives, coordination of broad partnerships

Children at Risk plays a central role in leading and overseeing the development of the Promise Barnahus Network, which promotes the Barnahus model. The CBSS chairs the network steering group, providing opportunities to promote the Baltic Sea Region approach to multidisciplinary and interagency (MDIA) models for child victims and witnesses of violence in the region and beyond. In doing so, the expert group drives and promotes a regional good practice model and benefits from broader regional exchange that informs national practice.

On 5 December 2022, the PROMISE Barnahus Network, hosted by the CBSS, held the Barnahus Forum in Stockholm. Approximately 170 participants from 23 countries convened at the Barnahus Forum. They gathered to discuss practices, challenges, learnings, and the ongoing evolution of their work. The sessions convened at the Barnahus included:

- **Q&As** with the authors of the newest research from Denmark on medical evaluations, with experts from Norway on meeting children with harmful behaviours, and with managers of Barnahus.
- **Workshops** exploring victim support, online sexual abuse, and trafficking – all of which are key themes in the newest PROMISE projects.
- **Discussions** about emerging themes such as war crimes, ensuring quality interpretation, enabling cross-examination via streaming or recordings, and scaling up Barnahus nationally.
- **Demos** of technical tools.
- **Consultations** on draft updates to the Barnahus Quality Standards including child participation, forensic interviewing, therapy, interagency collaboration, and capacity building.

- **Opportunities** for course alumni to meet their instructors face to face.
- **Study visits** to Barnahus in Stockholm and Linköping, Sweden.
- **Children participation** in the day and featured on select panels.

Children at Risk also contributed to several initiatives to promote Barnahus by organising training on child forensic interviewing and therapeutic interventions and facilitating dialogue and exchange between professionals. This includes a study visit, exchange and training in Tallinn involving Armenia, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, and Moldova, and a study visit in Barnahus Oslo and Trondheim with a Slovenian delegation. Children at Risk also contributed to a Council of Europe conference about Barnahus in Spain, and the launch of an OECD Report concerning a Child-Friendly System in Latvia.

Priority 2. Implementation of flagship projects (Promise) to promote sustainable exchange, competence building training, peer support, networking, practical tools, and interventions.

[Promise is a CBSS and EU Flagship Project](#), which has promoted the Barnahus model, which has its origin in the Baltic Sea Region, since 2015.

Building on the success of the EU funded PROMISE project (2015-2017), PROMISE II (2017-2019), the PROMISE 3 (2020-2023) which ended during the German presidency, several projects were developed to cover specific aspects of practice in Barnahus:

Promise Journeys: the project aims to improve access to child-friendly justice, protection and recovery for child victims of violence and their families through the provision of a safe, informed, and participatory pathway through Barnahus from initial report to long-term recovery.

Promise Elpis: The project aims at adapting Barnahus processes for online sexual violence cases and promoting multidisciplinary and interagency service models for child victims and witnesses of online sexual violence, ensuring their right to child-friendly justice, protection from violence and exploitation, and a safe path to recovery.

Partnerships for children’s rights and child protection: Promoting law, policy and joint strategies

This priority area focusses on promoting international legal and policy instruments, concepts and guidance adopted by all CBSS Member States for children’s rights and child protection through broad international and regional partnerships and alliances.

During the Norwegian Presidency, the Expert Group enjoyed strong global partnerships and acted as an ally, observer, and adviser in several regional and international fora. We shared experiences, recommendations, and practical tools from our region to a broader audience and engaged in an exchange information on emerging, developing and ongoing initiatives.

Priority 1. Contributing to regional and global strategic events, consultations, workshops and training opportunities to disseminate practical tools and share learning from the BSR region.

The Expert Group is a member or observer in several international and regional fora, including the Global Partnership to End Violence against children, and the EU Victim Rights Platform, in its capacity as coordinators of the Promise Barnahus Network. The Expert Group furthermore has an observer status to the Lanzarote Committee, which monitors the implementation of the Council of Europe Lanzarote Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, and the Council of Europe Committee for the Rights of the Child (“CDENF”).

Children at Risk contributed to regional and international exchange of good practice in a series of events, including:

- **Regional events:** A high-level event on the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse was organised jointly with the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg, France. Children at Risk continued to engage with the EU and participated in the EU Forum on the rights of the child, the EU Children’s Rights Network, the EU Victim Rights Platform meetings, and contributed to the EU Fundamental Rights Forum in a panel on the future of justice for children. Bilateral meetings were held with Commissioner for Democracy

and Demography and Vice-President Šuica, as well as the Human Trafficking Coordinator, Children’s Rights Coordinator and Unit, Victim Rights Coordinator. CBSS presented the results of the child protection system mapping (see above) at the ISPCAN Conference in Tallinn, Estonia, and participated in the 12th Nordic Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect’.

- **Child participation:** Children at Risk moderated a work on child participation in building resilient societies at the EUSBSR Annual Forum and hosted a workshop on child participation in the World Congress on Justice for Children.
- **Ukraine:** Children at Risk made a presentation at a round table “Introducing the Barnahus model in Ukraine: current results and prospects” and participated in the High-level meeting on Protecting Children: EU support for reconstruction and reform of Ukraine’s Child Protection System.

Other contributions include interventions in webinars and organising training sessions for a wide range of stakeholders in the Baltic Sea Region and broader Europe. For more information, please see the list of events at the end of this report.

Priority 2. Developing and nurturing relations and joint initiatives with allies and partners in a broad range of areas to explore emerging, developing and ongoing trends and risks to children.

Children at Risk engaged in a series of activities, research, and collaboration to address ongoing and developing trends that put children at risk, with the aim of developing and promoting common, practical solutions to protect and empower children in the Baltic Sea Region and beyond. A selection of the activities is introduced below.

Trafficking & Exploitation

The collaboration with the CBSS Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings to address the specific needs of child victims of trafficking and exploitation, including where facilitated by online technology, continued in the context of the PROMISE TRM project.

The project aims to significantly strengthen the opportunities and means for coordination between (i) authorities and actors specifically involved in responding to trafficking cases and (ii) authorities and actors involved in responding to violence against children and ensuring child centred justice processes more generally.

The project develops standards and guiding principles for national and transnational referral mechanisms incorporating a specific focus on child victims. It further supports development of a specialised and child-centred multidisciplinary response for child victims of trafficking, drawing inspiration from multidisciplinary and interagency services for child victims and witnesses of violence (Barnahus), in national and transnational mechanisms

Safe and Secure region

Children at Risk is a flagship for the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR). The Children at Risk continued its close collaboration with CBSS Secretariat's Civil Security team to explore and strengthen the role of children and youth in promoting a common societal security culture in the BSR and as contributors [to building resilient societies](#).

Both teams are collaborating under the scope of the project PA Secure Kids, which aims to contribute to sustainable and inclusive mechanisms for child participation in planning, implementation and follow up of national and local measures for building resilient societies. The project seeks to identify initiatives and good practices that enable children and youth to play an active role in their safety and security, and to contribute to the stability and resilience of society.

Online Safety

The CBSS is a partner in Project 2KNOW; developed together with Protect Children and University of Eastern Finland; which aims at improving national and international data collection on violence against children by developing a sustainable and replicable data collection model suited to gathering information about online violence against children.

The project gathers data directly from anonymous offenders searching for child sexual abuse material on the dark web and the surface web, to understand more about the patterns, characteristics, and trends of online crimes of sexual violence against children today.

2KNOW will also produce and pilot a model for parental peer-support groups, to provide practical and psychoeducational support for parents, carers and families – in turn providing essential support to child victims to protect them from further abuse.

Corporal Punishment

The CBSS continues to support the promotion of the full implementation of a ban on corporal punishment of children. During the German presidency, we highlighted through communication and dissemination activities the evidence from across countries of the positive impact of prohibiting corporal punishment.

Selection of events and meetings under the German Presidency

July 2022

12 July, online: EU Victim Support Platform meeting on victims of war crimes (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson)

August 2022

17 August, online: Presenting and giving reflections at a round table “Introducing the Barnahus model in Ukraine: current results and prospects” (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson)

September 2022

15-16 September, Prague, Czechia: Presenting Barnahus at a Parliamentary conference (Children at Risk Head of Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson)

19 September, online: Promise TRM Partner Meeting (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Head of Regional Identity & Communications, Thorvaldur Kristjansson and Project Coordinator for RI, Aline Mayr)

26 September, online: Workshop “Children, youth and disasters. New study results on how children and young people play a role in building resilient societies in the BSR. What obstacles do they face?” (Senior Adviser for Safe & Secure Region Vineta Polatside, Children at Risk Head of Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Adviser for Priority Safe and Secure Andriy Martynenko, Project Coordinator Franziska Seufert)

26-28 September, Denmark: The PROMISE Barnahus Network joins a study visit of Kosovo to Denmark to provide reflections from the BSR/European perspective (Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen)

26-27 September, Brussels, Belgium, online: Presenting at the EU Forum on the rights of the child (Children at Risk Head of Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson)

October 2022

3 October, online: Promise TRM project meeting, (Children at Risk Head of Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Head of Regional Identity and Communications Thorvaldur Kristjansson, Project Coordinator for Regional Identity Aline Mayr)

11 October, CBSS Secretariat: Child Participation Training (DG Grzegorz Poznanski, Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, CBSS Secretariat)

12 October, online: Child victims of war – is there a role for Barnahus? CBSS CAR hosted webinar (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson)

18 October, Stockholm, Sweden: Child10 Awards (Deputy Director General and Acting Head of Sustainable & Prosperous Region Bernd Hemingway, Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen)

19 October, online: Promise Barnahus Networks Steering Group meeting (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Head of Administration Gertrude Opira)

25-27 October, Ljubljana, Slovenia: CBSS CAR Team accompanies Latvian authorities to Barnahus in Slovenia for study visit and exchange (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen)

November 2022

9 November, Berlin, Germany: Study Visit to Childhood House (Barnahus) in Berlin (Children at Risk Head of Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson, Anna Maria Lemcke, Children at Risk Expert, Germany, Almut Hornschild, Children at Risk Expert, Germany)

10-11 November, Berlin, Germany: Children at Risk Expert Group Meeting, (Children at Risk

Head of Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson)

16 November, Strasbourg, France: Joint CoE and CBSS high-level coordination meeting on the Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Director General Grzegorz Poznanski, Children at Risk Head of Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson)

20–21 November, Tallinn, Estonia: Barnahus exchange between Estonia, Ireland and Finland (Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson)

21–23 November, Tallinn, Estonia: Barnahus Study visit and exchange/training with Armenia, Moldova, Finland, Ireland, and Georgia (Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson)

December 2022

4 December, Stockholm, Sweden: Child advisory board to Promise 3 meeting (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen)

5 December, Stockholm, Sweden: Promise Barnahus Forum (Director General Grzegorz Poznanski, Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson)

January 2023

31 January, Stockholm, Sweden: Delegation of the court of South Korea visits the CBSS on a study visit to Sweden to learn more about Barnahus and the Nordic approach to prostitution. (Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson, Senior Adviser TF-THB Edi Mujaj)

February 2023

8–9 February, Stockholm, Sweden: Journeys project kick-off I (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson)

10 February, Madrid, Spain: Presenting at a Council of Europe conference in Spain about Barnahus, supporting the development of the model there. (Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen)

13 February, online: PROMISE Barnahus Network steering group meeting (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson, Head of Administration Gertrude Opira)

March 2023

13–14 March, Helsinki, Finland: 2KNOW project kick-off (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud)

16 March, Brussels, Belgium: Second meeting of the EU Network for children's rights, (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson)

24 March, Stockholm, Sweden: Meeting with the Swedish Institute (DG Grzegorz Poznanski, DGG Bernd Hemingway, Senior Administrative Officer Ligia Broström, Senior Adviser, Safe and Secure Vineta Polatside, Programme Coordinator, CAR Laura Daoud, Senior Adviser, TF-THB Edi Mujaj, Core Team Intern Evelina Matusevic)

27 March, online: PROMISE ELPIS project kick-off (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud, Children at Risk intern Sven Wilson).

29 March, online: Secure Kids Project Kick-off Meeting (CAR team, Civil Security team)

April 2023

5 April, online: PROMISE Barnahus Network general assembly (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud, Children at Risk Research and policy assistant Sven Wilson)

13–14 April, Riga, Latvia: Launch of the OECD Report: Towards a Child-Friendly System in Latvia: Support to Barnahus implementation (Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen).

17 April, Brussels, Belgium: EU Victims' Rights Platform, High-level extended plenary meeting on the EU Victims' Rights strategy (2020-2025) (Children at Risk Policy and Research Assistant Sven Wilson).

18–21 April, Oslo & Trondheim, Norway: Barnahus study visit with Slovenian delegation (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen).

May 2023

4–5 May, Berlin, Germany: Children at Risk Expert Group Meeting (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud)

9 May, Online/Stockholm, Sweden: Promise Soteria project kick-off (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen, Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud, Children at Risk Policy and Research Assistant Sven Wilson)

16–17 May, Brussels, Belgium: Kick-off meeting for beneficiaries of action grants selected under the calls CERV-2022-DAPHNE and CERV-2022-CHILD. (Children at Risk Programme Coordinator Laura Daoud)

21–24 May, Reykjavik, Iceland: 'The 12th Nordic Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect' (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Adviser Shawwna von Blixen)

June 2023

2 June, Stockholm: High-level meeting on Protecting Children: EU support for reconstruction and reform of Ukraine's Child Protection System (Head of Children at Risk Unit Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Children at Risk Research and Policy Assistant Sven Wilson)