

Keeping You Safe – a guide to our Safeguarding Framework



Introduction


The EU Children's Participation Platform is a safe place for children living in the European Union to share what they think about important matters that affect their lives with people who decide in the European Union.



Why is it important to have rules and ways to keep everyone safe? When children in the Platform share their thoughts in meetings and other activities, there could be problems like bullying, violence, or risky situations. That is where our rules will be useful. We put them in place to make sure everyone, especially children, stays safe and feels good and included during Platform activities.

Our key principles

- Children's safety and well-being is very important to us. We are committed to creating a safe and enjoyable space in all our activities (online and in-person). To make sure this happens, we prepared some **words** for everyone to remember and learn:



DO'S

- Participate in the activities of the Platform only if you want to. Your participation is **Voluntary**.
- Every opinion matters! All children can participate no matter their gender, age, origin, etc. This is **Inclusivity**.
- Everyone must treat each other nicely and listen to what others say, even if you don't agree. This is **Respect**.
- It's your role to make sure everyone here feels good. Show **Kindness** to anyone around you.
- Tell us if you notice that something is wrong. That will help us ensure everyone's **Safety**.



DON'TS

- Treat others unfairly based on their origins or culture. This is **Racism**.
- Treat others unfairly because of their age, gender, disability, or if they are different from you. This is **Discrimination**.
- Be mean or try to hurt or humiliate someone in person or online. This is **Bullying**.
- Make others feel uncomfortable with your words or behaviour. This is **Harassment**.
- Make someone feel bad about themselves. This is **Emotional abuse**.



Roles and Responsibilities

Everyone is responsible, including children to make sure that the EU Children's Participation Platform is, and stays, a safe place for children to share their thoughts. However, if something bad happens to you or if you see something that doesn't seem right to you, you should share your concerns with a trusted adult, so they can act quickly to ensure everyone gets the help and support they need.



Remember! Adults must never hurt you or make you feel bad.



How to report a concern?

Step 1: Speak directly, text, or call a Child Protection Officer, who is always present during our activities (online or in-person); their role is to keep you safe and they will make themselves known.

You can also send an email to cppsafeguarding@icf.com;

Step 2: In the next 24 hours, someone will answer you and will explain what will happen next;

Step 3: Adults will investigate the concern, putting always the best interest of the child first!

Step 4: Communication is important, so, we will share feedback with the children who reported the concern when the investigation ends.

