

Council of Europe campaign
to stop sexual violence
against children



Εκστρατεία του Συμβουλίου της
Ευρώπης για τον τερματισμό της
σεξουαλικής βίας κατά των παιδιών

ένα
στα ΠΕΝΤΕ

**Strengthening national policies to stop sexual violence against children:
a Council of Europe project involving pilot initiatives in Cyprus**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to stop sexual violence against children
[www.coe.int/oneinfive]

The ONE in FIVE Campaign was launched by the Council of Europe in November 2010 based on evidence that ONE child in FIVE in Europe becomes a victim of some form of sexual violence, the abuser often being someone the child knows and trusts.

Campaign Goals

The main goals of the campaign are to achieve further signature, ratification and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention) and to equip children, families, carers and society at large with the knowledge and tools to prevent and report sexual violence against children, thereby raising awareness of this crime and its extent.

The campaign has three dimensions (intergovernmental, parliamentary and local/regional). The parliamentary dimension relies on its dynamic network of 53 contact parliamentarians, who act as relays in their national parliaments. Ms Stella Kyriakides is the contact parliamentarian for Cyprus and also the General rapporteur on Children of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

The pilot project in Cyprus

- Aims of the pilot project

The project aims to put Cyprus in a position to ratify and implement the Lanzarote Convention and to stimulate measures against sexual violence against children. This project which is to be completed by April 2016 is co-funded by the A.G. Leventis Foundation.

- How we intend to achieve our aim

The project will review the existing methodologies, modalities and structures for data collection on child sexual abuse, as defined through specifically-designed research. Based on this reliable set of data, policy recommendations for legislative or institutional reforms will be provided with a view to the setting-up of comprehensive and integrated protection mechanisms at national and local levels in Cyprus.

The good practices identified in this pilot project will be shared in multi-stakeholder meetings among parliamentarians, academia, national, regional and local authorities and professionals, with a particular emphasis on the parliamentary dimension, in line with the aims of the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to stop sexual violence against children.

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