

Guardianship provisions for child victims of trafficking

Project description

In the 2012 EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016 (COM(2012) 286 final), the FRA has been requested to support the Commission to “develop a best practice model on the role of guardians and/or representatives of child victims of trafficking.” There is at present no uniform definition of a guardian and/or representative across the Member States and their roles, qualifications and understanding of competences vary from one Member State to another. Directive 2011/36/EU contains a number of beneficial provisions for children, which also relate to the tasks and roles of guardians and/or representatives of child victims of trafficking. This project aims at implementing this request by updating parts of the report on Child Trafficking in the European Union - Challenges, perspectives and good practices published by the FRA in July 2009. More specifically, the FRA will review guardianship systems in place in the 28 EU Member States with a view to identify promising practices. The review will cover issues such as the role of the guardians, their qualification and training or the procedure for appointing a guardian. The research will also explain how specific guardianship mechanisms which are used for child victim of trafficking relate to guardianship arrangement for other children temporarily or permanently deprived of their family environment. Depending on the identified needs, the project may also cover other aspects directly linked to guardianship, such as legal assistance and representation in administrative, civil and especially criminal procedures or age assessment. .

Objectives

- Provide a comparative overview of guardianship systems in place in the 28 EU Member States;
- Identify promising practices as regards guardianship for child victims of trafficking;
- Describe how guardianship in the context of child trafficking relate to guardianship for other children separated from their family (e.g. asylum seekers)

Beneficiaries and target groups

- European Union institutions and agencies;
- EU Member States, when implementing the anti-trafficking strategy

Activities and results achieved so far

- Report on child trafficking issued in July 2009
- In 2013 research on severe forms of labour exploitation will be conducted, which will also touch upon certain aspects of child labour.

Planned activities in 2012

- Comparative desk research covering 28 EU Member States
- Drafting of comparative report

Planned outputs in 2012

- Publication of comparative report highlighting existing promising practices

Output indicators

- FRA report is used by the Commission in the implementation of the anti-trafficking strategy

FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES ALLOCATED TO THE PROJECT

	Temporary Agents	Contract Agents	Seconded National Experts	Total	Budget 201
Research and stakeholder cooperation	0.2	0.1	--	0.3	€ 222.958,0
Communication awareness-raising	--	--	--	--	--
Total	0.2	0.1	--	0.3	€ 222.958,0

Online communication and documentation

Project description

During 2010-2011 the online communication and documentation team developed a plan to totally redevelop the FRA's online communications, which will be continued in 2012. This includes a complete redevelopment of the FRA website to conform to modern web standards (beginning in 2011 and continuing in 2012), with new technology enabling the introduction of additional features and making it more user-friendly and interactive. French and German versions of the website also went online in 2011. Other new online services were also introduced, including FRA pages on the globally most popular social networking sites – Facebook and Twitter – as well as the video-sharing site YouTube. These social media profiles, in combination with other new tools such as an e-newsletter, enabled the FRA to address its stakeholders in an interactive manner, allowing online collaboration and exchange of information on and off-site. The Online Communication Strategy developed by the team targeted key audiences as identified in the Agency's Communication Strategy, supporting further the notion of making the FRA online activities an innovative information hub promoting the FRA's excellence and expertise on fundamental rights issues.

Objectives

The project seeks to contribute to the following FRA long-term objectives:

- Informing target audiences through awareness raising activities;
- Disseminating examples of good practice;
- Co-operating with civil society and international organisations.

Planned outputs

- Development and relaunch of new FRA website (beginning in 2011, relaunch in 2012)
- Further development of profiles on main social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube etc)
- Other online tools (e.g. e-mail newsletter, tools for mobile devices, etc)

Beneficiaries and target groups

Interested parties (including the general public, media etc) and targeted information for main stakeholder groups

Activities and results achieved

- Numerous enhancements to FRA website in 2010-11
- Launch of French and German versions of website in 2011, ongoing updates in 2012
- New relaunched FRA website in 3 languages (EN, FR, DE) in 2012
- Ongoing updates and enhancements to Charterpedia and Case Law Database
- Further development of FRA social media channels (Facebook, Twitter)
- Enhancement of and new video content for audio-visual channels (YouTube)
- Online Communication Strategy developed in 2010-11, will be further enhanced in 2012
- Survey of stakeholders / users to seek views and feedback

Continuous website development

The redeveloped and relaunched FRA website will continue to be further developed, e.g. with new interactive features (e.g. data visualization). The FRA website and online documentation tools will be analysed and ways of integrating them more closely provide a unified user experience examined. The web based information will be made further accessible, e.g. by developing versions for mobile devices. User and stakeholder needs will continue to be addressed via additional features and technical improvements.

Ongoing website updating and maintenance

The redeveloped and relaunched multilingual (EN, FR and DE) website will be updated and maintained constantly. Information related to FRA activities and projects will be extended and regularly updated with new content such as new outputs including video high-resolution images and other audio-visual material. All areas of the site (including thematic areas) will be updated to adapt to the Agency's priorities and stakeholder needs. The statistics gathering tools will be upgraded and statistics will be examined on a regular basis so as to provide ongoing inputs for the Online Communications Strategy.

Social media

The evolution of the social media tools introduced so far (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube) will be studied and ways of enhancing their effectiveness further will be looked at. Other online tools will be examined and their effectiveness assessed in order to decide whether to add them to the FRA's range of online tools.

FRA Charterpedia

The FRA Charterpedia will be updated and maintained constantly on the basis of FRA studies and findings.

FRA Case Law Database

As in previous years, the FRA Case Law database will continue to collect and classify decisions of the European Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights and National Supreme and Constitutional Courts, with specific reference to Charter Fundamental Rights of the EU.

In the context of drawing up their annual report on the implementation of the European Union Charter of Fundamental Rights, the European Commission has approached EU Member States to report amongst others also on judgements handed down by national Courts referring to the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Based on the list of judgements submitted by the Member States, the Commission has requested the FRA to provide more details on these judgements that are considered to be the most significant national judgements citing the EU Charter.

Co-ordination of Human Rights Documentation

The Agency will continue consulting with other European documentation centres and database providers on human rights issues as part of its gradual collection of fundamental rights information. In addition, the Agency will support the standard setting initiatives in Human Rights Documentation by organising and participating in meetings and conferences in the Human Rights Documentation area.

FRA Library

The Agency will continue running a library for internal use supporting the in-house analysis activities, by providing access to relevant external databases, online journals, document delivery services and further developing of the FRA library stock.

Output indicators

number of visits to the Agency's website and its online documentation tools
 stakeholders' perception of the relevance of this work to their needs
 user satisfaction survey
 number of meetings on Human Rights Documentation joined by FRA
 participation rate in meetings on Human Rights Documentation organized by FRA
 number of periodicals subscribed and monographs purchased

FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES ALLOCATED TO THE PROJECT					
	Temporary Agents	Contract Agents	Seconded National Experts	Total	Budget 2012
Research and stakeholder cooperation	0,1	--	--	0,1	€ 70.000
Communication awareness-raising	1,0	0,3	--	1,3	€ 228.00
Total	1,1	0,3	--	1,4	€ 298.00