



13 DETENTION AS  
A LAST RESORT

## Objective 13 of the Global Compact for Migration:

Use immigration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives.



### Inspiring practices from around the world

#### Europe

- [The European Alternatives to Detention Network \(EATDN\)](#) promotes community-based alternatives to enforcement-based migration management systems
- Network members in seven European countries are working to find durable solutions for migrants while living in the community

*"Community-based solutions are feasible and effective..."*

#### Central America

- A project from SOS Children's Villages and IMUMI provided information and protection for children and adolescents in situations of irregular migration
- A community-based model for comprehensive care could include children being fostered temporarily by families

*"Mejora de la situación de niñas, niños y adolescentes en condición de migración irregular en Centroamérica y México"*



### Key resources on the topic

[Alternatives to Immigration Detention of Children](#) by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

*"Immigration detention of children - whether they are travelling alone, or with their families - is never in their best interests, is a violation of their rights, and should be avoided at all costs."*

[End Immigration Detention of Children Campaign](#) by the Council of Europe

*"Measures need to be taken at national level to ensure that all migrant children can enjoy their full rights. This entails implementing relevant laws and adopting alternatives to immigration detention that fulfil the best interests of children."*

[Children on the move: From protection towards a quality sustainable solution: A practical guide](#) by International Social Service (ISS)

*"It is the responsibility of individual countries to protect children wherever they are, regardless of origin - as set out by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child."*

[Ending child immigration detention](#) by the UN Network on Migration

*"It is fundamental to guarantee that no minor child is detained arbitrarily in any of our country's immigration detention centres...on the understanding that determinations on the best interests of the child will be entrusted to an authority other than the migration authority."*