

IMPROVING
THE QUALITY
OF CHILDHOOD
IN EUROPE



88th QoC Talk:

**Supporting families to meet
children's needs by making
quality family support
a right for all children**



• INVITATION •

**Working Group on the Quality of Childhood normally holding its
meetings (QoC Talks) in the European Parliament Building in Brussels.
Its patrons:**

host by

MEP Helmut Geuking

Group of the European People's Party

Type of Meeting:

In Person

Date and time:

Thursday 9 March 2023 from 10:00 to 12.00 CET

Location:

European Parliament Building
Rue Wiertz 60, 1047 Bruxelles, Belgium

Room Spinelli 3E2

**The QoC Talk will be followed by an informal meeting (Post-QoC) where participants
will get a chance to continue conversation with speakers and discuss implications of the
presentation.**

Time:

Thursday 9 March 2023 (same day) from 12:30 until 14.00 CET

Registration:

Please fill in the registration form [here](#) and please specify whether you would like to attend the QoC
and/or the Post-QoC.

Introduction

Family is the primary social structure through which the needs of children and young people are met and their rights achieved, and the right to family life as enumerated in the UNCRC is a key right for all children and young people. The Covid-19 crisis has reinforced the significance of family for children and young people. In accordance with this, most EU policy relating to children and young people is mediated through family, even if this is not explicitly named. Early intervention and preventative approaches in policy and practice focused on children and young people is a good example of an EU policy orientation which has an explicit and significant role for parents, guardians and other family members. A second central theme in European policy, the role of evidence-based practice, as an underpinning principle for investment, informed decision-making, and transferability of best professional practices, is highly relevant to statutory and NGO child and family care services.

However, the incorporation of evidence-based practices into services and professional practice is not standard across countries and challenging to achieve. Different family policies, delivery systems, assessment and intervention traditions make diversity the rule in Europe. The work of the European Family Support Network (Eurofamnet) is addressing this challenge. Established to inform child and family support policies and practices at European level and national level, Eurofamnet has undertaken an extensive programme of work towards a conceptual framework for supporting families, programme quality and evaluation standards, and workforce skills, all for application across Europe.

In this Quality of Childhood talk, EurofamNet will present its work on a resource base on evidence-based quality standards for child and family support provision. The aim of the resource is to guide the research community, policymakers, funders, national and international institutions in formulation, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of child and family support practices and programmes. While the centrepiece of this Quality of Childhood event is the quality standards, these will be framed within a brief outline of a new conceptual framework for Family Support in Europe, and an overview of the status of the adoption of evidence-based standards in the child and family field in Europe.

EurofamNet was established in 2019 and actively engages with the call from the European Commission for citizens services to meet highest quality standards, offering the best evidence in order to provide effective responses that can actually improve children, young people and families' lives. It is a bottom-up, evidence-based, multidisciplinary network funded as an Action (CA18123) under the COST program over a four-year duration (<https://eurofamnet.eu>). Working from a rights based foundation, EurofamNet is building collaborations between a large group of researchers together with key stakeholders – practitioners, policy-makers, children and families representatives. Through its collaborations, Eurofamnet's work connects research, policy and practice in concrete and meaningful ways.

Overall objectives of the QoC Talks:

- To gain a better understanding of the Quality of Childhood in the EU Member States. This time we will focus on ' Supporting families to meet children's needs by making quality family support a right for all children'.
- To reflect on the role that the European institutions can play to improve the situation.
- To get to grips with the values, principles and approaches that could lead to improvements for children both in Europe and around the world.
- To form an effective working group and to get a sense of how to move on.

I take pleasure in inviting you for the 88th session on 9 March 2023.

With best regards,

Christopher Clouder

Chairman Alliance for Childhood European Network Group

AGENDA

- **10.00 Word of welcome**
Christopher Clouder, Alliance for Childhood European Network Group
- **10.10 Word of welcome and a contribution from the European Parliament**
MEP Helmut Geuking
- **10.20 A framework for child and family support in Europe. Contributions from the European Family Support Network**
Lucía Jiménez, University of Seville (Spain)
& *John Canavan*, University of Galway, Chair and Vice Chair of EurofamNet
- **10.30 Quality standards in family support provision**
Metin Özdemir, Örebro University (Sweden)
- **10.50 Implementing evidence-based practices as a model for professional practice for quality family support: A comparative study**
María José Rodrigo, University of La Laguna, Coordinator of the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Social Rights and 2030 Agenda in positive parenting (Spain)
- **11.10 Discussion among participants**
Facilitator Christopher Clouder
- **11.55 Closing remarks**
Christopher Clouder, Alliance for Childhood European Network Group
- **12.30 - 14.00 Post QoC session. To enter more in depth on the topic through an informal session with speakers**
Host: Johanna Schima from Make Mothers Matter
Co-Chair : Daniel Kropf from the Learning for Well-being Foundation

Remark:

A recording will be made of the session and parts of it will be put on the website of the Alliance for Childhood and on the website of the hosting MEP.

Disclaimer:

The organisers organise this session on a best effort basis. However changes in parts of the programme or in the entire programme may occur due to unforeseen circumstances and the organisers cannot be held liable for that. No rights may be derived from this programme.

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With the support of the following organisations:

www.allianceforchildhood.eu

www.learningforwellbeing.org

<https://makemothersmatter.org/delegations/europe/>

<https://eurofamnet.eu>