

Beijing+20 factsheet - Area L: The Girl Child



Policy Context

Childhood is a gendered experience. The, the work and rights of the girl-child demand specific attention in policies and laws to children. The experience of girls and women is gendered by violence in media and education, and the different treatment of girls and women contribute to contemporary violence against them. An evidence-based approach to girls and women is more vulnerable to gender-based violence, including sexual abuse, pornography and trafficking. Other forms of violence against girls and women include: girls to target children, and men and boys who have recently experienced, such as cyberbullying, rape, harassment and sexual assault, girls with disabilities, Roma girls, and girls in child institutions continue to face challenges in accessing health, education and social services. Additionally, eating habits, physical and mental health issues, gendered division of labour, experienced differently by girls and boys.

Conclusions of the Council of the EU regarding the Stouvenou Presidency Report (2008)

- The EU policies and competences regarding children are sufficiently gender sensitive.
- States that particular attention to girls' specific challenges is only paid in the area of, for instance, of discrimination and violence, such as female genital mutilation.

European Union Agenda for the Rights of the Child (2010)

- Seeks to foster effective implementation of the provisions of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, addressing children's rights and of the UN CRC.
- Proposes a number of concrete actions (e.g. identifying police protecting children in vulnerable situations, fighting violence against children and members of the EU).

Directives of the European Union (2011-12)

- Identify children as particularly at risk of violence and set out within a framework for action: gender (Directive 2012/29/EU on human trafficking and Directive 2011/36/EU on combating sexual trafficking and against children).
- Emphasize that specialized services for vulnerable groups are needed by women victims of abuse and their children (Directive 2012/29/EU on victims of violence).

Advisory Report to the European Commission and OSCE Council Conclusions (2012)

- Address the impact of the economic and financial crisis on children.

European Commission Recommendation (2013)

- Recognize children's heightened risk of poverty and social exclusion.
- Stress that gender equality and the rights against discrimination on all grounds faced by children should be part of any effort to tackle child poverty and social exclusion.
- Recognize children as independent rights-holders and call for action regarding child-specific issues (e.g. laboring early school leaving and violence against children).

The strategic objectives of the BPfA and the EU indicators

- L.1. Eliminate all forms of violence against girls (2016)
- L.2. Eliminate negative cultural attitudes and practices against girls
- L.3. Promote and protect the rights of the girl-child and address awareness of her needs and potential
- L.4. Eliminate discrimination against girls in education, with a focus on girls and women
- L.5. Eliminate discrimination against girls in health and nutrition
- L.6. Eliminate discriminatory legislation of child labor and protect girls' rights at work
- L.7. Eliminate violence against the girl-child
- L.8. Promote girls' full economic, social and political participation
- L.9. Strengthen the role of the family in improving the status of the girl-child

Read more:

[EIGE's work on the Beijing Platform for Action](#)

Downloads



Beijing+20: The Platform for Action (BPfA) and the European Union Area L: The Girl Child

EN (PDF, 132.44 KB)

















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Beijing+20: Pekingplattformen och EU Område L: Flickor

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Metadata

AREAS: Beijing Platform for Action

BPFA AREA: L. Mergaitès