



What has the EU Alliance for Investing in Children achieved in 2014?

24 partner networks have actively participated in the EU Alliance on Investing in Children, coordinated by Eurochild. We joined forces throughout 2014 to release common statements in advance of both EPSCO Council meetings, on the Annual Growth Survey and the mid-term review of Europe 2020, calling for the prioritization of children in EU policies.

The Investing in Children Alliance Partners mobilised members in 15 countries to develop detailed case studies that demonstrate how the European Commission Recommendation 'Investing in Children: Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage' can be implemented in practice. This will be published in an 'Implementation Handbook' in early 2015.

In November partner members' from five countries (Belgium, Ireland, Estonia, Latvia, Greece) took part in a targeted workshop on using EU instruments – Europe 2020 and structural funds – to support implementation of the Recommendation. All participants expressed an interest in establishing Alliances on Investing in Children in their own countries.

Children from Spain and Slovakia opened the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion Annual Convention 2014 alongside the President of the European Parliament and the European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility. The children were selected through the Alliance because of their contribution as self-advocates at local and national level.

At the side event of the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion Annual Convention representatives of the Presidency of the Council, the European Commission, and the Social Protection Committee made a clear commitment to continuing the priority on investing in children.

In Spain, eight political parties were represented in the high level debate on 15th December 2014 – all of whom invited follow-up meetings with Alliance partners to discuss their political manifestos and how they can link to the EC Recommendation. Ten partners joined the Spanish Alliance, including the Plataforma de la Infancia - the Spanish network of child rights organisations.

In the UK, high level representatives of the 4 nations (England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Scotland) presented their policies on child poverty and well-being on 16th December 2014. A detailed policy mapping is being carried out to assess implementation of the EC Recommendation across the UK and to identify good practice.



Spain: Coordinated by Spanish National Committee for UNICEF



UK: Coordinated by Children in Wales, in partnership with children England, Children in Scotland, Children in Northern Ireland



For more information: www.alliance4investinginchildren.eu

Twitter: [#Alliance4IC](https://twitter.com/Alliance4IC)

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The EU Alliance for Investing in Children is a temporary initiative developed in the framework of 'Module 1: Facilitation of joint actions' supported by the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity - PROGRESS / EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation.

Members of the EU Alliance for Investing in Children include:

- Eurochild
- Alliance for Childhood
- ATD Quart Monde
- Caritas - Europa
- COFACE – Confederation of Family Organisations in the European Union
- Dynamo International – Street Workers Network
- Don Bosco International
- EAPN – European Anti-Poverty Network
- EASPD – European Association of Service providers for Persons with Disabilities
- ELIANT Network
- ENSA – European Network of Social Authorities
- EPHA - European Public Health Alliance
- ESN – European Social Network
- Eurodiaconia
- EuroHealthNet
- European Child Safety Alliance
- European Parents Association
- FEANTSA – European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless
- ISSA - International Step by Step Association
- Mental Health Europe
- PICUM – Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants
- Save the Children EU Office
- SOS Children's Villages International
- UNICEF EU Office

This programme is implemented by the European Commission. It was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment, social affairs and equal opportunities area, and thereby contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 Strategy goals in these fields. The seven-year Programme targets all stakeholders who can help shape the development of appropriate and effective employment and social legislation and policies, across the EU-28, EFTA-EEA and EU candidate and pre-candidate countries.

For more information see: <http://ec.europa.eu/progress>

