

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR REPORTING ON THE ECEC RECOMMENDATION¹:

This questionnaire aims to facilitate reporting by Member States on how they followed up on the commitment in Art. 23 of the [Council Recommendation of 8 December 2022 on early childhood education and care: the Barcelona targets for 2030](#). The Recommendation aims to increase participation in accessible, affordable, and high-quality early childhood education and care (ECEC). Where appropriate, reference can be made to reports submitted under existing reporting mechanisms, such as the Open Method of Coordination, the European Semester and other relevant Union programming and reporting mechanisms.

The Recommendation on Early Childhood Education and Care: Barcelona Targets 2030 complements other policy initiatives related to early childhood education and care, notably the [2019 Council Recommendation on High-Quality Early Childhood Education and Care Systems](#) and the [2021 Council Recommendation establishing a European Child Guarantee](#), and builds upon their follow-up work.

The information collected will feed into the Annual report on gender equality and into the Commission reporting on the Recommendation to be delivered at the end of 2027 (Art. 25 of the Recommendation). When reporting on the implementation, we will use information from Eurostat, the Eurydice Country Reports and Eurydice Key Data Reports. The reference data set for the new Barcelona target is available at EU-SILC: [Online data code: ilc_caindform25](#). For ease of reference, we attach the computation of the targets per Member State in accordance with Article 3 of the Recommendation in the Annex.

¹ [EUR-Lex - 32022H1220\(01\) - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

ECEC SYSTEM

1. Could you describe what ECEC system your country has in place and what age group it covers (e.g. integrated system/split system)?

To answer this question, we have information from the Eurydice country reports² and the Eurydice Key data report³. In case, your Member State would like to add more information, please share it here:

2. What challenges is your country facing at the moment in the area of ECEC? What do you think are the main challenges for the coming years?

In your answer, you might want to refer to information submitted by your MS in the following sources:

- *Child Guarantee National Action Plans*
- *Recovery and resilience plans*

And/or double check the information in the “Challenges” section in the “Key contextual data” chapter of the [Seeapro Country Reports \(seeapro.eu\)](https://seeapro.eu). In case, your Member States would like to add more information, please share it here:

CHILDREN AT RISK OF POVERTY OR SOCIAL EXCLUSION

3. What is, if any, the participation gap in ECEC between children at risk of poverty or social exclusion and the overall population of children for the age range 0 to 3 and 3 to mandatory school age? If yes, what measures has your country taken to address it?

² [Early Childhood Education and Care \(eurydice.eu\)](https://eurydice.eu)

³ The Eurydice Key Data report will be published by the end of 2024 and will describe the ECEC systems of all European countries in detail, and will provide maps and tables showing aggregated as well as national data

INTENSITY OF PARTICIPATION

4. Are there ECEC services or complementary services available before and after regular working hours and for what age group? Were they introduced in relation to the adoption of the recommendation? Do you plan to introduce them?

CHILDREN FROM DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUNDS

5. Did your country introduce targeted measures to enable and increase participation in ECEC of children from disadvantaged backgrounds? To answer this question, we will use the information in the Child Guarantee national reports. If relevant, please provide additional information on inclusive measures as for:

- (i) children at risk of poverty or social exclusion;
- (ii) Children with a migrant background;
- (iii) Children with insufficient knowledge of the language of schooling;
- (iv) Children with disabilities;
- (v) Children with specific needs or with special educational needs.

6. Did your country introduce support training programmes for ECEC staff designed to support them in offering high quality ECEC for these groups? If yes, please describe what kind of programmes were introduced. *To answer this question we will use the information in the [Seeapro Country Reports \(seeapro.eu\)](https://seeapro.eu), which include a Workforce profile with this information. If you wish, you can complement it.*

QUALITY

7. Have you introduced national or regional Quality Frameworks in line with the Council Recommendation on High Quality Early Childhood Education and Care Systems in relation to the Recommendation?

8. What are in your country the

- minimum staff-child ratios and group sizes; *to answer this question, we will use the Eurydice and Seepro national reports. If you consider it relevant you can complement this information with additional input.*
- support measures for the professionalisation of all ECEC staff; *to answer this question, we will use the Eurydice and Seepro national reports. If you consider it relevant, you can complement this information with additional input.*

TERRITORIAL DISTRIBUTION

9. Did your country take measures in relation to the Recommendation in order to ensure a homogenous territorial distribution of ECEC services? (art. 9) Please, specify how.

AFFORDABILITY

10. Has your country taken, or plan to take, measures in relation to the Recommendation aimed at ensuring that the ECEC services are affordable for all children? (art. 10)

ACCESSIBILITY

11. Has your country taken, or plan to take, measures in relation to the Recommendation to remove obstacles to ensure equal access to ECEC for all children in a non-discriminatory manner? (such as those listed in art. 11 of the Rec).

COMPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

12. Has your country taken, or plan to take, measures in relation to the Recommendation to complementary services and out of school care? (such as those listed in art.13). How is this organized (via schools, privately, fee controlled, inclusiveness)? If so, for what age groups? Is this subsidised in any way?

AWARENESS OF RIGHTS

13. Has your country taken, or plan to take, measures in relation to the Recommendation to promote parents' awareness of their rights, e.g. entitlement to a place in ECEC, proactively inform parents about possibilities, benefits and costs of ECEC and financial support available?

STAFF WORKING CONDITIONS AND SKILLS

14. Have you taken, or do you plan to take, measures in relation to the Recommendation to improve working conditions and skills of ECEC staff (art. 17)?

TACKLING THE GENDER CARE GAP

15. Have you taken, or do you plan to take, measures in relation to the Recommendation combating gender stereotypes and encouraging equal sharing of care responsibilities; and to promote availability and gender-equal uptake of family-friendly work arrangements and family leaves by both parents? (art. 19)

GOVERNANCE AND DATA COLLECTION

16. Have you taken, or do you plan to take, measures in relation to the Recommendation to improve governance and data collection on ECEC services? In particular, improvements to the relevant data in EU-SILC and UOE data collection? (art. 20 and 21)

17. Have you started collecting data on uptake of work-life balance measures included in the Directive 2019/1158, in particular parental and paternity leaves?
