



Children need to speak up and express themselves. But judges don't know much about children's rights.

“

D, 13 years old – Belgium



I would promote the awareness that children do not actually belong to their parents, even though they gave birth to them.

“

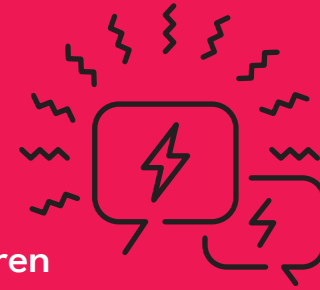
S, 15 years old – Croatia



Adults should believe children and react to violence. If children confide in you, don't ignore it.

“

T, 15 years old – Croatia



I did not feel safe at home but I generally had issues with my family. So it just got worse.

“

T, 16 years old – Austria



CARES

VOICES OF CHILDREN & YOUTH



Child-centered and Accessible crisis-Response for an Effective protection System (CARES)



PARTICIPATION



You don't need to do as I say, but you need to hear me out.

“

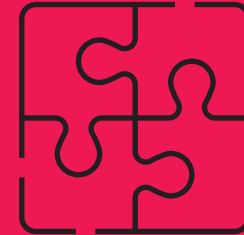
J, 14 years old – Croatia



For major decisions, always ask those who could be harmed.

“

R, 15 years old – Austria



They listen to me, but they don't take into account what I say when making decisions.

“

J, 15 years old – Belgium

VIOLENCE



Children don't talk to adults about being bullied because they don't think they will believe them or do something about it.

“

T, 16 years old – Croatia



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Read the EU report



What is the project about?

To what extent do child protection services ensure that children's rights are respected at all times, in all circumstances, particularly during a national crisis situation? The European project CARES (Child-centered and Accessible crisis-Response for an Effective protection System) aims at building stronger mechanisms to enable children to be protected and participate in finding solutions.

Read children's testimonies and act upon it.

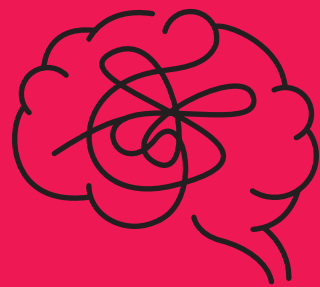
Who are the children sharing their testimonies, and in what context?

The project places special emphasis on the right to participation of children. The quotes you are reading come from the workshops and interviews they took part to.



I started self-harming and I had no help.

“
C, 14 years old – Austria



MENTAL HEALTH



Therapy should be part of health insurance.

“
S, 18 years old – Austria



During Covid, we couldn't reach out to anyone for support and help.

“
G, 15 years old – Austria



The solitude was exhausting. When I am alone, I don't eat.

“
S, 16 years old – Belgium



My family could no longer afford things that are necessary for a good life.

“
D, 15 years old – Croatia



Some children cannot afford the basic school equipment.

“
D, 13 years old – Croatia



Those with money have rights, so I want money.

“
F, 16 years old – Belgium



People who needed most help were put on the spot during Covid.

“
H, 16 years old – Belgium

ACCESS TO SERVICES



Belgian services for children in danger were very hard to reach during Covid.

“
H, 16 years old – Belgium

