



Introduction

The **Data Mosaic** project focuses on preventing violence against children (VAC) within the prison context by facilitating more comprehensive, comparable and human-rights based data systems that detect all forms of violence and are sensitive to the different experiences of **imprisoned children**, including girls and children belonging to marginalised groups, such as LGBTQI+ children and children with mental health problems or disabilities, or children belonging to racial, ethnic, religious or language minorities.

Funded by the European Union (CERV-2022-DAPHNE, 101096692), Data Mosaic will be implemented between March 2023 and January 2025, mapping current data collection practices and promising approaches to **monitoring and tackling violence against children in prisons** across the EU in order to inform the development of a data collection tool and good practice guidance that will be piloted in close cooperation with child justice authorities in **Bulgaria, Ireland and Romania**.

Informed by the extensive **research**, lessons from the **national pilots**, as well as the **expertise** of children with lived experience, front-line staff, and international child justice experts, the project will engage both national and regional child justice stakeholders through wide **knowledge-sharing** and **advocacy** activities to support systemic action and evidence-based changes toward child-friendly justice in both policy and practice.

Coordinated by **Penal Reform International** (PRI), the project consortium gathers the **Social Activities and Practice Institute** (SAPI), **Fundatia Terre des Hommes** – Elvetia (TdH Romania) and **Fundación Tierra de hombres** (TdH Spain). Universidade **NOVA** de Lisboa joins as an associated partner.

“Violence against children, in all its possible forms, is widespread. Children can be victims, witnesses, as well as perpetrators of violence – [including] in the justice system [where] children in vulnerable situations can be particularly affected. [...] With the child at the centre, all relevant authorities and services should work together to protect and support the child, in their best interest.”

- EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child, pp. 11, 12

Main outcomes of the Data MOSAIC project

- **Better understanding** of the current data collection systems and practices on VAC in detention in EU, identifying strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for improvement
- **Increased capacity** of national agencies and juvenile justice facilities to collect data on VAC in detention in a systematic, transparent and non-discriminatory manner
- More **child-friendly organisational culture** within prison institutions and juvenile justice facilities, supporting greater trust and connectedness between children and professionals
- **Increased awareness** among juvenile justice stakeholders across the EU on importance of improved data collection tools and practices on VAC

Key characteristics of the project:

Inclusivity and representation: The project prioritises the inclusion of the rich and diverse expertise of **children with lived experience** of justice system involvement, which is woven throughout project activities both by child participation in the three focus countries as well as the establishment of an international Childrens Advisory Group. Beyond the voice of the child, the project’s work and outcomes will benefit from the **input of frontline staff, national, regional and international experts** on child justice and children’s rights, including through an International Advisory Committee, and the diverse expertise of the project consortium.

Cross-national knowledge sharing and impact: Beyond the focus countries, the project’s research and capacity building activities offer **engaged stakeholders**, from practitioners to policy makers, the opportunity to share insights and learn from each other. The extensive advocacy and dissemination efforts aim to translate lessons from the EU-wide study and national pilots to **internationally applicable recommendations** and discussions that lead toward broader **systemic impact**.

For more information please contact Tanja Dejanova, PRI’s Europe Programme Coordinator, at tdejanova@penalreform.org



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.