



## Recommendation 1778 (2007)<sup>1</sup>

# Child victims: stamping out all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly, referring to its [Resolution 1530 \(2007\)](#) on child victims: stamping out all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, recommends that the Committee of Ministers invite those Council of Europe member states which have not already done so to sign and ratify as soon as possible the existing international and European legal instruments relating to the protection of children, in particular those mentioned in the resolution, to confirm within six months action taken on this point, and to introduce a procedure for monitoring the safeguards provided for children in member states.
2. The Assembly invites the Committee of Ministers to take all appropriate steps in order that the Council of Europe member states:
  - 2.1. draw up and establish domestic legal and social procedures as set out in [Resolution 1530 \(2007\)](#) in order to guarantee children's protection against all forms of violence, exploitation or abuse;
  - 2.2. encourage the competent national authorities to ensure wide circulation to both children and adults of information and advice on prevention, detection and prosecution of child abuse, and to enhance specialist training in this respect for professionals dealing with children;
  - 2.3. encourage partnerships and co-operation at national, European and international level in implementing effective machinery to protect children, such as the provision of central files that make it possible to record the various types of violence encountered and the victims thereof, to discover and dismantle any child exploitation networks that exist, and to activate appropriate and effective criminal justice machinery;
  - 2.4. establish action plans backed by adequate material and human resources in order to combat all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse of children
3. In addition, the Assembly urges the Committee of Ministers to instruct its competent governmental committees, particularly the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ), working closely with the Parliamentary Assembly, to produce a draft convention aimed at affording children comprehensive, effective protection against all forms of violence, exploitation or abuse, and a model law transposing the provisions of this draft convention which could be applicable in all member states and would in particular define such concepts as the child's best interests, harmonise criminal law definitions of offences committed against children, and seek to protect them comprehensively against all interference with their bodily or psychological integrity, whatever their cause and form.
4. The Assembly asks the Committee of Ministers to instruct the relevant governmental committees to propose measures to facilitate and optimise children's access to the appeals and complaints procedures for upholding the rights bestowed on them by the Council of Europe's existing legal instruments, in particular the European Convention on Human Rights (ETS No. 5) and the revised European Social Charter (ETS No. 163).

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1. *Assembly debate* on 23 January 2007 (3rd Sitting) (see Doc. [Doc. 11118](#), report of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, rapporteur: Mr Gardetto, and [Doc 11138](#), opinion of the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, rapporteur: Mrs Ohlsson). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 23 January 2007 (4th Sitting).



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5. The Assembly invites the Committee of Ministers to find ways and means of involving children as much as possible in the work done pursuant to this recommendation.