

Recommendation 2044 (2014)¹

Final version

Ending child poverty in Europe

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly, referring to its [Resolution 1995 \(2014\)](#) on ending child poverty in Europe, once again welcomes the commitment of the Council of Europe to children's human rights and child protection, most recently manifested in the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2012-2015.
2. The Assembly notes that, in the framework of the current strategy, the issue of child poverty is covered under the third strategic objective, "guaranteeing the rights of children in vulnerable situations", as a factor rendering children even more vulnerable than they are already. The Assembly considers, however, that child poverty should be given more prominence when it comes to the implementation of the strategy.
3. Many child-oriented services offered at national and local levels are confronted with budgetary restrictions which may have a direct impact on the quality of such services and their delivery. In the future, there needs to be greater participation of children in order to better target social services and increase their effectiveness by identifying those that are truly needed by children.
4. With the purpose of reinforcing the well-being of children and the protection of their rights at the European level, the Assembly invites the Committee of Ministers to:
 - 4.1. give greater priority to the issue of child poverty when preparing and adopting the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child beyond 2015, in particular as regards guaranteeing the rights of children in vulnerable situations and the promotion of child participation;
 - 4.2. invite its different governmental bodies relating to children's rights to pay special attention to the current economic context and the particular situation of children living in poverty when implementing the current Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2012-2015;
 - 4.3. pay the same attention to this context in the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on the participation of children and young people under the age of 18, Recommendation CM/Rec(2011)12 on children's rights and social services friendly to children and families, and the guidelines on child-friendly health care (2011) and on child-friendly justice (2010);
 - 4.4. invite the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe to contribute to activities in this field alongside the governmental sector and the Parliamentary Assembly, given that local and regional authorities are important stakeholders when it comes to implementing social policies and services aimed at families and children.

1. *Assembly debate* on 11 April 2014 (18th Sitting) (see [Doc. 13458](#), report of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, rapporteur: Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 11 April 2014 (18th Sitting).

