

**CARD 1**

# INVESTING IN CHILDREN IN EUROPE

THE EUROPEAN UNION  
IS A GROUP OF  
**28** COUNTRIES  
THAT WORK  
TOGETHER



ONE OF ITS  
JOBS IS TO  
PROVIDE ADVICE  
TO EUROPEAN  
GOVERNMENTS  
ON IMPORTANT  
ISSUES.

The EU has recently  
provided guidance on  
how governments  
should spend money  
for children. This  
is because it is  
concerned about child  
poverty in Europe.

To tackle the problem, the European Union has given advice that:

- reminds countries about the promises they have made to promote and protect children's rights. e.g., all children have the right to be educated and get health care if they need it.
- And it explains what they should do about child poverty.

HOW SHOULD  
GOVERNMENTS  
GO ABOUT  
DOING THIS?



Countries should remember  
their children's rights promises  
when making decisions  
about spending money  
for children.

**CARD 2**



THE  
RECOMMENDATION  
INCLUDES 3 SETS  
OF PROMISES...

When children don't have the proper essentials to live they are often not as healthy and don't usually do as well in school as other children.

1 CHILD IN  
4 IS AT RISK  
OF POVERTY AND  
SOCIAL EXCLUSION



1



2



3



4

# INVOLVE CHILDREN IN THESE DECISIONS



## **CARD 3**

1

# FIRST SET OF PROMISES

Governments should work hard to make sure that children and their families get the support that they need...

SO...

Parents should get enough money to meet the families' needs.

Families should have childcare they can afford and that suits them



# PLAN FOR THE FUTURE



## **CARD 4**

PARENTS AND  
GUARDIANS SHOULD  
HAVE A GOOD BALANCE  
BETWEEN WORK AND  
FAMILY.



For example  
parents should get enough  
time off work  
to spend with their children.

**MAKE SURE  
EVERYONE IS  
WORKING  
TOGETHER AND  
CO-OPERATING**



**CARD 5**

# 2

## SECOND SET OF PROMISES

# SCHOOL

Governments should work hard to make sure that children and their families get the support that they need...

### SO...

All children should benefit equally from health services (doctors, nurses, hospitals, dentists, medicine)

Children should be helped to learn and develop from an early age.

Children should have a safe place to live and have their needs met if they cannot stay with their families. For example, they might need to go to fostercare.



MAKE  
DECISIONS  
BASED ON  
GOOD  
INFORMATION



## **CARD 6**

3

## THIRD SET OF PROMISES

Governments should work hard to make sure that all children can take part in activities, no matter what their background...

The cost of after-school clubs should not be so high that children can't afford to take part.

for example

Children should have a say when decisions are made. For example, a decision to build a new play park or change the location of a school.



ASK FOR MONEY AND  
SUPPORT FROM THE  
EUROPEAN UNION  
IF THEY NEED HELP  
TO KEEP THESE PROMISES



**CARD 7**

# WHY DOES THIS MATTER TO YOU?

It is important for you to know the promises your government has made for children.

If you think your government isn't keeping its promises, you might want to write to your local politician to remind them and ask them to work harder on this.





# Eurochild

Putting children at  
the heart of Europe

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*This is the European Recommendation  
“Investing in children: breaking the cycle of  
disadvantage” launched in 2013.*



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