



TAIEX TSI Workshop Child & Youth well-being and mental health first

Organised in co-operation with the

*Reform and Investment Taskforce
SG REFORM, European Commission*

*Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer
Affairs; Regional Ministry of Social
Inclusion, Youth, Families and Equality of
Andalusia*

Ministry of Health of Cyprus

*Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and
Social Affairs & ProMIS, Italy*

Ministry of Health of Slovenia



20 and 21 May 2025

Venue: Thon Hotel Bristol
Stephanie, Brussels

Beneficiary: Italy, Spain,
Slovenia and Cyprus

TSI 90530

Aim of the Workshop:

The **TSI (Technical Support Instrument)** is operated by the European Commission's Reform and Investment Taskforce (SG REFORM). **TAIEX TSI** events are organised by DG ENEST in agreement with SG REFORM for the benefit of Member States that are receiving technical support through the **TSI**.

The **aim of this workshop** is to allow an in-person peer exchange among participating authorities of the TSI 2023 project "Child & youth wellbeing and mental health first" and public administration experts from other EU Member States. It will facilitate the creation of a community of practice among the different participating authorities via the development of inter-personal connections and in-person interactions among peers around the topic of **wellbeing and mental health of young people**.

Speakers:

- **Ciresica Feyer**, Deputy Head of Unit, Unit E3 – European Pillar of Social Rights European Commission, Reform and Investment Task Force (SG REFORM)
 - **Octavian Bivol**, UNICEF Deputy Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia (video)
 - **Antonio Garrido Porras**, Technical Advisor for Childhood and Public Health, Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia
 - **Maria Hidalgo**, Head of the Prevention Service, Ministry of Social Inclusion, Youth, Families, and Equality of Andalusia
 - **Olalla Garcia Pineda**, Mental Health Program Adviser, Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia
 - **Ina Verzivolli**, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF
 - **Alexandros Tifas**, Mental Health Nursing Officer, Ministry of Health of Cyprus
 - **Glykeria Kalamata**, Youth officer, Youth Board of Cyprus
 - **Adamantia Zisimopoulou**, Project and Policy Officer, Cyprus Youth Council
 - **Anahit Minassian**, Youth Mental Health Technical Support Coordinator, UNICEF
 - **Janja Križman Miklavčič**, Official, Ministry of Health of Slovenia
 - **Karan Courtney-Haag**, Nutrition Specialist, UNICEF
 - **Stefania Boscato**, Official, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Italy
 - **Giuseppe Salamina**, Medical Officer, Ministry of Health of Italy
 - **Paolina Marone**, MHPSS Project Manager, UNICEF
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- **Francesco Bonatesta**, Youth Advisory Board Child Guarantee Member, Youth Board of Italy
 - **Tai Žnidarčič**, President, Students' Organization of Slovenia (DOS)
 - **Marleen Renders**, Senior Advisor adolescent and youth development, UNICEF ECAR
 - **Biliana Sirakova**, EU Youth Coordinator, European Commission
 - **Hanna Abraha**, Policy officer - Disease prevention and health promotion, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), European Commission
 - **Chrisoula Arcoudis**, Policy Officer - Fundamental Rights Policy, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST), European Commission
 - **Saara Rapeli**, Project Manager, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland
 - **Cristina Marin**, Inspector, Public Policy Unit, Ministry of Education, Romania
 - **Maria Peyioti**, Youth Health Advocate, Cyprus Youth Council & Resident Psychiatrist at the University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis, Greece
 - **Laura Korhonen**, Professor at Linköpings University & Director of Barnafid - Swedish National Centre on Violence Against Children, Sweden
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Day 1: Tuesday, 20 May 2025

Chairs: SG REFORM - Emilie Rosier and Oana Dumitrescu

Venue: Thon Hotel Bristol Stephanie, Brussels

Room: Bristol 3 & 4

Interpretation from English to Spanish and vice versa will be available.

The conference will be live streamed.

*Local
time*

08:30 *Arrival of participants & Welcome Coffee*

MORNING SESSION

09:00

Welcome and introduction:

- **Ciresica Feyer**, Deputy Head of Unit, Reform and Investment Task Force (SG REFORM), Unit E3 – European Pillar of Social Rights European Commission
- **Octavian Bivol**, UNICEF Deputy Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia (video recording)

09:15

Icebreaker activity

09:40

Project updates and open exchange among participating authorities on key topics selected by each country, based on the project progress so far

Part I: Andalusia and Cyprus

- 20 minutes project presentation per component
- 15 minutes Q&A per component

Speakers:

Andalusia:

- **Antonio Garrido Porras**, Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs
- **Maria Hidalgo**, Ministry of Social Inclusion, Youth, Families, and Equality
- **Olalla Garcia Pineda**, Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs
- **Ina Verzivolli**, UNICEF

Cyprus:

- **Alexandros Tifas**, Ministry of Health Cyprus
- **Glykeria Kalamata**, Youth Board of Cyprus
- **Adamantia Zisimopoulou**, Cyprus Youth Council
- **Anahit Minassian**, UNICEF

11:00

Coffee Break

11:20

Project updates and open exchange among participating authorities on key topics selected by each country, based on the project progress so far

Part II: Italy and Slovenia

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 minutes project presentation per component • 15 minutes Q&A per component <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p><u>Slovenia:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janja Križman Miklavčič, Ministry of Health • Karan Courtney-Haag, UNICEF <p><u>Italy:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stefania Boscato, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs • Giuseppe Salamina, Ministry of Health • Paolina Marone, UNICEF
12:30	Networking Lunch
<p style="text-align: center;">AFTERNOON SESSION</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Coffee and sweets will be served from 15.30 in the foyer of the room.</i></p>	
14:00	<p>Quick dive into meaningful youth engagement:</p> <p>Youth representatives (Italy, Slovenia and Cyprus):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Francesco Bonatesta, Youth Advisory Board of Italy • Tai Žnidarčič, Students' Organization of Slovenia (DOS) • Adamantia Zisimopoulou, Cyprus Youth Council
14.30	<p>Meaningful and Systemic Youth Engagement for Improved Mental Health Services</p> <p><i>Speaker:</i> Marleen Renders, UNICEF ECAR</p> <p>Key EU perspectives for advancing youth engagement agenda</p> <p><i>Speaker:</i> Biliana Sirakova, European Commission</p>
15:30	Coffee Break
15:45	<p>Group work in Country Teams: Strategies for meaningful and systemic youth engagement in mental health promotive and preventive services:</p> <p><i>What does it take to ensure young people are effectively engaged in design, implementation and evaluation of mental health promotive and preventive services? (engagement strategies with various groups/profiles of young people, resources, safeguarding, professional support needed, etc.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to design and develop youth-friendly programmes and services with, for and by young people, also using digital services? • How to reach the most vulnerable children and youth to improve access to mental health care and support young people's overall well-being
17:00	Key take aways and closing remarks
17:15	End of day 1

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Day 2: Wednesday, 21 May 2025	
Chair: SG REFORM – Emilie Rosier and Oana Dumitrescu	
Venue: <u>Thon Hotel Bristol Stephanie</u> , Brussels	
Room: Bristol 3 & 4	
<i>Interpretation from English to Spanish and vice versa will be available.</i> <i>The conference will be live streamed.</i>	
Local time	
08:30	Welcome Coffee
MORNING SESSION	
09:00	Panel Discussion: Reducing Stigma in Children's Mental Health & well-being <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hanna Abraha, Directorate-General for Health and food safety (DG SANTE), European Commission • Chrisoula Arcoudis, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST), European Commission • Saara Rapeli, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland • Cristina Marin, Ministry of Education, Romania • Maria Peyioti, Cyprus Youth Council & University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis, Greece <p><i>Moderated by: SG REFORM</i></p>
10:15	Coffee break
10:30	Group Discussion: Cross-Sectoral Cooperation and Multidisciplinary Approaches <p>Group discussion among beneficiary authorities' representatives and experts on the cross-sectoral cooperation between health and child protection services/sectors - focusing on children at risk of violence and of separation - as well as children that have already experienced violence and that may be separated from their parents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation from expert • World café technique: each group will have a facilitator to ensure productive discussions and note-taking and will also use a flipchart to summarise the main takeaways <p><i>Speaker/Expert:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Korhonen, Linkopings University & Barnafriid - Swedish National Centre on Violence Against Children, Sweden
12:00	Closing Remarks – summary of key takeaways and next steps
12:30	End of day 2 and end of the workshop

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TAIEX

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