



**Missing  
Children  
Europe**



*The President's  
Foundation for the  
Wellbeing of Society*

# **Lost in Migration, III edition**

## **Global strategies and political commitments for all children in migration**

20-22 February 2019, Malta

## **Guidelines for submitting a blog post**

Thank you for your interest in blogging for “Lost in Migration – Global strategies and political commitments for all children in migration”. Thank you for being part of our community of field professionals, policy makers and researchers coming together to address the practical protection needs to prevent, protect and respond to the disappearance of unaccompanied children.

### **A. WHY should I write for the “Lost in Migration” blog?**

The blog was launched during the first edition of the conference in 2017. With the third edition coming soon, we want to take the chance to revive this important platform. The blog will be essential to feed into the conversations that will take place at the event and to create a hub for the exchange of information and opinions among stakeholders concerned with the issue.

The third edition of Lost in migration will explore the following topics:


- 1. Children on the move towards Europe:**
  - What happens to children before getting to Europe and what are the dangers to which they are increasingly exposed in third countries, due to the intensification of migration control measures?
  - What are the responsibilities of Member States during children’s journey towards Europe?
  - What are the consequences of these experiences once in Europe, in terms of mental health, personal growth and development; how does this painful baggage impact their decision to stay or leave care, to trust or not trust existing support and procedures, and their vulnerability to exploitation and abuse?
  - The importance to increase the quality and the use of legal channels to make sure that children can arrive in Europe without going through the danger of perilous and unsafe journeys across countries – good practices and successful stories?
  - Good practices in third countries in terms of supporting displaced children, providing realistic and reliable information about the situation in Europe and the existing options to move regularly across borders?
- 2. European developments, two years after the adoption of the Commission Communication on Protecting Children in migration**




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An analysis of the implementation of European guidance at national level, highlighting specifically in which areas we can see progress and where national policies are still lagging behind

### **3. In view of European elections in 2019**

The conference will discuss how to make sure that politicians will explicitly commit to the protection of children in migration and on bringing forward the conference recommendations when elected

## **B. WHO is the audience of the “Lost in Migration” blog?**

The blog will remain available online and will target a diverse range of professionals, including academics, researchers, media, policy makers and frontline professionals. This public access will allow exchange of perspectives and knowledge between all the actors concerned, who often do not have the opportunity to communicate with each other but need to cooperate to ensure the protection of migrant children. Blog posts will also be shared proactively through various social media channels, to further raise awareness on the topics addressed.

## **C. WHAT topics/themes is the “Lost in Migration” blog looking for?**

A blog post could address any topic that is relevant for the aforementioned objectives of the conference. It could discuss policy or good practices at local, national or global level.

Blog posts can also be of a more personal nature, for example to:






- > Talk about a personal experience of being a child in migration
- > Talk about working with children in migration, child victims of trafficking or child protection needs at the frontline
- > Describe an (anonymized / depersonalized) case you have managed of a child in migration, which you feel explains or illustrates the problem
- > Explain best practices or recurring challenges you face in your day to day work with children in migration

## **D. HOW do I submit a post to the “Lost in Migration” blog?**

The post should be in English, and the ideal length is between 650 and 5000 words. Ideally, we would like to feature new content but if you would like to refer to a previously published post or research, please ensure publishing it on our blog entails no copyright infringement. Your submission should be in Word format and should be sent to [laure.vierset@missingchildreurope.eu](mailto:laure.vierset@missingchildreurope.eu).



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In addition, the submission should include an author bio of approximately 60 words. The bio should include your Twitter handle if you have one, as well as any other relevant links you wish to display: your blog, LinkedIn profile, Facebook page, website URL, etc.

Your submissions should also include at least one supporting image (in PNG or JPG, ideally high resolution). This could be anything from the logo of your organisation, an image that illustrates the topic addressed, a picture of you. Please provide a title and credits, if applicable. Your submission may include infographics, videos, and interactive content. In this case, please include the embed code for the infographic/video within your Word doc.

### **Need help? Here are some tips for writing an engaging blog post!**



- Use a title that would catch someone's attention - relatable, powerful and with a punch.
- What is the key message of your post? Make sure your introduction has the juiciest nugget of the story so that even if the reader only skims through the first paragraph they have the essential information.
- If relevant, make it personal - Relatable stories and experiences will often make a bigger impression than statistics. If you don't have a story, use quotes from children/trustworthy or other surprising and unique illustrations that help understanding your point.
- Now that you have your audience's interest and support, how can they help? Always end with a call to action or further information on how the audience can learn more or support the protection of children.
- Keep it short, simple and to the point. Avoid unnecessarily long explanations or repetitions.
- Remember to ask yourself - would you find value in this blogpost? Would the title catch your attention and make you read the article? If the answer is yes, then you're in good form.

Submissions will be curated by the organisers and may be rejected if irrelevant to the theme of the conference, inappropriate or not in line with the children rights principles outlined in the UN CRC. If necessary, you may be asked for content/language tweaks. Missing Children Europe will acknowledge the receipt of your submission and will let you know within a week if it has been accepted for publication.



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