



Lost in Migration, III edition

Global strategies and political commitments for all children in migration

20-22 February 2019, Malta

Call for workshops

Missing children Europe and the President's Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society (Malta) invite NGOs and IGOs to submit their workshop proposal for the third edition of the Lost in Migration conference.

What is Lost in Migration?

Lost in Migration is an annual forum where NGOs working at European and local level, professionals working with national and European Institutions and frontline child carers come together to exchange expertise and elaborate strategies and recommendations for decision makers, with the final goal to make sure that young newcomers feel safe, integrated and respected in Europe.

Previous editions of the event were attended by H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta, Maud de Boer Buquicchio, UN Special Rapporteur for Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children and President of Missing Children Europe, European Commissioners Avramopoulos and Jourova, high level officials from EU Agencies, UNHCR, UNICEF and IOM, and representatives from hundreds of NGOs active on protecting children in migration at local level.

Every year, the conference participants elaborate operational and policy recommendations for better protecting children rights in Europe.

The focus of next edition: Children on the move towards Europe and political commitments towards children in migration

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

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

A campaign will be launched, calling for politicians to confirm their commitment by including specific wording in their programmes and narratives before and after the elections, focusing on making sure that all children will be accounted for in Europe and treated without discrimination, in full respect of the Convention of the Rights of the Child, also in view of preventing disappearances.

> Call for workshops

Missing Children Europe and the President's Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society invite organisations working with children in migration, especially at national and local level, to submit proposals for workshops focusing on good practices and field experiences on the topics of the conference. Workshop proposals must include a minimum of three presentations and a moderator / discussant. Priority will be given to proposals that adopt an interactive methodology.

All proposals should be submitted electronically to info@missingchildreneurope.eu by **30 November 2018** through the template enclosed.

Proposals should include:

1. A summary of workshop's idea and objective 250 words (stressing how you plan to make the workshop interactive for participants),
2. A recommendation that your workshop proposes (recalling or adding to previous Lost in Migration recommendations)
3. Speakers and Moderators' bio

Proposals will be reviewed by the conference organisers and rated according to quality, relevance and potential impact. Specific criteria against which the proposals will be evaluated are:

- Relevance of the organisation's action with regard to conference theme – "Global strategies and political commitments for all children in migration" (15 points)
- Clear, focused and informed formulation of a forward-looking recommendation based on good practices from local and national level (15 points)
- Complementarity with other proposals (10 points)

The organisers may be able to contribute/partially contribute to expenses incurred by the selected participant for travel/accommodation. This will depend on available funding for the conference.

Organisations/participants will be informed about this option once selected. In case funding will not be available, the application may be withdrawn without consequence.

