

CFJ-EN Annual Seminar 2025

Bridging Child Protection and Child Justice Enhancing collaborations for child-centred justice systems

WORKSHOPS & INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

Following on the model used during previous CFJ-EN Annual Seminars, the purpose of the thematic workshops and interactive sessions is to explore several topics linked to the Seminar's main theme. This year's seminar specificity will be that the event will propose different interactive sessions, with various formats, throughout the event.

Deadline for submission: Friday 30th July 2025, 5:00pm CET

Formats

- **Workshop**

Our workshop sessions are designed to promote deep learning, skill-building, and exchange. There will be approx four to eight workshops, divided in **two rounds of four parallel workshops**, each lasting **50 minutes**. This structure allows each participant to attend two sessions. Each workshop can host approximately **15-30 participants**, ensuring a focused and interactive experience.

We are currently inviting proposals for workshop contributions in the following format:

- **Interactive session:** It consists in facilitating a conversation with the audience, without a formal presentation, only a quick introduction to the suggested topic. The interactive session gives the chance to engage in mutual learning and raise awareness on the suggested topic. The proposal must include both an introduction to the topic and the process that will be used for engaging the audience. The proposal must include the activity's contents, objectives and methods, including the ideal minimum and maximum number of participants and their degree of experience.

If you are interested in organising a workshop, we invite you to fill the first section of the attached form.

- **Human Library**

In the Human Libraries, knowledge is shared person-to-person, story-by-story. Each small table will be hosted by a "living book", a storyteller, practitioner, Young Justice Transformer, or other inspiring individual; who will share a personal or professional experience. There will be two rounds of 1h15 of Human Libraries, each featuring each 10 unique "living books".

Participants are invited to join a table, listen, ask questions, and engage in informal conversation. Participants can move freely to another table to hear a new perspective, fostering a rich exchange across different stories and approaches.

This flexible format invites curiosity, empathy, and mutual learning, allowing participants to explore a diversity of real-world experiences in a deeply personal way.

If you have a powerful story, innovative practice or tool, or meaningful lesson learned that you would like to share, we invite you to fill the second section of the attached form.

- **Circle of inspiration**

The Circle of Inspiration is a dynamic and participatory discussion format designed to foster deep dialogue and the exchange of meaningful ideas. In this setting, a small group of speakers will sit in the centre of a circle, engaging in conversation around a key issue or theme. Surrounding them, the audience forms an outer circle, listening attentively and who can join the inner circle at any time by taking one of the available empty chairs and contribute to the conversation.

There will be **two circles of inspiration (two sessions)**. Each session will last **1h15** and bring together around **50 participants**. This format creates a unique space where experience, research, and innovative practices can be shared in a spontaneous, inclusive and respectful way.

Theme of the 1st session: Strengthen the capacities and the roles of child protection systems in Europe.

Theme of the 2nd session: Promote child rights-based responses and gatekeeping mechanisms to protect children in contact with the justice system.

If you are interested in being one of the central contributors, we invite you to fill the second third section of the attached form.

- **Poster presentation**

In addition to the different interactive sessions, we invite you to share your work and ideas through poster presentations during the seminar. These posters will be displayed in the different spaces of the venue **throughout the 2.5 days of the event**, offering continuous opportunities for exchange and networking. Participants will be able to exhibit large printed posters (A1 or A2) or other creative materials, such as brochures, project sheets, or business cards, to visually communicate your work. We welcome diverse approaches, from academic posters to project snapshots or advocacy campaigns, and we encourage you to make the most of this interactive display format. Use this opportunity to highlight your research, project, or idea in a creative and engaging way! Please note that you will be responsible for printing your own poster material and the organisers will not be able to do so. We will however provide you with the support to hang your poster.

If you are interested in sharing documentations during the seminar, we invite you to fill the fourth section of the attached form.

Important notes:

- The human libraries and circles of inspiration will take place **simultaneously**.
- We will not be able to provide **interpretation** for the workshops or the human booksellers, therefore, if some or all of your speakers do not speak English, it will be your responsibility to provide interpretation.

Themes

The interactive sessions (workshops, circles of inspiration, human libraries, posters) should be linked to one of the four seminar themes:

1. Strengthening the capacities of child protection and justice systems

- *What are the roles of the child protection systems in safeguarding the rights, care and protection of all children in contact with the justice system, without discrimination? How can/should these roles be supported?*
- *Which resources can be optimised to strengthen the capacities of child protection systems?*
- *How can integrated child protection systems improve outcomes for children in need of care and protection when in contact with the justice system?*
- *What policy recommendations can ensure justice systems function alongside child protection frameworks, and vice versa?*

2. Promoting child-rights-based approaches

- *What challenges within child protection systems may increase the likelihood of children coming into contact with the justice system?*
- *How can pedagogical or social work-based interventions be prioritised to prevent such outcomes? What mechanisms are needed to ensure supportive, child-centred approaches take precedence over punitive ones?*
- *How can early interventions, non-custodial and restorative practices, tailored support programs, and interagency cooperation prevent unnecessary institutionalisation, whether in justice, psychiatric, or care systems, while reducing the risks of children entering in contact with the justice system?*
- *How can neuroscience findings on trauma and brain development inform child protection and justice responses?*

3. Ensuring continuity of care

- *How can child protection and child justice systems better cooperate to support children in their transition to adulthood, ensuring continuity of care and preventing their shift into punitive or exclusionary systems during this vulnerable phase?*
- *What is the role of long-term caregivers in ensuring effective child protection, and how can their relationships be supported?*

4. Spotlighting complex cases: Challenges and Opportunities

- *How can child protection and justice systems be adapted and what resources exist to address:*
 - *the growing risks children face in the **digital environment** and their protection needs?*
 - *the risks children face in a **domestic violence** context and their protection needs?*
 - *the stigmatisation of **children with imprisoned parents**, and their protection needs?*
 - *the protection needs of children who are victims, suspects and/or accused, in **transnational child protection cases**?*
 - *the protection needs of children involved in **family law cases**?*

Are you interested in applying? Please fill in the form here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/XFbXEXpX0D>

Contact details

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The CFJ-EN is part of the legal entity of



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