

**ASYLUM SEEKING MINORS ARE CHILDREN AND
YOUNGSTERS!
RESOLUTION TO THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS**

The participants of the Youth Care Platform Conference, on 27th June 2016 in Rotterdam, appeal urgently to all European Institutions to safeguard the rights of fleeing children and youth.

1. Children's wellbeing must have priority in all European member states.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 3.1 states: *In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.*

2. Accompanied and unaccompanied children and youth, who flee to Europe, travelling on hazardous and dangerous routes, are in a particular way threatened by risks to their safety, poverty, lack of education, health and social care and social exclusion.

3. Europe cannot accept another lost generation again (for example: Greece, Spain and Portugal) either for social, economic or ethical reasons.

4. Local authorities and service providers all over Europe do make tremendous efforts to take care of their designated responsibilities of the asylum seeking minors. But they need the support of the European Union to effectively do this.

5. The European Union and its member states' policies and practices on young refugees have an enormous impact on European solidarity, freedom and peace as well as on their credibility to build up a European civil society. However, the current refugee policies fail to convince young people about the solidarity of intention of Europe.

Contact:



6. Human dignity, equality for all, human rights and especially the rights of children are basic European values (with a legal base since the Nice treaty). The European Union and its member states has to make steps forward to ensure these rights and to improve the perspectives and chances of these children and young people.

7. The refugee phenomenon is not a temporary crisis, it is a remaining and ongoing challenge for the next generation. Therefore the care of refugees is a pan-European task and duty. It is a precondition for Europe's future in peace, prosperity and wellbeing.

8. The European Union has to undertake immediate action within its EU youth strategy to develop approaches and instruments concerning the protection and social integration of young refugees, for a period of time until after 2018.

9. The human rights of young refugees concerning the UN Convention on the Rights of a Child must be monitored across Europe!

Adopted at the Youth Care Platform conference 27th June 2016.

CONTACT

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