

**AGENDA (V3 FINAL)
YOUTH CARE PLATFORM
27TH JUNE 2016 IN ROTTERDAM (NL)**

VENUE

Erasmus MC
Wytemaweg 80
3015 CN Rotterdam
Netherlands

<http://www.innovation-in-care.eu/rotterdam/route>

*(Note that the address mentioned in previous agenda was different!
Correct address above)*

AGENDA

All documents available at <http://www.youthcare.eu/> (document section)

8:30 WELCOME

Welcome and introduction by Stefaan Van Mulders, chair
Welcome by our host *City of Rotterdam*

8:45 AFTER CARE GUARANTEE

State of play and follow up after the finalization of the project
The After Care Guarantee project was funded under the Erasmus+ (Youth – KA 2). The Youth Care Platform is acting as advisory board of the project. One year project from April 2015 to March 2016.

9:00 – 10:30 UNACCOMPANIED MINORS AND YOUTH CARE

Context note

In summer and fall of 2015 continental Europe was confronted with a sharp increase in the number of Asylum seekers. Mainly families and adults, but unaccompanied minors (UAM) as well.

In Belgium the Federal government is responsible for the reception of asylum seekers. The French and Flemish community governments are responsible for the organization of youth care in their respective

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region. Unaccompanied minors are at the intersection of both competences. Therefore the Flemish community reserves a part of its youth care capacity for the most vulnerable UAMs (victims of THB, youngest, special needs, ...)

Within the group of UAM who arrived in the last months of 2015 the number of younger children was strongly increased. Before 12-14yo UAM were rather exceptional, now there were 50 UAM younger than 12 in 5 months.

	08/15	09/15	10/15	11/15	12/15	Total
Age <12	2	5	20	14	9	50
Age 12-14	30	47	39	132	120	368
Age 15-17	241	320	390	493	597	2041
Total	273	372	449	639	726	2459

(Figures from the Federal agency for sheltering of asylum seekers)

The Flemish Youth Care authorities decided to invest in family care for providing appropriate care to young UAMs. But this requires a long term investment, it's not suitable for immediate and urgent solutions.

On the short term the number of places in residential units was there for increased from 100 to 150 and to 300 places this summer; with priority for UAMs younger than 15yo. But even in small groups it's not easy to make young children with a traumatic background living together with each other.

We assume that the context of Asylum seekers and UAMs is comparable in most European regions and that all authorities and service providers involved are struggling with similar challenges. In order to learn from each other's experiences and practices we want to address the topic in this Youth Care Platform's meeting.

Issues:

- Are Youth Care providers in other regions involved in the reception of young UAMs? What kind of services are in place?
- Are there any good practices to share in the sheltering, social, psychological care ... for young UAMs? What works and what doesn't?
- Should the Youth Care Platform consider to bring key players from regional and local actors together to exchange practices and experiences?

We propose not to focus on institutional aspects ('how do member states organize reception and care for UAM'), but rather invite to share inspiration, know-how and exchange on good practices.

9:00 Key note 1: The asylum crisis at European level

Observations on the European Commission's view and policies
(TBC)

9:15 Key note 2: Young children as UAM

(Johan Vangenechten, Agency For Youth Welfare, BE)

9:30 Key note 3: Unaccompanied Minor Refugees – Challenges for the Societies and the Youth Care

(Georg Horcher, DE)

9:45 Key note 4: Findings and outcomes of the European "Alternative Family Care (ALFACA)- project"

(Liedewij de Ruijter de Wildt, NL)

10:00 Local perspectives, inspiring cases

All regional representatives are invited to present – briefly! – the vision, policy and practices applied in their region (giving your region's field of competence) on UAMs and their local approach and practices. See the context note.

Conclusions

11:00 FOLLOW UP ON EUROPE'S SOCIAL POLICIES

What's happening in Europe (Actual topics at EU-level that impact the youth care)
(Jos Sterckx, Knowledge Center Social Europe)

11:15 MANAGEMENT ISSUES

How to go on with the Youth Care Platform after 2016?

In 2014 the Flemish Agency for Youth Welfare initiated the Youth Care Platform (first meeting at the occasion of the ENSA general assembly in Garda, IT). It chaired the Platform for a first period of 3 years. A first work plan was developed and approved (see:

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbX5b3V0aGNhcmVwbGF0Zm9ybXxneDo3MzU5YTlzMWY0NmM2YTQx>). **What's the near future for the Youth Care Platform?**

Website, membership, expanding the network to new regions and partners, ...

Planning next meeting in March of April 2017, Brussels.

11:30 END OF THE YOUTH CARE PLATFORM MEETING

COMMENTS

*Please send all comments to
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