



# **Guidance on Statistics on Children**

## ***Spotlight on children exposed to violence, in alternative care, and with disabilities***

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**TransMonEE: 30 years of monitoring child rights and inequities**

**Ankara, 1 November 2022**

# UNECE & Conference of European Statisticians (CES)



## United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

- One of five UN **regional commissions**
- Includes **56 member States** in Europe, North America and Asia
- Part of the **UN Secretariat**

## Conference of European Statisticians (CES)

- **One of the oldest international bodies** on statistics
- Founded in 1953; stems from the first Conference of Statistics held under the League of Nations in 1928
- **Steered by the CES Bureau**, composed of Chief Statisticians from 8 countries and 6 international organizations
- In 1991 developed and adopted the **Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics**



# Objective of the Conference

## Objective:

To advance official statistics at the national and international levels in the region.

## Achieved through:

- **Streamlining** international statistical work
- Developing **guidelines** to enhance data quality
- Supporting countries' **capacity** in particular on measuring progress towards SDGs
- Providing a statistical **database** and a platform on SDGs

All the CES work supports the achievement and measurement of SDGs



- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child, European Child Guarantee, EU Youth Strategy
- Despite high-level commitments, data gaps persist



# CES Task Force on Statistics on Children, Adolescents and Youth



- Proposed by UNICEF, UNFPA, UNECE and Eurostat
- Endorsed by **Bureau of Conference of European Statistics** in February 2020



# Why is it important to have internationally comparable statistics?



- Helps identify national data gaps
- Supports evidence-based policy making and analysis and assessment of public policies
- Prompts improvements in collection, measurement, and reporting, improving quality of data for national and international purposes

# Task Force objectives, activities, outputs



## Objectives

- Improve availability, quality, and comparability of statistics on children\*
- Develop recommendations towards harmonized definitions, methodologies

## Activities

- Compile inventory of international and national data sources
- Review definitions, standards, and methods; evaluate comparability, identify gaps
- Document practical and ethical challenges
- Collect and present good practices
- Develop recommendations

## Output

- *Guidance on Statistics on Children*

# Focus areas



**Children with disabilities**

**Children experiencing violence**

**Children in alternative care**

## **Why focus on these populations?**

- ✓ Among the most vulnerable
- ✓ Absence of standards and definitions
- ✓ Overlooked in data collection
- ✓ Missing from international reporting frameworks



# International data sources



**Data Warehouse**  
**SDG country profiles**  
**TransMonEE**  
**Office of Research  
(Innocenti)**  
**MICS**



**Child well-being data  
portal**  
**Family Database**



**Eurobase**  
**EU-SILC module**  
**EU Time Use Surveys**

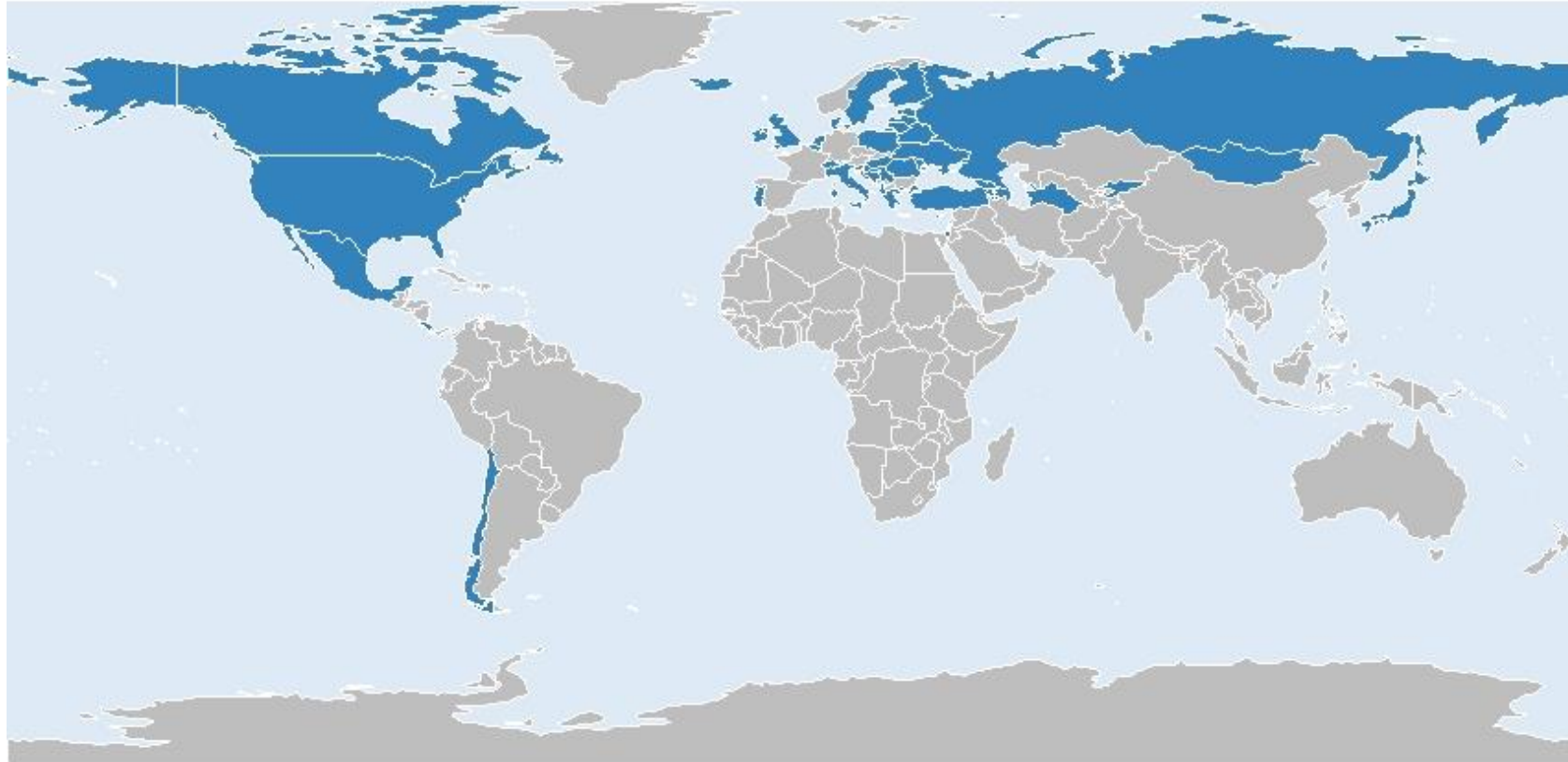
# National data sources and practices: Country questionnaire



- Are statistics on children regularly/systematically produced?
- Main indicators produced
  - Data source
  - Type of entity producing the statistics
  - Measure or definition (alternative care/violence/disability)
  - Disaggregations
  - Frequency of data collection and reporting
- Challenges
- Suggested improvements



# National data sources and practices: Country questionnaire



**43 countries responded**

- Albania
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Republic of Belarus
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Canada
- Chile
- Costa Rica
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- Georgia
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Kyrgyz Republic
- Japan
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Mexico
- Republic of Moldova
- Mongolia
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Republic of Serbia
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Türkiye
- Turkmenistan
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom
- United States

# Guidance on Statistics on Children



## Statistics on Children

Spotlight on children exposed to violence,  
in alternative care, and with disabilities



- General issues for statistics on children and youth
  - International context
  - Recommendations
- Children with disabilities, Children experiencing violence, Children in alternative care
  - Key concepts and definitions
  - Data availability
  - Key indicators
  - Quality and comparability
  - Data gaps and challenges
  - Recommendations
- Ethical considerations
- Recommendations and further work

<https://unece.org/statistics/publications/statistics-children>

# Future work under CES



Proposal for **joint CES-TransMonEE expert meeting** in 2024 endorsed by CES Bureau

Topics to be covered include:

- Administrative and linked data for statistics on children
- Implementation of the International Classification of Violence against Children
- Implementation in national surveys the Child Functioning Module (CFM) of UNICEF and the Washington Group

What other topics should be prioritized?

# Thank you

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