



European Child Guarantee

State of play
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#EUChildGuarantee

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European
Commission

EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child

and

the European Child Guarantee

Thematic areas of the Strategy



Participation in political and democratic life: An EU that empowers children to be active citizens and members of democratic societies



Socio-economic inclusion, health and education: An EU that fights child poverty, promotes inclusive and child-friendly societies, health and education systems.



Combating violence against children and ensuring child protection: an EU that helps children grow free from violence



Child-friendly justice: An EU where the justice system upholds the rights and needs of children



Digital and information society: An EU where children can safely navigate the digital environment, and harness its opportunities

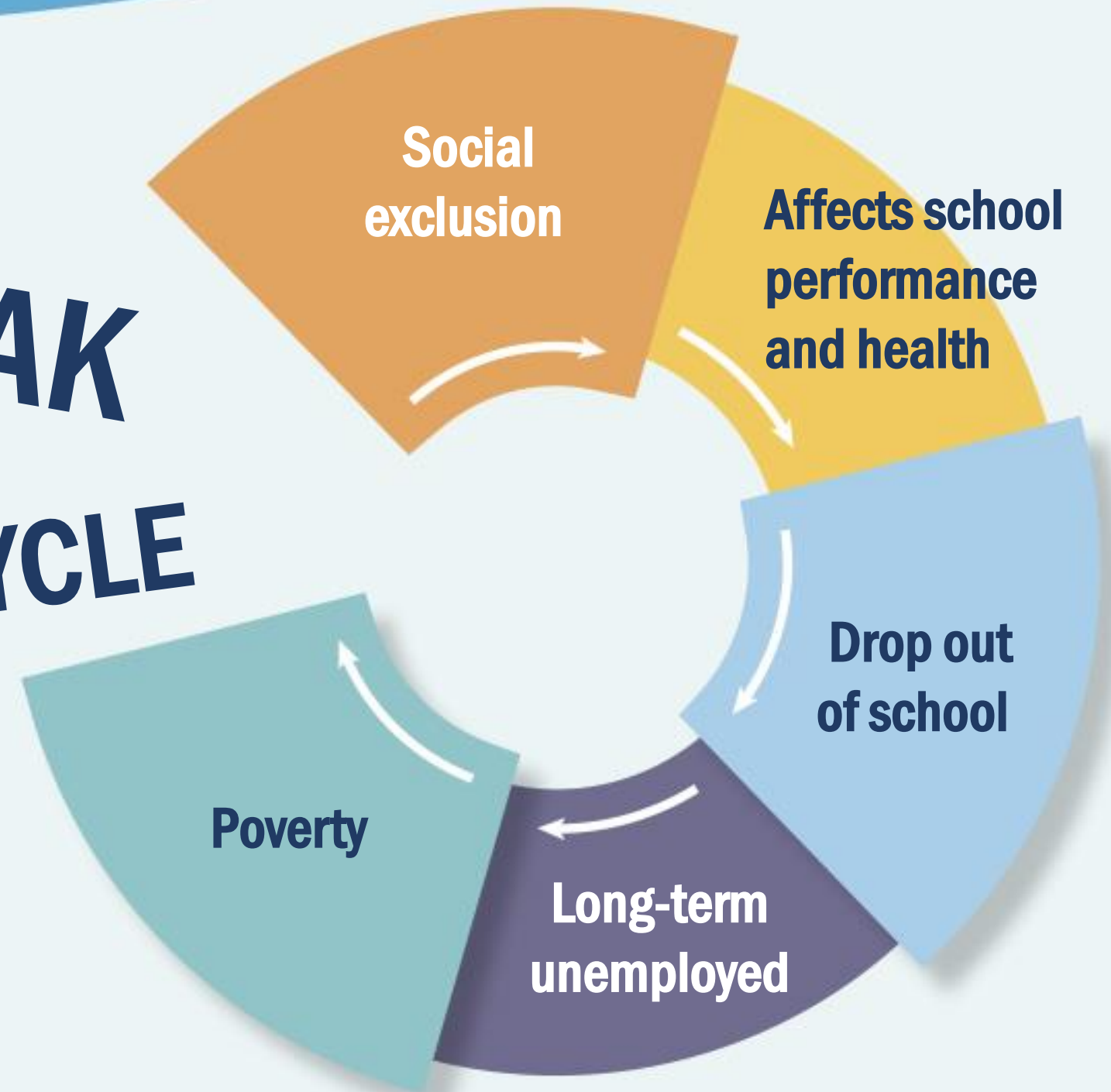


The Global Dimension: an EU that supports, protects and empowers children globally, including during crisis and conflict.

European Child Guarantee

Aims to prevent and combat social exclusion by guaranteeing access of children in need to a set of key services, thereby also contributing to upholding the rights of the child by combatting child poverty and fostering equal opportunities.

BREAK THE CYCLE



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Services covered

Member States should guarantee for children in need...

...free and effective access to:



early childhood education and care



education and school-based activities



at least one healthy meal each school day



healthcare

...effective access to:

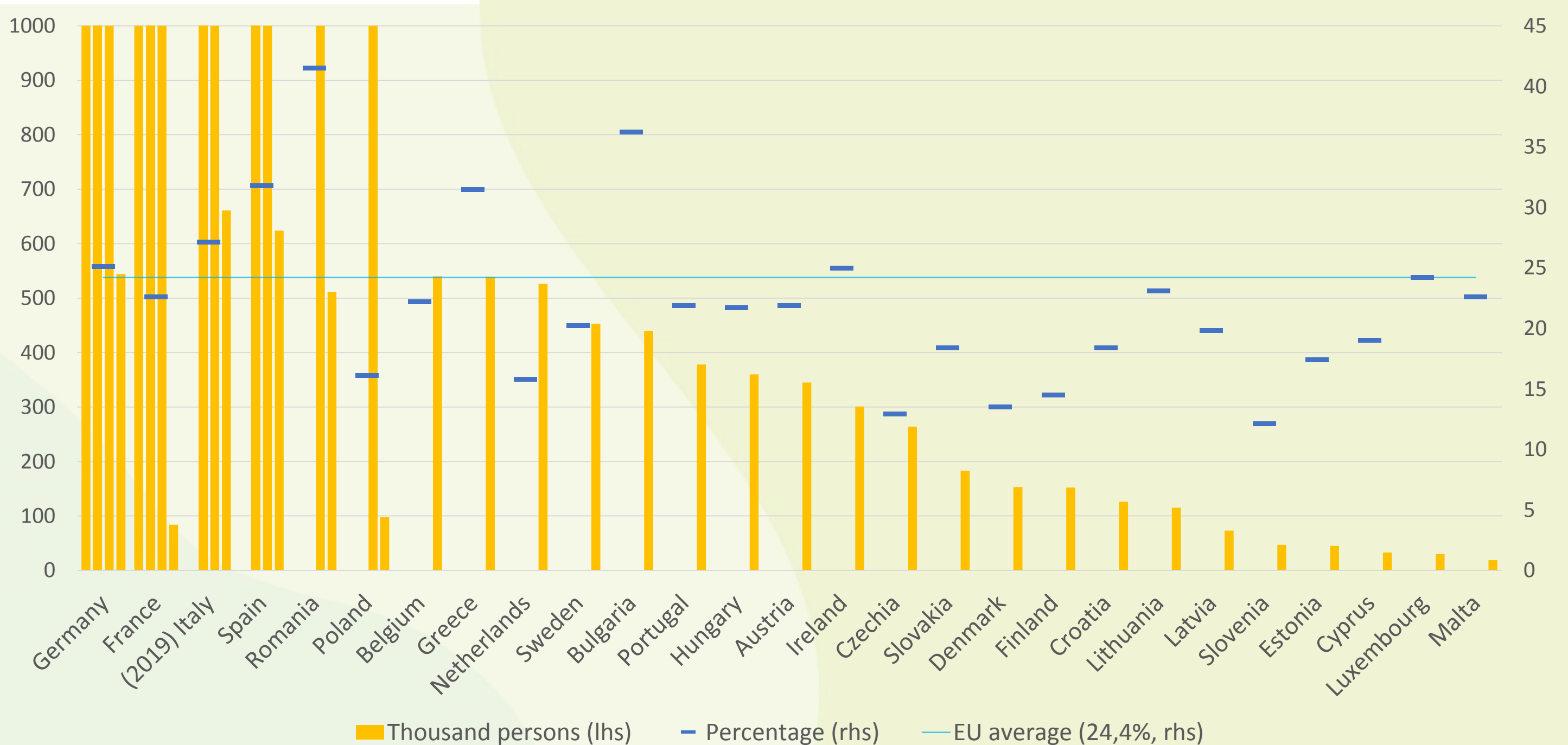


healthy nutrition



adequate housing

Children at risk of poverty or social exclusion, 2020



Target group: children in need

Children under the age 18 years who are at risk of poverty or social exclusion.

The recommendation asks the Member States to identify children in need and take into account specific disadvantages experienced by:

- a) homeless children or those experiencing severe material deprivation;
- b) children with disabilities;
- c) children with mental health issues;
- d) children with a migrant background or a minority ethnic origin (particularly Roma);
- e) children being in alternative (especially institutional) care;
- f) children in precarious family situations (e.g. single-parent household, imprisoned parent or parent with a disability, mental or long-term illness, or addiction; teenage mother; exposure to violence; left-behind children of EU citizens).

Governance – Member States

- nominate a national **Child Guarantee Coordinator**; 25 ✓
- identify children in need and barriers they face in accessing the services;
- draft **national action plans (by 15 March 2022)**, incl. targets, corresponding measures and monitoring and evaluation arrangements; action plans should cover the period until 2030;
- involve relevant stakeholders at all levels of administration in drafting, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the national action plans;
- reinforce outreach measures;
- report to the Commission every 2 years.

Follow-up by the Commission

- monitor the implementation of the Child Guarantee **in the European Semester**;
- work closely with Member States, the national Child Guarantee Coordinators and the SPC;
- report regularly to the SPC on the progress on the basis of national reports;
- work with SPC to develop a **common monitoring framework** and to enhance the availability and comparability of EU-level data;
- review the progress in 2026 (5 years after the adoption of the Recommendation) and report to the Council;
- strengthen awareness raising, dissemination and communication activities.

Preparatory action

- Phase I: Feasibility study for a child guarantee, 2018-2020, (including online consultation in 2019)
- Phase II: Study on the economic implementing framework of a possible EU Child Guarantee Scheme including its financial foundation, 2020-2021
- Phase III: Testing the Child Guarantee with the Aim of Ending Child Poverty and Social Exclusion for all Children in Europe, carried out by UNICEF ECARO in 7 Member States: Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, and Spain, started 2020, 2 levels of involvement:
 - Pilot ('on-the-ground') projects: Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy – until 2023
 - Analysis ('deep dives'): all seven countries – soon to be completed



#SocialRights

Thank you

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 Social Europe

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ESF+

- Under the 2021-2027 MFF, Member states to allocate at least 25% of their ESF+ resources to social inclusion.
- An appropriate amount to be earmarked for measures tackling child poverty. In MS where child poverty or social exclusion is above EU average (BG, CY, EL, HU, IE, IT, LT, RO, ES, HR and LU), this appropriate amount is at least 5% of the national ESF+ allocation.
- MS can also invest in: (i) actions to tackle food or material deprivation; and (ii) accompanying measures for children under the relevant specific objective of ESF+.

ERDF

- Investments in social infrastructure, equipment, access to quality services, cooperation projects in border regions.

InvestEU

- Investments in education and ECEC, healthcare and affordable housing

Recovery and Resilience Facility

- Reforms, investments and policies for the next generation, children and the youth, such as education and skills (Pillar 6)

Technical Support Instrument

- Structural reforms in education, social services, justice and health, including those tackling child poverty and exclusion