

One child in five in Europe is estimated to be a victim of some form of sexual violence, such as incest, pornography, prostitution, trafficking in human beings, corruption, solicitation via Internet, sexual exploitation or sexual abuse. Given the extent of the problem, in 2010 the Council of Europe launched the ONE in FIVE Campaign to raise the awareness of everyone – children, parents and those coming into contact with children – and to promote the ratification and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse – also known as the Lanzarote Convention – by the 47 Council of Europe member states and beyond.

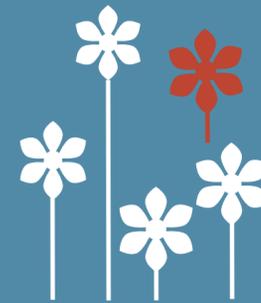
Local and regional authorities have a key responsibility, along with national governments, to protect and promote citizens' human rights, which includes safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of children and young people living in their areas. The services that are needed to help victims of sexual violence and abuse are provided, in the main, at the local level. This is also the level where preventive and awareness-raising measures can be most effective. Local and regional authorities are therefore on the frontline of the fight to stop sexual violence against children and must develop and implement action plans and strategies to deal with and prevent future cases.

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe has devised the Pact of Towns and Regions to Stop Sexual Violence against Children to guide authorities in their fight against sexual exploitation and abuse. It provides a list of practical initiatives and policies to be implemented at local and regional levels in order to develop child-friendly services, protect children and help prevent sexual violence within the community.

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## TOWNS AND REGIONS: A PACT TO STOP SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN



one in five  
un sur cinq

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It includes 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities is an institution of the Council of Europe, responsible for strengthening local and regional democracy in its 47 member states. Composed of two chambers – the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions – and three Committees, it comprises 636 elected representatives representing more than 200,000 local and regional authorities.



Contribution of the Congress  
of Local and Regional Authorities  
to the Council of Europe  
**ONE in FIVE** Campaign

**Toolkit**



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