

Annual Report 2015



CNPAC



About the NCCAP

The National Center for Child Abuse Prevention (NCCAP) is a non-governmental organization from the Republic of Moldova that has been promoting the right of children to protection from any forms of violence since 1997, aiming its actions at informing, raising the awareness and motivating the society to stop the ill-treatment of children.

Our vision

A society without violence, where all children have equal chances to achieve their full potential.

Affiliation:

Network of non-governmental organizations in preventing child abuse in Central and Eastern Europe; Alliance of NGOs active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection from the Republic of Moldova; Network of national NGOs affiliated to ECPAT; National Coalition “Life without Violence in the Family”.

Our mission

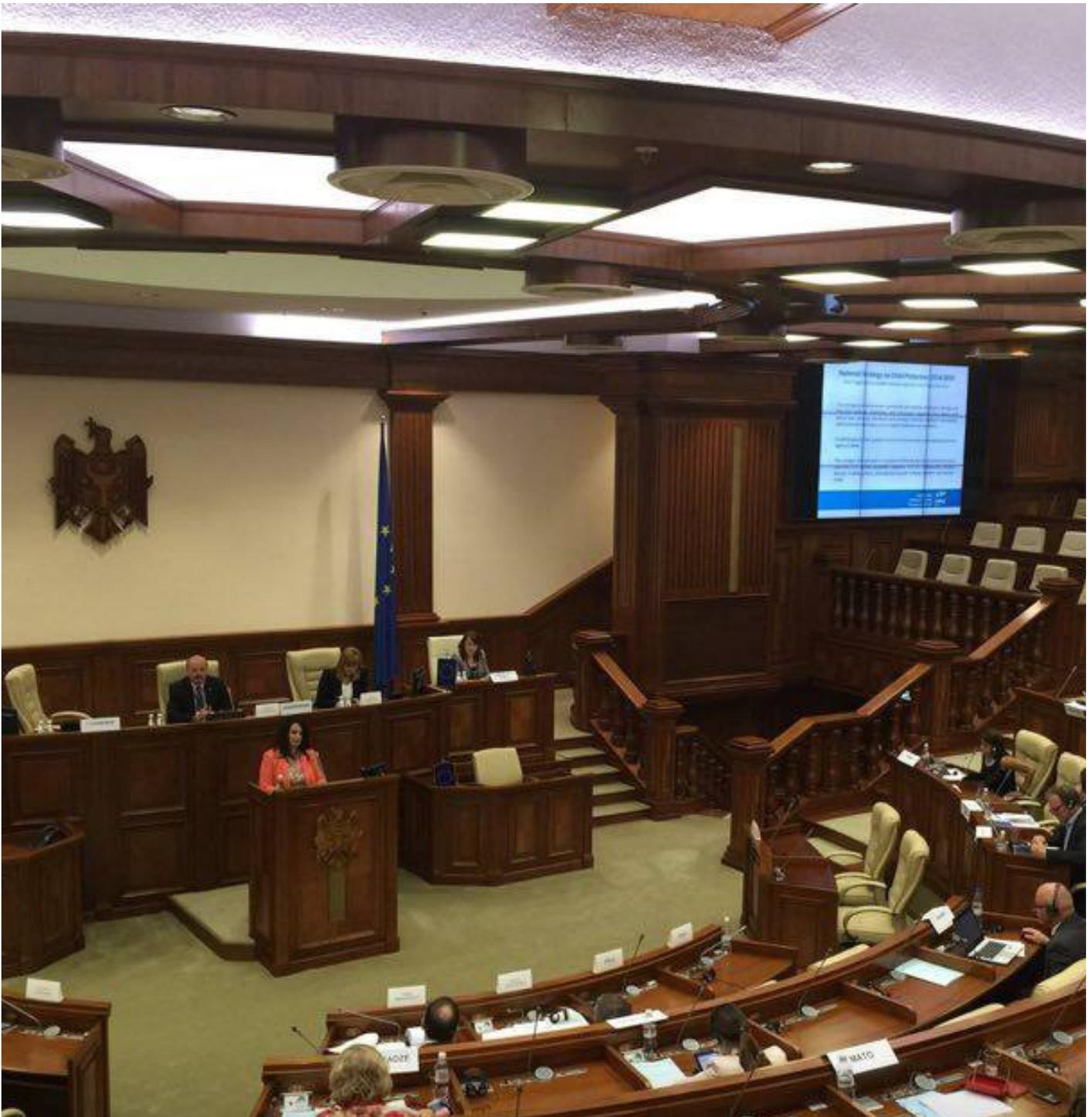
To protect children at risk and children victims of all forms of abuse through prevention activities and specialized services addressed to children and their families.

Participation:

Inter-ministerial Coordination Council on Preventing and Fighting Domestic Violence; National Council for Child Rights Protection; Press Council from the Republic of Moldova; Inter-institutional working group aimed at achieving the best implementation of action 6.3.2 p. 2 of the Action Plan for implementing the Justice Reform Strategy for 2011-2016; Coordination Group of the Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Fighting Human Trafficking.



Inter-ministerial Coordination



Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, May 20, 2015, Chişinău

Meeting of the European MPs' network to develop strategies and mechanisms for the protection of children from sexual abuse; Committee on social affairs, health and sustainable development of the Council of Europe.

Awareness raising

**NO TOUCHING IS ALLOWED –
campaign to prevent sexual abuse of young children,
conducted in all preschool institutions of the country in
May-December 2015.**

The General Police Inspectorate registers annually about 220 cases of child sexual abuse. At the same time, the studies show that the phenomenon is a hidden one and a large number of cases are not reported. The lack of positive communication between parents and children aged 3-7 about the eventual risks is a serious problem in our society - 60% of parents do not discuss with their children about the prevention of sexual abuse, and 55% of parents who discuss this subject consider the communication very difficult.

The study "Parents' knowledge about sexual abuse and education of young children", 2015, NCCAP/Institute of Marketing and Surveys IMAS.

In this context, the NCCAP, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, implemented the Communication Campaign "No touching is allowed" to contribute to the prevention of child sexual abuse by informing, raising awareness and offering useful tools in the discussions with children.



The campaign is part of the campaign cycle on fighting against child sexual abuse ONE IN FIVE conducted by the Council of Europe and the NCCAP is the national partner of the CoE in this campaign.



**one in five
un sur cinq**



Awareness raising

Activities/Outcomes of the campaign:

120,600 materials distributed to all the kindergartens in the country that are used in activities with parents and children:



- The brochure *Kiko and the hand*;
- Leaflet for parents;
- The poster “The good secrets make you happy. The bad secrets don’t”;
- The poster “If you feel that a touch is inappropriate then it is inappropriate”;
- The poster “Talk to your children and make sure that they can talk to you”;
- CD (video clip of the campaign);

The materials serve as methodological support for parents and professionals in order to address the prevention of sexual abuse in a positive and age-appropriate manner.



„Aici nu se pune mâna”

Campania "Aici nu se pune mâna" continuă! La 5 luni de la lansare, inițiativa socială prinde viață în cele peste 1400 de grădinițe din întreaga țară. După ce au fost elaborate scenariile de lucru, reprezentanții Centrului National de Prevenire a Abuzului față de Copii continuă să instruiască

[READ MORE](#)

The activities with children were conducted in all the kindergartens of the country.

Awareness raising

Activities/Outcomes of the campaign:

The parents were informed about the activities carried out in kindergartens within the campaign, how to talk to children about the risks of sexual abuse in 5 programs “Home early”, Jurnal TV.



The video clip of the campaign was broadcast by the media institution Jurnal TV and by the social networks. About 12,000 people viewed the campaign materials/activities on the official pages of the NCCAP (Facebook, www.cnpac.org.md, the NCCAP channel on Youtube).

„Aici nu se pune mâna"

A avea secrete, la orice vârstă, este un lucru normal. Și cei mici au secretele lor, normale... sau mai puțin bune. Însă uneori secretele le pot face și rău. Un caz special este cel al abuzului sexual. Este important ca aceste detalii să fie spuse imediat unei persoane de încredere. În cadrul

[READ MORE](#)

Under guidance of international experts, the Program on preventing sexual abuse of young children “Safe Children” was developed. It includes scenarios/teaching projects for the nursery teachers to carry out activities with children using the materials of the campaign. The program is to be piloted in 2016 and then suggested to the preschool institutions from the country.



Advocacy

Child-friendly justice

Although our country had positive dynamics in the development of legal procedures that are friendly for children victims/witnesses of crimes, the justice system still uses different approaches in implementing them: the special approach of children is not considered necessary at all stages of the criminal process, the hearing is not perceived as the unique interaction of the child with the justice system; there is no clarity concerning the people in charge for preparing the child for a hearing; there are gaps in the arrangement of the hearing rooms; most representatives of the criminal justice system do not know the interviewer's status and their role in the hearing process. *The reference study on professionals' attitudes, knowledge and practices with regard to the enforcement of friendly procedures when investigating cases that involve children under 14 who are victims/witnesses of crimes (Orhei, Bălți, Anenii Noi, Leova, Soroca, Călărași, Ocnița, Cahul), 2015, NCCAP/Institute of Marketing and Surveys IMAS.*

The introduction of new provisions in the criminal legislation requires the consolidation of the regulatory framework and of the institutional capacities to provide friendly conditions for hearing children victims/witnesses.

In this context, a challenge for the justice system is the lack of clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities implied by the effective protection of children victims/witnesses of sexual crimes, domestic violence and human trafficking when investigating such cases.

Based on the above mentioned challenges, in 2015 the NCCAP continued the advocacy activities with a view to reach a common vision on building child-friendly justice in the Republic of Moldova:



There was an exchange of experience and best practices on the investigation of cases of children victims and witnesses of crimes between the practitioners involved in this area from the Netherlands and the Republic of Moldova that contributed to better understanding of how our justice system can protect the child, in cooperation with other structures in charge for child protection.

Advocacy

Child-friendly justice

- The Model of the justice system that is friendly for children victims/witnesses of sexual crimes, domestic violence and human trafficking under 14 was developed. The model was based on a reference study that evaluated the professionals' knowledge, attitudes and practices in enforcing child-friendly procedures when investigating cases that involve children victims/witnesses of crimes. The model was consulted at national and local level with representatives of criminal prosecution, law enforcement agencies and agencies in charge for protecting children victims of violence from the pilot sites;



- The piloting of the Model was launched in Bălți and Orhei. It implies a mechanism that clarifies the role of professionals at every stage of the criminal process, including the cooperation of the justice system with social institutions in charge for child protection;
- The first group of interviewers from the country was trained under the Curriculum for in-service training of interviewers in the field of hearing children victims/witnesses of crimes, which is a program developed by experts from the Netherlands and Great Britain and approved by the National Institute of Justice.



Advocacy

Promotion of the intersectoral cooperation mechanism for identifying, assessing, referring, supporting and monitoring children victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking.

The Government Decision no. 270 of 08.04.2014 established the *Instructions on the intersectoral cooperation mechanism for identifying, assessing, referring, supporting and monitoring children victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking (hereinafter Instructions on the intersectoral cooperation mechanism)*.

The consultations with professionals applying these instructions showed that there is a need for additional sector tools that will include detailed procedures for the intervention of agencies in charge for child protection at all levels.

As a result of cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the General Police Inspectorate, Methodological Sector Instructions for the intervention of employees of health and police institutions were developed and approved in 2015:

A close-up photograph showing a person's hands holding a small, white dog with black spots. The dog is looking towards the camera. The person is wearing a light green long-sleeved shirt.

The Methodological Instructions for the intervention of health institutions in identifying, assessing, referring, supporting and monitoring cases of child violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking, approved through *Order of the Ministry of Health no. 445 of 09.06.2015*.

The Methodological Instructions for the intervention of police in identifying, assessing, referring, supporting and monitoring cases of child violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking, approved through *Order of the General Police Inspectorate no. 79 din 28.04.2015*.

See: Instructions on the intersectoral cooperation mechanism for identifying, assessing, referring, supporting and monitoring children victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking.

Training, Research and Methodological Support



Training

In 2015, we continued building the capacities of professionals employed in the child protection system focusing on two priority areas.

1. Implementation of intersectoral procedures of cooperation for identifying, assessing, referring, supporting and monitoring children victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking.

2. Friendly justice for children victims/witnesses of crimes.
(see page 12)



• **218 professionals trained and informed at 20 training events;**

• 91 professionals in charge for child protection at local level in the fields of social protection, health, police and education improved their practical skills of enforcing the intersectoral procedures for assessing and supporting children victims.

• 22 main specialists in the medical assistance for mother and child employed by the district hospitals developed their capacity to monitor the implementation by health employees of the intersectoral procedures in preventing and fighting child violence.

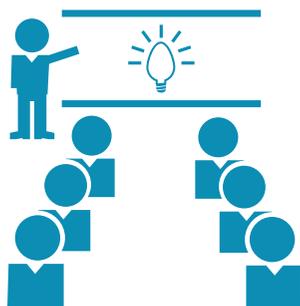
Partners:

- Local public authorities.
- Ministry of Health.
- Ministry of Education.
- Republican Center for Psycho-Pedagogical Assistance.
- Ministry of Justice.
- Superior Council of Magistrates.
- General Prosecutor's Office.
- General Police Inspectorate.
- National Institute of Justice.

Training



- 14 professionals (prosecutors, criminal investigation officers, psychologists) developed their practical skills of conducting the legal hearing of children victims/witnesses of crimes in a training course of 120 hours supported by international experts. The goal of the course was to make sure that certified interviewers operate in the justice system;
- 37 professionals from the criminal justice system (judges, prosecutors and criminal investigation officers) have a better understanding of the skills they have at different stages of the hearing under special conditions of children victims/witnesses of crimes.



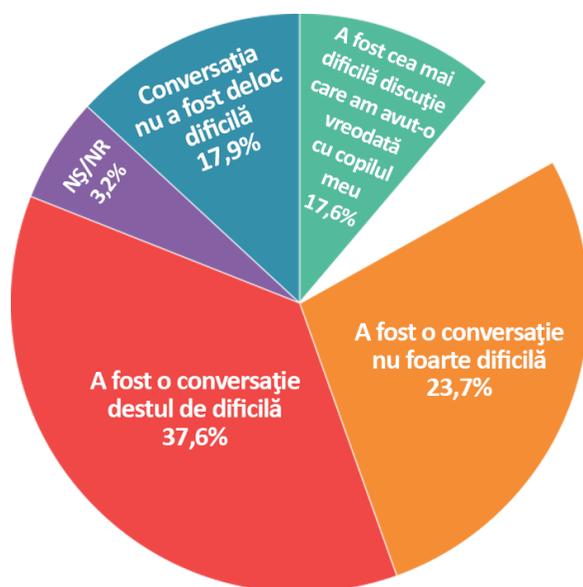
Research

To ensure the efficient planning of activities aimed at preventing child sexual abuse and the planning of friendly justice for children victims/witnesses of crimes, the NCCAP focused in 2015 on researching attitudes and practices in these two areas.

PREVENTION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

The study “Parents’ knowledge about sexual abuse and the education of young children” is a OMNIBUS research conducted by the Institute of Marketing and Surveys IMAS/in partnership with Nobody’s Children Foundation.

Period: February-March 2015.



Conclusions:

- **About four out of ten** parents say that they talked to their children (aged 5-11) about the prevention of sexual abuse.
- **79%** of those who talked about sexual abuse say that they face challenges when discussing this subject with their children, given the lack of education, information on how to explain these things to a child. This is why parents postpone these discussions – 20% of them do it when children are 8-9, and 31% when children are above 10;
- Most often, the discussion with the child is only about making them be afraid of unknown and violent people. The responsibility for talking with children rests with the mother predominantly (**60%**); the school or church have marginal places - **7%** and **1%** accordingly.
- **Only 30%** of respondents agree to have discussions with children under 10 about the basic principles of human reproduction in schools.

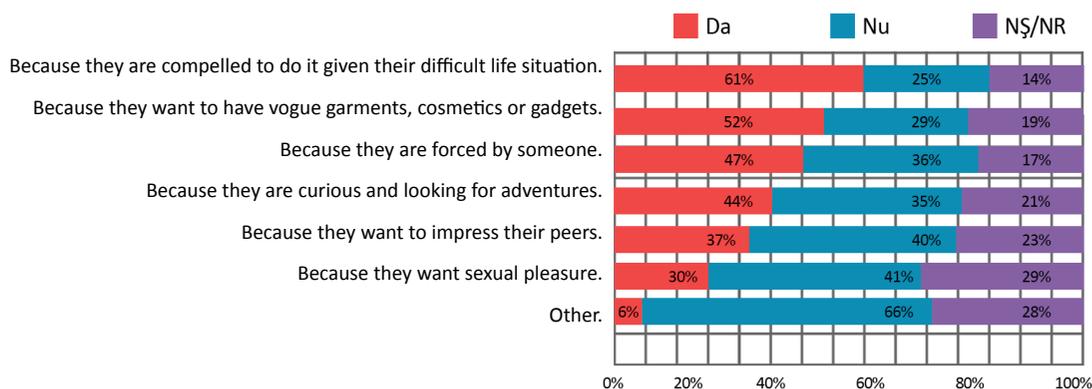
Research

The study “Social attitudes to the commercial sexual exploitation of children”
 OMNIBUS research conducted by the Institute of Marketing and Surveys
 IMAS/in partnership with Nobody’s Children Foundation
 Period: February-March 2015

Conclusions:

- **About two thirds** of respondents agree that there are cases in our country when people under 18 are involved in sexual relations in exchange for cash or other benefits and that this is a real problem in our society;
- **Between 9 and 13%** of the participants consider sexual contacts in exchange for some benefits an acceptable practice. The degree of acceptability is higher if the justification for such behavior is poverty;
- Young people under 30 who are unemployed, urban residents are the most inclined to accept such practices;
- After poverty (**61%**), the following for young people under 18 to engage in such sexual activities is to be in vogue – garments, gadgets (**52%**), coercion to these actions (**44%**), curiosity, spirit of adventure (**44%**).

Why do you think that children and young people under 18 decide to engage in sexual activities in exchange for payments or benefits?



- **76%** of the participants believe that the risk of engaging in sexual relations in exchange for cash or other benefits is higher for young people from poor families or who abuse alcohol. Other extremely important factors that are seen as risk factors – parents do not have time for their children (72%), parents do not discuss with children about sexuality (52%);
- **About seven or eight out of ten** respondents consider that the sexual services provided by people under 18 in exchange for different benefits must be penalized. The respondents who live in large cities are against punishing this behavior.

Research

FRIENDLY JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN VICTIMS/WITNESSES OF CRIMES

Study on the professionals' knowledge attitudes and practices on the enforcement of friendly procedures when investigating cases that involve children under 14 who are victims/witnesses of crimes (Bălți, Orhei, Anenii Noi, Leova, Soroaca, Călărași, Ocnîța, Cahul)

The research was conducted by the Institute of Marketing and Surveys IMAS in December 2015 (Anenii Noi, Leova, Soroaca, Călărași, Ocnîța, Cahul).

Conclusions:

Attitudes

- The criminal justice system is perceived by the interviewed professionals as ready for hearing children under 14 who are victims/witnesses of crimes in special conditions.
- The establishment of hearing rooms is one of the most significant achievements in the justice reform.
- The training of professionals in the criminal justice system in the hearing of children in special conditions is considered absolutely necessary.

The interviewer

- The importance and role of the person engaged as interviewer is recognized by most participants in the studio. However, this role is sometimes unclear, because of omissions or lack of clarity in the national legislation on the interviewer.
- The participation of the interviewer in the hearing is perceived as intersectoral collaboration as well.
- The activity of interviewers is not paid and they are available for hearing depending on the program of their main job, which results in delays or postponing of the hearings.

Knowledge and practices

- Most professionals give different interpretations to the concept of "child-friendly procedures".
- Some of the interviewed professionals do not know some provisions of the legislation concerning the hearing of children under 14 who are witnesses/victims of crimes in special conditions.
- The investigation of cases that involve children victims/witnesses under 14 is carried out in an emergency and preferential regime.
- The child and the family receive the necessary support and assistance, both legal and material and psychological.
- Intersectoral collaboration steps in when necessary.
- The preparation of the child is considered a compulsory stage of the hearing process.
- Most often, the questions are transmitted to the interviewer through the headphones.
- The video/audio recording is stored in the computer/server of the institution and is attached to the file in hard copy.

Hearing room

- Children under 14 victims/witnesses of crimes are heard in special conditions in specially arranged hearing rooms.
- The hearing rooms are located in the Prosecutor's Offices and in Courts.
- For each room, different people (in terms of positions) are in charge for the hearing room and for the viewing room of the same institution.
- The meeting rooms in courts serve as viewing rooms.
- There is no person in charge for the technical equipment and the fixing of technical deficiencies that occur during the hearing meetings is left to the employees of the prosecutor's office or of the court.

The full version of the studies can be accessed at <http://amicel.cnpac.org.md/studii-cnpac>

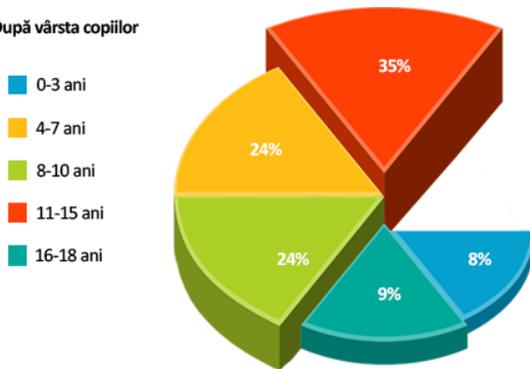
Assistance



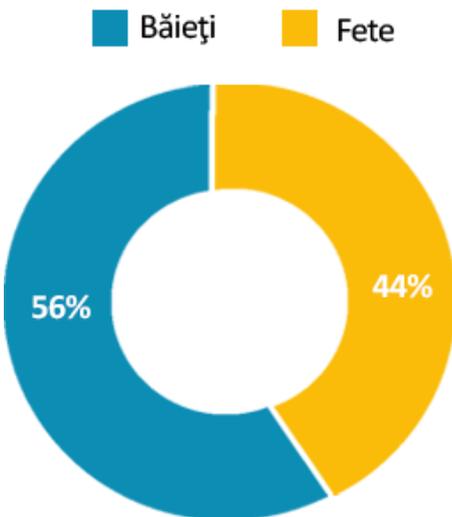
Assistance



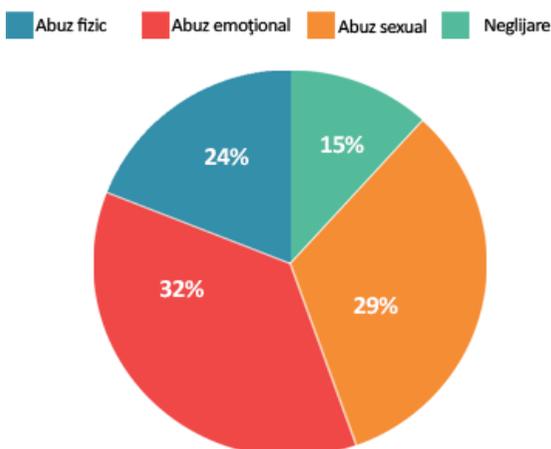
După vârsta copiilor



După gen



611 cazuri
(239 deschise în 2015)



The Center for psychosocial assistance to children and families AMICUL is a specialized service for providing assistance to children victims of abuse, provided in partnership with the Chișinău Municipal Directorate for Child Rights Protection (under the memorandum no. 61/01- 706 of August 23, 2007, decision of the Chișinău Municipal Council no.5/7 of March 25, 2008 and the Joint Rules of intervention in cases of child abuse, neglect and exploitation updated through order of the Municipal Directorate for Child Rights Protection no. 2 of 04.01.2012).

YEAR 2015

- **611 children victims** of different forms of abuse, of whom 237 children registered in 2015 received social, psychological and legal assistance. 90% of the assisted children had positive dynamics in their psycho-emotional condition;
- **About 550 children** who were victims of abuse overcame the crisis and were provided a protective space; for 48 of them emergency protection measures were enforced with support of the NCCAP employees;
- For **222 children** there was a reduction in the psychological problems generated by abuse as a result of the psychological assistance provided to children and their families;
- The legal representatives of **279 children** had an informed participation in various administrative and judicial procedures and/or launched such actions to protect 58 children victims.
- The conclusions made by the professionals of the Center in 60 psychological assessment reports contributed to the demonstration of abuse.
- The revictimization of about 40 children victims of sexual abuse and violence in the family was prevented within the legal procedures through the participation of professionals.

Prevention



Prevention

In 2015, the NCCAP used a number of methods to prevent child abuse.

- The web portal www.cnpac.org.md

In 2015, the website of NCCAP had about 57,000 visitors of whom 5,950 were unique visitors.



- The Online Resource Center AMICEL – through this platform, the NCCAP produced and promoted a number of articles and publications on child sexual abuse and the hearing of children victims/witnesses of crimes in special conditions.

Abuzul asupra copiilor

Care sunt simptomele și consecințele abuzului sexual asupra copiilor?

Copiii reacționează în mod diferit la abuzul sexual. Reacția depinde de vârsta și de trăsăturile psihologice individuale ale copilului, dar și de gravitatea crimei. Semnele cele mai...

Cum putem ajuta un copil abuzat sexual?

Dacă ai aflat că un copil a fost abuzat sexual, sunteți dator să acționați! Trebuie să comunicați la poliție, la procuratură sau asistentului social comunitar din cadrul...

Ce este abuzul sexual asupra copiilor?

Abuzul sexual asupra copiilor reprezintă o acțiune cu caracter sexual efectuată de un matur, de un adolescent sau de un alt copil. Abuzatorul îl domină pe copil din punct de vedere fizic...

The information published on this platform helps parents understand:

What the symptoms and consequences of child sexual abuse are;

Who the sexual abusers of children are;

How we can help a sexually abused child.

For professionals, the NCCAP distributed information about:

What a child should know before hearing;

The importance and role of the interviewer in the criminal process of the Republic of Moldova; what the rights of the child in contact with the justice system are.

For more publications and information, please access the webpage [AMICEL](http://www.amicel.org.md)

Prevention

Publications developed in 2015

For CHILDREN

- **I will be heard in friendly conditions** – brochure for children who are to testify as victims or witnesses of crimes. It explains in an accessible language for children their role in the hearing process, the conditions in which the hearing will take place, helping them to be more relaxed and confident during this procedure. It is a revised version of the brochure “I am a witness in court” (2010).
- **Kiko and the hand** – brochure that explains the rule “No touching is allowed” accessible for young children. It can be used by parents/educators to teach children make the distinction between the allowed and the forbidden touches to prevent sexual abuse.

For PARENTS

- **Teach the child the rule “NO TOUCHING IS ALLOWED”** – brochure for parents produced with a view to prevent sexual abuse of young children. It shows how to teach children the rule that they must not be touched by other people on the intimate parts of the body.



- **My child will testify** – brochure for parents, carers and other people who accompany children victims or witnesses of crimes in the legal hearing process. It contains information and practical advice on how they can help children feel more confident when they testify. This is an adapted version of the brochure “My child will testify in court” (2010).



The publications can be found in the electronic format on the website - www.cnpac.org.md
The print publications can be requested online through an electronic form at office@cnpac.org.md

Prevention

Publications produced in 2015

For PROFESSIONALS

- The hearing in specially arranged rooms of children victims or witnesses of crimes – guide for interviewers involved in the hearing of children victims or witnesses of crimes and for other professionals involved in the examination of criminal cases with the participation of children – investigators, prosecutors, judges, psychologists, teachers, child protection specialists. It combines the international and national practices in the field of hearing of children victims/witnesses of crimes.



- The hearing of children victims/witnesses of crimes in special conditions – leaflet addressed to representatives of law enforcement bodies and other professionals who interact with children victims or witnesses of crimes involved in the examination of criminal cases. It offers answers to the most significant questions related to the legal hearing of children in friendly conditions.



Total publications distributed: 145,000 copies.

The publications can be accessed in the electronic version on the website – www.cnpac.org.md
The print publications can be requested online through an electronic form sent to office@cnpac.org.md

Communication



Communication



Media communication

In 2015, the NCCAP had about 41 media appearances when the experts of the NCCAP gave interviews and participated in various TV and radio programs on the prevention of child abuse, child rights protection, applicable legislation, etc.

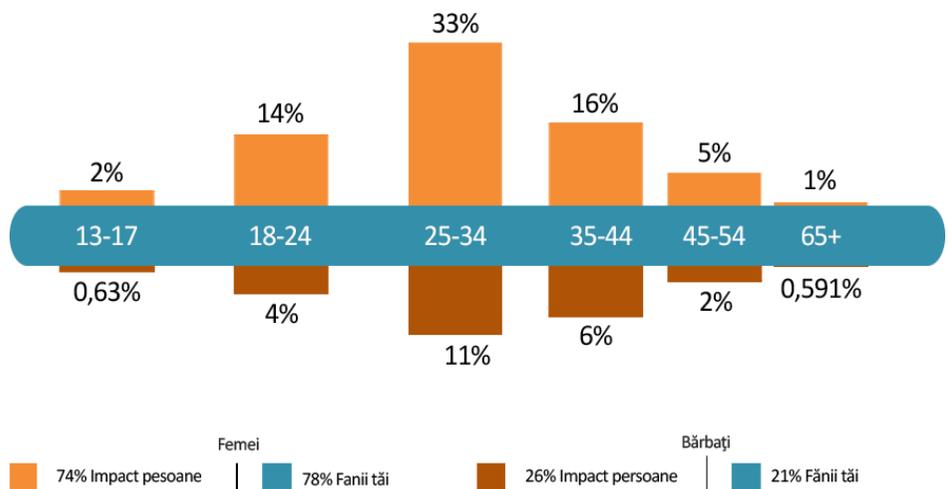
Online communication

The official pages of the NCCAP registered on the social networks are a necessary tool to promote the prevention of child abuse in the virtual space.



In 2016, the Facebook page of the NCCAP reached 1400 fans and the impact of posted materials was 4000 people who viewed/accessed the materials posted by the NCCAP.

The statistical reports show the ratio of people who liked the page by gender and age: 74% female vs. 26% male; most women are aged 18-54, and men are aged 18-44.



Partnerships



Partnerships

In December 2015, the National Center for Child Abuse Prevention awarded 5 Awards as gratitude for contribution, dedication and openness in this year to the loyal partners who make the NCCAP results sustainable, giving children from our country the chance for a better life.

Awardees of 2015:

- **Svetlana Chifa and the team of the Municipal Directorate for Child Rights Protection**, for being with us for 15 years and, in 2015, together we made the life better and free of violence for 615 children.



- **Iurie Perevoznic and the General Prosecutor's Office**, because, due to the contribution made in 2015, children victims and witnesses of violence are more protected in the legal system, which becomes friendlier.



- **Galina Morari and the Ministry of Health**, because the team of health professionals was created in 2015 that makes sure that every abused child is protected.



- **Cezar Gavriiuc and the CRIC team**, because in 2015 we managed to diversify the programs for the prevention of violence based on the enforcement of child rights together.



- **Lucia Berdos and Felicia Foundation**, because they are with us and offer the chance for better life, free of violence to children.



Supporters and partners

Governmental partners:

Ministry of Education
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Internal Affairs / General Police Inspectorate
Ministry of Justice
General Prosecutor's Office
Superior Council of Magistrates
National Institute of Justice
National Council for Child Rights Protection
National Committee for Fighting Human Trafficking
Chişinău Municipal Directorate for Child Rights Protection

Funders:



Nongovernmental partners:



Media partners:





CNPAC



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