

**Workshop at the Social Platform Flagship Conference  
4 May 2021, 2-4pm**

*Reducing inequalities from the first years of life: the role of  
Early Childhood Development*

AGENDA

Organisers: European Public Health Alliance and Eurochild

14:00-14:10 **Welcome and opening remarks**

Radost Zaharieva, Policy coordinator for Health inequalities, EPHA  
Jana Hainsworth, Secretary General, Eurochild

14:10-14:40 **First Panel:**

**The importance of tackling exclusion and inequality in early childhood**

Moderator: Agata D'Addato – Senior Project Manager, Eurochild

Speakers:

The importance of early childhood development: opportunities and challenges at EU and national level – Jana Hainsworth, Eurochild & Mihaela Ionescu, Program Director, International Step by Step Association (ISSA)

Early childhood development as a major component of health equity: perspectives and challenges for children from vulnerable groups – Radost Zaharieva, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

Reducing child poverty and exclusion among children with disabilities through integrated measures for early childhood development – Maureen Piggot, Treasurer and Board member of the European Disability Forum & Barbara Norris, European Disability Forum

14:40-14:50 Q&A and discussion

14:50-15:40 **Second Panel:**

**The EU's role in promoting children's rights and social inclusion of children from vulnerable groups: reactions and reflections on issues highlighted by previous speakers**

Moderator: Géraldine Libreau, Policy Officer - Early childhood education and care, European Commission, DG Education and Culture

Speakers:

Access to maternal and child health services for undocumented migrants – Laetitia Van der Vennet, Advocacy Officer, Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (Picum)

Tackling discrimination and exclusion of Roma children through comprehensive and inclusive early childhood development measures within the post 2020 Roma Strategic Framework - Lavinia Banu, European Commission, Policy Officer, DG Justice and Consumers

The European Child Guarantee and its potential for tackling child poverty and exclusion by investing in early childhood – Irma Borde, European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

15:40-15:50 Q&A and discussion

15:50-16:00 **Closing remarks**

MEP Dragoş Pîslaru, Vice-Chair of the European Parliament Intergroup for Children's Rights