

COUNTRY SUPPLEMENT

National Legal Framework Supplement Template

How to complete B3 Section D • Worked examples: Romania, Lithuania, Belgium

Purpose: B3 Section D requires every organisation to describe the national legal framework for their safeguarding work. This Annex explains how to complete it and provides three worked examples to illustrate what a completed country supplement looks like.

Important: Laws change. These examples are based on the legal position as understood in mid-2026. Always verify current law with a national legal advisor or your National Agency before finalising your policy. The examples are illustrative, not exhaustive.

International framework: All EU member states are bound by the same international and European framework described in B3 Sections C.1–C.2 (EU Charter, GDPR, UNCRC, Council of Europe conventions). What differs between countries is the national legislation implementing these obligations. Complete Section D to describe what applies in your country.

1 Template: How to Complete Your National Supplement

Answer each question below for your country. Insert your answers in the template text at the end.

- **National child protection law** Name and year of the primary legislation. What does it require? Does it apply to NGOs and non-statutory organisations?
- **Adult safeguarding law** Is there equivalent legislation for adults at risk? What are the key duties for organisations working with vulnerable adults?
- **Mandatory reporting** Who is required to report? To whom? What is the legal threshold? Are there penalties for failure to report?
- **Criminal record checks** What system exists for criminal record checks for those working with children and/or vulnerable adults? Who can access it? Is it mandatory or discretionary for your type of organisation?
- **Regulatory body** Is there a national body overseeing safeguarding or child protection in the NGO/voluntary sector? What are their powers?
- **Local referral routes** What are the relevant statutory agencies (child protection services, social services, police units, victim support) for safeguarding referrals in your area?
- **Youth sector legislation** Does your country have specific legislation governing activities with young people aged 18–30? (e.g. national youth work law, youth policy framework, age of consent for data processing). What duties does this create for Erasmus+/ESC organisations?



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- **Adult victim support and referral** What specialist support services exist for adult victims of abuse, sexual exploitation, trafficking, domestic violence, or honour-based harm? Where can participants aged 18+ be referred to in your country/region?
- **EU Whistleblower Directive transposition** Has your country transposed Directive (EU) 2019/1937? What is the national law? What are the key requirements for your organisation?
- **Other relevant legislation** Any other laws relevant to your safeguarding work: mental capacity; domestic violence; data protection supplements to GDPR; equality law.

INSERT HERE: your completed national legal framework, using the prompts above. Include names of laws with years, links where available, and contact details for local agencies.

EXAMPLE 1 Romania

Illustrative example. Verify current law before use. Source: ChildHub, NAPCRA, GRETA, EUR-Lex, FRA child protection mapping.

Area	Summary for Romania
Primary child protection law	Legea nr. 272/2004 privind protecția și promovarea drepturilor copilului (Law 272/2004 on the protection and promotion of the rights of the child), as subsequently amended. This is Romania's central child protection law, implementing the UNCRC. It defines abuse, neglect and exploitation and sets out mandatory safeguarding procedures for all institutions working with children.
Adult safeguarding	Legea nr. 292/2011 a asistenței sociale (Social Assistance Act 2011) provides the framework for protection of adults with disabilities and vulnerable adults. Romania has also ratified the CRPD. Organisations should assess whether adult participants qualify for protection under disability or social assistance frameworks.
Mandatory reporting	Mandatory reporting of child abuse applies to all persons (not only professionals) who become aware of abuse, neglect or danger to a child. Reports must be made to: the Direcția Generală de Asistență Socială și Protecția Copilului (DGASPC — County General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection) or the police. National child protection helpline: 119.
Criminal record checks	Cazier judiciar (criminal record): available for individuals and employers via the police or online through Cazier.ro. For roles involving children, organisations should request a full criminal record check (cazier pentru aviz). Romania has also established an online



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	register of convicted sex offenders accessible to certain institutions.
Regulatory body	Autoritatea Națională pentru Protecția Drepturilor Copilului și Adopție (NAPCRA — National Authority for the Protection of Children's Rights and Adoption): the national regulatory body. DGASPC at county level implements child protection on the ground.
Local referral routes	DGASPC at county level (find local office via NAPCRA website: anpdca.gov.ro). Police: 112 (emergency). Child protection helpline: 119 (free, 24/7). Social assistance offices (SPAS) at municipality level.
Whistleblower Directive transposition	Romania transposed Directive (EU) 2019/1937 via Legea nr. 361/2022 privind protecția avertizoarelor în interes public (Law 361/2022 on the protection of whistleblowers in the public interest). Applies to organisations with 50+ employees. The National Integrity Agency (ANI — Agenția Națională de Integritate) is the competent external reporting authority.
Youth sector legislation (18–30)	Legea tineretului nr. 350/2006 (Youth Law 350/2006) establishes the national youth policy framework. The Autoritatea Națională pentru Tineret (National Youth Authority) oversees youth policy. For ESC volunteers and Erasmus+ participants (18–30), programme rules apply. GDPR age of consent for data processing: 16 (default under Art. 8(1)).
Adult victim support and referral	National domestic violence helpline: 0800 500 333 (free, 24/7). Trafficking victim support: ANITP (anitp.mai.gov.ro). Adult victims of abuse and SEAH: ANES (anes.gov.ro). Social assistance for adults at risk: DGASPC at county level.
Other relevant legislation	Legea nr. 217/2003 pentru prevenirea și combaterea violenței domestice (Law 217/2003 on the prevention and combating of domestic violence), as amended. GDPR is directly applicable; Romanian DPA: Autoritatea Națională de Supraveghere a Prelucrării Datelor cu Caracter Personal (ANSPDCP): www.dataprotection.ro .

EXAMPLE 2 Lithuania

Illustrative example. Verify current law before use. Source: Lithuanian State Child Rights Protection and Adoption Service, FRA, EUR-Lex.

Area	Summary for Lithuania
Primary child protection law	Lietuvos Respublikos vaiko teisės apsaugos pagrindų įstatymas (Law on the Fundamentals of the Protection of the Rights of the Child, 1996, consolidated 2024). Defines child rights, abuse, neglect and physical, psychological and sexual violence. Sets out duties for institutions working with children. Implemented by the new Child Rights Protection System operational since 1 July 2018.
Adult safeguarding	Lietuvos Respublikos socialinės apsaugos ir darbo ministerija (Ministry of Social Security and Labour) oversees adult social care under the Law on Social Services (2006, as amended). For adults with disabilities: Nestatės įmoniai Lietuva (NGO sector) and the Law on the Social Integration of Disabled Persons.
Mandatory reporting	All professionals and citizens who become aware of risks to a child's safety must report to the State Child Rights Protection and Adoption Service (Valstybės vaiko teisių apsaugos ir įvaikinimo tarnyba). Municipal Child Rights Protection Divisions (under the same agency from 2018) handle local reports. Emergency: 112. Children's helpline: 116 111 (EU harmonised helpline, 24/7).
Criminal record checks	Ikiteisminis tyrimas (pre-trial investigation) record and criminal record certificate available via the Information Technology and Communications Department under the Ministry of the Interior (ITPD). For roles involving children and vulnerable adults, employers may request a criminal record certificate from the applicant or from ITPD.
Regulatory body	Valstybės vaiko teisių apsaugos ir įvaikinimo tarnyba (State Child Rights Protection and Adoption Service, VVTAAT): the national authority for child protection. Vaikoteisės.lt. Ombudsman for Children's Rights: vtaki.lt.
Local referral routes	Municipal Child Rights Protection Divisions: find via vaikoteisės.lt. Police: 112 (emergency). Children's helpline: 116 111. Social services: through municipality social welfare departments.
Whistleblower Directive transposition	Lithuania transposed Directive (EU) 2019/1937 via the Law on the Protection of Whistleblowers (Pranešėjų apsaugos įstatymas), which entered into force on 4

	January 2022 (amendments for full transposition adopted in 2023). Applies to organisations with 50+ employees. The Chief Official Ethics Commission (VTEK) is the competent external reporting authority.
Youth sector legislation (18–30)	The Law on Youth Policy Framework of the Republic of Lithuania (Lietuvos Respublikos jaunimo politikos pagrindų įstatymas, 2003, consolidated) governs the state's responsibilities towards young people aged 14–29. The Youth Affairs Department under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour (Jaunimo reikalų departamentas, jrd.lt) coordinates youth policy. For ESC volunteers and Erasmus+ participants, programme rules apply. The GDPR age of consent for data processing is 14 in Lithuania (national derogation under Art. 8(1)).
Adult victim support and referral	Specialusis pagalbos centras (Specialist Support Centre): spalc.lt — specialist support for domestic violence and trafficking victims (adults). LGBTQ+ and GBV: LGL (Lithuanian Gay League): lgl.lt. Trafficking victims: official referral through Emigrantų kelias and the National Labour Exchange for ILO-NRM pathways. Police domestic violence hotline: 8 800 66366 (free). Psychological crisis helpline: 116 123.
Other relevant legislation	Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania (2000, as amended): Articles on violence, sexual offences and child abuse. GDPR directly applicable; Lithuanian DPA: Valstybinė duomenų apsaugos inspekcija (VDAI): ada.lt.

EXAMPLE 3 Belgium

Illustrative example. Belgium has a complex federal structure: safeguarding responsibilities are split between the federal government and the three Communities (Flemish, French-speaking, German-speaking). Verify current law before use. Source: FRA child protection mapping, ECPAT Belgium, EUR-Lex.

Area	Summary for Belgium
Primary child protection law	Child protection in Belgium is primarily a Community competence. Key legislation: Flemish Community: Decreet betreffende de integrale jeugdhulp (Decree on Integrated Youth Welfare, 2012, as amended). French Community (FWB): Décret relatif à l'aide à la jeunesse (Decree on Youth Assistance, 1991, as amended). German-speaking Community: Dekret über die Jugendhilfe (Youth Welfare Decree). At federal level, the Belgian Criminal

	Code (Code pénal / Wetboek van Strafrecht) criminalises abuse, sexual offences against minors, FGM and trafficking. Act of 21 March 2022 on amendments to the Criminal Code relating to sexual criminal law strengthened protections.
Adult safeguarding	Adult safeguarding is regulated at Community level. Flemish Community: Decreet betreffende de zorg en ondersteuning voor personen met een handicap. French Community: Code wallon de l'action sociale et de la santé. Federal level: Loi relative aux droits du patient (2002, patient rights law) and legislation on compulsory care.
Mandatory reporting	Belgium does not have a single universal mandatory reporting law. However, Article 422bis Code pénal (failure to assist a person in danger) creates a general duty to act. Key reporting bodies: Vertrouwenscentrum Kindermishandeling (Flemish: confidential child abuse centres, one per province); Service d'Aide à la Jeunesse / Parquet (French-speaking: youth assistance services and prosecution). National child focus helpline: Child Focus: 116 000. SOS Enfants (FWB): network of specialist child protection centres.
Criminal record checks	Uittreksel uit het strafregister / Extrait du casier judiciaire (extract from the criminal record): individuals can obtain this from their municipality free of charge. There are three types (Bulletin 1, 2, 3); organisations working with children typically require Bulletin 3 (most restricted). Moraliteitsattest / Certificat de bonne vie et moeurs is requested via the local commune.
Regulatory body	Flemish: Opgroeien (formerly Kind en Gezin and Jongerenwelzijn): opgroeien.be. French Community: Office de la Naissance et de l'Enfance (ONE): one.be. Federal: Centre fédéral d'expertise des victimes: expertisecentrumslachtoffers.be. Child Focus (national missing/sexually exploited children organisation): childfocus.be.
Local referral routes	Vertrouwenscentrum Kindermishandeling (VCK, Flemish): one per province, vertrouwenscentrum-kindermishandeling.be. SOS Enfants (FWB): network of specialist teams, sos-enfants.be. Police: 101 (local/non-emergency) or 112 (emergency). Child Focus helpline: 116 000 (24/7, free).
Whistleblower Directive transposition	Belgium transposed Directive (EU) 2019/1937 via the Act of 28 November 2022 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union or national law observed within a legal

	entity in the private sector. Applies to organisations with 50+ employees (phase-in for 50–249 employees by 17 December 2023). The Federal Ombudsman (Federale Ombudsman) is a competent authority for federal matters; Community-level ombudspersons for community-level matters.
Youth sector legislation (18–30)	Youth policy is a Community competence. Flemish: Decreet betreffende het Vlaamse jeugd- en kinderrechtenbeleid (2012). FWB: Décret relatif à la politique de jeunesse. GDPR age of consent for data processing: 13 in Belgium (Art. 8(1) national derogation). Youth bodies: Vlaamse Jeugdraad (vlaamsejeugdraad.be); Conseil de la Jeunesse (conseildelajeunesse.be).
Adult victim support and referral	Flemish: CAW welfare centres (caw.be). FWB: CVFE (cvfe.be). Trafficking: Pag-Asa Brussels (pag-asa.be), Payoke Antwerp, Suerga Ghent. Domestic violence helpline: 0800 30 030 (Flemish); 0800 30 025 (FWB). Federal victim expertise centre: expertisecentrumslachtoffers.be.
Other relevant legislation	Loi relative à la protection de la vie privée / Wet verwerking persoonsgegevens: GDPR implementation law. Belgian DPA: Autoriteit Persoonsgegevens / Autorité de protection des données (APD): apd-gba.be. Istanbul Convention ratified by Belgium (2024). Lanzarote Convention ratified.

Sources for all three examples: FRA — Mapping Child Protection Systems in the EU (2023); GRETA country reports (Council of Europe); EUR-Lex national transposition data; National government and regulatory authority websites; ChildHub (childhub.org); Council of Europe MONEYVAL and GREVIO monitoring reports.

EU Whistleblower Directive transposition tracker: ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/directive-2019-1937

⚠ Always verify with a national legal advisor before finalising your policy. Laws change and this supplement does not constitute legal advice.

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