



# EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO THRIVE

## THE ROLE OF THE EU IN PROMOTING AND ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

14 MAY 2019 • BUCHAREST

13.00 – 13.30 REGISTRATION

13.30 – 13.45 **WELCOME**

- (TBC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania
- Sascha Marschang, European Public Health Alliance (meeting Chair)

13.45 – 15:00 **ACCESS TO ECD SERVICES FOR THE MOST DISADVANTAGED**

*How accessible are universal ECD services to the most disadvantaged (including Roma, migrant and refugee parents and children, children with disabilities) and how can more targeted services be developed to adequately support children and families experiencing difficulties?*

*How can we increase investments in public support for ECD and develop comprehensive community services that support parents, children and carers in the best possible way?*

*How can policies and public investments tackle inequalities from the earliest age?*

- (TBC), Ministry of Education, Romania
- (TBC), Ministry of Health, Romania
- Agata D'Addato, Eurochild
- Gabriela Alexandrescu, Save the Children Romania
- (TBC), Health mediator, Romania

Dialogue with participants and Q&A: 14.30 - 15.00

15.00 – 15.30 COFFEE BREAK

15.30 – 17:30 **THE ROLE OF THE EU IN ECD POLICIES & INVESTMENT**

*How can EU policies and funding promote and encourage investment in early childhood development?*

*What is the state of play at EU and national level? What are the challenges and opportunities?*

*How does investment in ECD contribute to positive societal and economic outcomes?*

Introductory reflections by:

- Daniel Vasile, Member of the Romanian Parliament
- Mihaela Ionescu, International Step by Step Association
- Nadir Redzepi, Roma Education Fund
- Lavinia Banu, DG JUST, European Commission
- (TBC) Education mediator

**Open dialogue and Q&A – ECD in the Romanian context**

(moderated by Carmen Lică, Step by Step Centre for Education & Professional Development, Romania)

**Followed by Open dialogue and Q&A – Moving towards a European Strategy on ECD**  
(moderated by Szilvia Pallaghy, Open Society Foundations, London)

17.30 – 17.45 **WRAP-UP & CLOSING REMARKS**

- Marius Tudor, European Parliament
- Sascha Marschang, European Public Health Alliance

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## THE ROLE OF THE EU IN PROMOTING AND ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Across the EU, more than 25 million children are at risk of poverty or social exclusion. Growing inequality and falling social mobility are key challenges in Europe.

Public policy interventions can contribute to ensuring all children, including those who are coming from disadvantaged backgrounds, grow up in a nurturing environment. Investing in integrated, holistic support for Early Childhood Development (ECD) fosters social cohesion and breaks the vicious spiral of poor health that both contributes to and results from poverty and socio-economic exclusion.

This event aims to deliver and test recommendations for policies and programmes that intervene in the first 1000 days after birth, with special focus on obtaining a greater understanding of how the future EU budget can be used to promote an integrated and multi-sectoral approach to early childhood development, ensuring sustainable impact on services and policies in EU member states.

### WHERE

Hotel Pullman World Trade Center  
10, Montreal Square, 011469 – Bucharest, Romania (New York Room)

### WHEN

14 May 2019  
13.30 PM – 17.45 PM

### ABOUT EPHA'S WORK ON ROMA HEALTH AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

<https://epha.org/roma-health/>

### EVENT WEBSITE

<https://epha.org/every-child-deserves-to-thrive/>

european public health alliance

European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) AISBL

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Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union

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