

Annual Report 2025



Action for children
with children



Terre des hommes

Αρωγοί των παιδιών παγκοσμίως.



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Terre des hommes Hellas is one of the leading **child protection organizations** in Greece and is part of the Terre des hommes global network.

The **Annual Report of Terre des hommes Hellas for 2025** is online available in English and Greek.



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Introductory note



Lida Avgousti
Tdh Hellas Director

Setting new foundations in a year of transformation: we strengthen our vision and action guided always by child protection

2025 was a year of significant challenges and change, marked by geopolitical and social shifts that affected civil society globally. The reduction of international funding for humanitarian and human rights organizations — with the abrupt suspension of a significant portion of U.S. foreign aid at the beginning of the year being a notable example — created a new and highly uncertain environment for many organizations, including those working in child protection, such as Terre des hommes Hellas.

At the same time, children's needs became more complex and urgent, with rising gender-based and school violence, online risks, and mental health challenges, alongside the ongoing difficulties faced by children on the move. All these make the strengthening of child protection systems and the presence of a strong, independent, and active civil society more essential than ever.

In response, Terre des hommes Hellas reinforced its advocacy for children's rights, expanded partnerships, and actively contributed to public dialogue on child protection and child-friendly justice. At the same time, **we maintained our commitment to creating safe spaces for dialogue, education, and participation for children, young people, and professionals, promoting practices that place the child at the center of every intervention.**

2025 also marked a particularly important year of organizational development for Terre des hommes Hellas, as in December the organization's first Board of Directors in Greece was established, signaling a new chapter of institutional strengthening, sustainability, and long-term presence in the country. As we enter 2026, our team remains committed to the vision of a society in which every child grows up with safety, dignity, and equal opportunities. With optimism, hope, and a strong belief in the power of collaboration and collective action, we continue to work towards a world where every child's rights are protected and their voice is meaningfully heard.



Overview

Terre des hommes Hellas has been active in Greece since 2016 and, since 2018, as a Greek non-profit organization, contributes to strengthening the child protection system and reforming social care.

Our thematic priorities:



Child protection and safeguarding



Access to justice for children and young people



Children and young people on the move

The year 2025 marked a period of further growth and consolidation of Terre des hommes Hellas' work in the fields of child protection, mental health, education, and the promotion of children's rights. We invested in empowering professionals and communities through training and tools that promote trauma-informed care, the prevention and response to school violence, and psychosocial support for vulnerable children and youth. At the same time, our team implemented activities that strengthened the participation of children and young people in school and social life, promoting active citizenship and their involvement in shaping solutions to issues that concern them. Through our programmes and advocacy actions, we continued to support the rights of children and families with migrant and refugee backgrounds, contributing to the creation of safer, more inclusive, and child-centered protection systems.

1,095

people benefited directly from our programmes in 2025

568

children benefited from our projects, receiving protection, education, and psychosocial support.

462

professionals trained in various child protection areas, enhancing their capacity to support children.

Child Protection



Challenging social and gender norms to reduce violence against children in school

The **CARING** project entered in 2025 the final year of its implementation phase. Its key target was to **address gender-based violence (GBV) in school environments** by transforming social and gender norms. As a transnational project it engaged students and school staff in Greece, Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia as change agents to promote gender equality and safer school environments. In Greece, the program was implemented in 8 schools in the Municipality of Athens, actively engaging a total of 104 children.

Project highlights in 2025

- a **regional event** in Budapest to present best practices in child-led initiatives.
- a **final conference** in Zagreb that brought together stakeholders from Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia, and Hungary. The event highlighted the project's achievements and the impact of children's initiatives, while encouraged similar actions across schools in the region.



Key themes of the final conference included the role of children in preventing violence and promoting gender equality, collaboration between schools and communities, and effective methods for empowering youth. The conference concluded that systemic support for schools, student involvement, EU policy frameworks, international collaboration, education, and continuous monitoring are essential for effective violence prevention.





Child Protection



Building Stronger Child Protection Systems Across Europe

Maintaining as a core pillar of Terre des hommes Hellas the empowerment of child protection systems, in 2025 we started the implementation of the **CARING 2.0** project as the next phase of the CARING project. Its key objective is **to strengthen integrated child protection systems by promoting multidisciplinary prevention and response to school-related violence**, including its gender aspects, while ensuring the meaningful participation of children, especially those in vulnerable situations. The project is coordinated by Tdh Hungary and implemented in Romania, Greece, Kosovo, Croatia and Bulgaria.

Highlights in 2025

- Four focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted across eight participating schools, involving 71 participants (students, educators and parents/caretakers). Findings contributed to the development of the CARING Companion Tools I-II-based and enriched the implementation of the existing Curricula and working modalities of engaging parents.
- Two Trainings of Trainers: one on “Trauma Informed Care”, which took place in Kosovo with the participation of three psychologists, and one on "Prevention and response to violence in school environments by enhancing child participation and following a trauma-informed approach" conducted in Greece and attended by 20 education professionals.



4 Focus Group Discussions
with **71 participants**
from **8 schools**
for tools and engaging
methodology
development

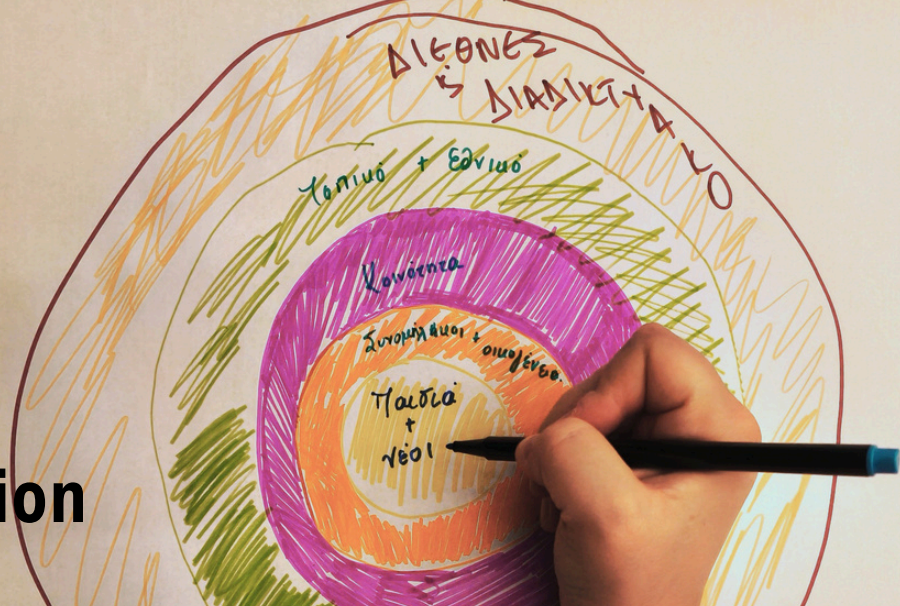


2
Trainings of Trainers
on "Trauma Informed
Care" and "Prevention
and Response to
School Related
Violence"



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Child Protection



Advancing Mental Health Support Systems for Vulnerable Children and Youth



The main objective of “**Unity in Care**” project- which started in 2025- is to support key stakeholders (national health, social welfare and education systems, mental health professionals, NGOs, organisations, etc.) working with and for vulnerable children to better respond to identified psychosocial needs by promoting evidence-based structured methodologies and interventions.

The project will adapt, contextualize, and implement the **Movement, Games, Sports and Creativity (MGSC)**, the **Move On & Engage**, **I support My Friends** and **Walking the Journey** methodologies to support particularly vulnerable populations in the targeted countries. In 2025

- **89** children actively participated in the project activities
- **103** professionals joined workshops and trainings
- **1 Children Advisory Board – CAB** was established και **4 participants from Greece** joined the **International CAB**. CAB is a participatory methodology through which children participate meaningfully in decision making processes and become themselves changemakers.

"It is important to be satisfied with the roles we have and to be able to take on new ones. Also, to surround ourselves with people who make us feel good about ourselves and confident. We need to have a say in the things that matter to us and be involved in decisions, otherwise, we feel we are not valued"
14-year-old student





Child Protection

Empowering the role of “active citizenship” and participatory action at schools



Empowering children to engage in issues affecting their school and community through targeted methodologies that **promote participation and action** is the key target of the **EmpowerED** project that started in 2025 and is implemented by the organizations Dråpen i Havet, Rafto Foundation for Human Rights, Hope for Children, Terre des hommes Hellas and the University of Bergen. During 2025, a Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted in Greece with the participation of 5 partners, focusing on the methodologies of the project “YouCreate”, “Walking the Journey”, and “Living Democracy”.

Key objectives include helping students:

- understand in depth their right to active participation in topics that concern them
- reflect on the issues that their community may be facing
- take action to answer their concerns through group experiential work

workshops

on human rights and active citizenship

interactive activities

among children with educators' contribution

experiential meetings

to enhance children's participation and community support

The role of educators

Educators, after having been trained and handed in the necessary educational tools, are expected to contribute to the creation of a familiar and safe framework for children's expression and activation. They will develop skills and learn about methodologies that will help them in the classroom on issues of inclusion, human rights, democratic participation and enhancing children's skills.





Children and youth on the move




INTACT - Inclusive Trauma Informed Care Adventure Therapy Activities for refugee children and youth in Greece

Exercise, discover, belong



The **INTACT** project started in 2024 and entered its most dynamic phase in 2025, focusing through specific activities on nurturing the emotional resilience and social integration of children and young refugees. The project is based on innovative methods like **Trauma-Informed Adventure Therapy (TIAT)**, underscoring the healing power of nature and the transformative role of sports, offering meaningful pathways to process trauma and rebuilding a sense of belonging. Terre des hommes Hellas, in collaboration with KMOP-EDUCATION & INNOVATION HUB and Adventure Therapy Greece, implemented a series of activities in urban and rural contexts.

Impact in Greece

-  **350 children and young refugees participated in TIAT pilot sessions** in Attica and Ioannina regions enjoying activities, such as **hiking, biking, and climbing**. A multidisciplinary team of trainers, psychologists, and interpreters ensured effective implementation.
-  **113 participants, mainly coaches and trainers, attended four webinars** introducing these tools and promoting their application within sports organizations across Greece.
-  **2 learning modules** were developed in English and Greek: the “**TIAT Program for Refugee Children and Youth**” which provides guidance on delivering trauma-sensitive, inclusive activities, and the “**TIAT Manual for Coaches**” designed to help sports professionals understand and support refugee children affected by trauma



Co-funded by
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“The **Intact programme** was designed as a **vibrant, safe, and well-structured learning experience beyond the boundaries of the classroom, placing people and the needs of the child at its core...** an experience of equality, acceptance, and empowerment. Through activities such as climbing, cycling, nature-based games, and hiking, students connected not only with the natural environment, but also with aspects of themselves they had not yet discovered.”

Principal of the Intercultural Highschool of Athens

“**For many children**, this programme was a **rare opportunity to feel that they belong and that they are capable.** This in itself is pedagogically invaluable,”

Physical Education Teacher



“I was ashamed to say that I didn’t know how to ride a bicycle. I thought everyone would laugh at me. **In the end, everyone helped me, and when I started pedalling, I felt free.**”

student, 13 years old



“I fell twice, but then I didn’t want to stop. **It was the first time I felt like I had done something big.**”

student, 14 years old

Access to Justice

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Building a Resourceful International Youth Diversion Group for Exchanging Best Practices Across Europe



BRIDGE project - commenced in 2025- aims to **strengthen diversion approaches to child and youth offending by promoting restorative practices, reintegration, and the prevention of stigma for children and young people.**

The main approaches to the achievement of this target are empowering professionals, improving child and youth justice policies, and promoting more effective and humane responses outside the criminal justice system through European cooperation and the exchange of best practices between the Netherlands, Ireland, and Greece.

In 2025, a European Exchange Meeting took place in Hague, while it was set the foundation for the creation of a European Youth Diversion Network. Also, a needs assessment report with comparative insights from the three countries is currently underway.



What is “diversion”?

Diversion is a **process where the cases of children alleged as, accused of, or recognized as having infringed the penal law are dealt without resorting to judicial proceedings**, providing that human rights and legal safeguards are fully respected and that children are dealt with in a manner appropriate to their well-being and proportionate both to their circumstances and the offence.

“Diversion reduces the negative stigma of formal court proceedings, prevents recidivism and supports reintegration rather than punishment”

Panagiota Kanellopoulou, Access to Justice Project Coordinator



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Methodologies

The action of Tdh Hellas is implemented based on specialized methodologies applied by the organization's team, aiming at the holistic psychosocial support and protection of children. Learn what they are and how they work:

Movement, Games, Sports and Creativity (MGSC): the methodology uses sport, games and creativity as a psychosocial tool to develop the personal and social skills of children aged 4 to 14 who may have experienced adverse childhood experiences, and aims to improve their resilience and psychosocial well-being through group action. The tool can be applied by professionals who work with children on a daily basis (social workers, teachers, animators, coaches, etc.).


Move On & Engage: the methodology encourages and supports children and young people to develop skills that will enable them to assess issues relating to their safety and psychosocial well-being and then develop and implement group initiatives to address these concerns. It is addressed to children aged 12 to 18 years, with the aim of enhancing their psychosocial resilience and improving their collective effectiveness to deal with issues affecting them in their environment.

I support my friends: the methodology involves peer-to-peer psychological first aid and is specifically adapted for training children and adolescents on how to better support their friends after a difficult event. It aims to equip children aged 9 to 17 with the ability to activate and reinforce positive skills that will help them and their friends manage and adapt during and after a crisis event, while providing adult participants with the skills necessary to safely support children and teens to care for each other. The tool can be implemented by professionals (social workers, teachers, health workers, psychologists, etc.) or community workers

Walking the Journey: A methodological toolkit for the establishment, support and development of Children and Youth Advisory Boards (CABs): the methodological toolkit is conceptually based on a set of children's participation rights as enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The methodology is particularly suitable for professionals involved in child protection from all levels of professional life and for adults who involve children in decision-making processes in different contexts.



The interventions include the training of trainers, facilitators, children in the different methodologies, as well as their implementation, depending on existing needs and capacities. The trainings are addressed to professionals working with children in different contexts (schools, organisations, camps, sports clubs, etc.).

A photograph of children in a classroom setting, holding colorful paper airplanes (orange, blue, green, yellow) in front of their faces. The children are looking towards the camera with various expressions.

Child Safeguarding/Protection Services & Trainings on Psychosocial Care

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Since 2024, Terre des hommes Hellas has been offering specialised training and support services in the development of Child Safeguarding Policies and Protocols. These services are tailored to meet the specific needs of each organisation—whether it be a civil society organisation or a private sector company—ensuring that all entities working with children can provide a safe and protective environment.

Who are they addressed to?

The trainings and services are tailored to the needs, structure, and characteristics of each entity—whether they are **civil society organizations** (CSOs) or **institutional bodies** and **private-sector companies working with or connected to children**—with the aim of creating a safe and inclusive environment for children.

Why choose Terre des hommes Hellas?

Terre des hommes Hellas brings extensive experience in the development and implementation of child safeguarding protocols at both national and international levels. As a core safeguarding partner of UEFA, we have been providing consulting and training services on child safeguarding for the past seven years, helping shape safer environments for children playing football across Europe. Our expertise ensures that organisations not only meet international safeguarding standards but also create meaningful and lasting protections for the children they serve.



Child Safeguarding/Protection Services & Trainings on Psychosocial Care



During **2025**, the Terre des hommes Hellas team provided child safeguarding and protection services and trainings on psychosocial care to organizations in Greece and abroad.

Irish Red Cross



Tdh Hellas organized and conducted a five-day in person training-of-trainers course on the PM + (Problem Management plus) methodology for the Irish Red Cross, in Dublin with 17 participants from the Red Cross societies of Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Ukraine, and Croatia. Through participatory processes, participants had the opportunity to be trained in the World Health Organization's methodology to support the training of peer helpers.

Take Care Program-UEFA

promoting health and well-being through football



Tdh Hellas contributed through the partnership between Tdh Foundation and UEFA to the development of the module Mental Health of the Take Care program, which focuses on promoting health and well-being through football. It supports national associations, leagues, clubs, other football stakeholders, and schools. The module includes educational sessions, a scientific white paper, posters, a podcast and a documentary.

Sports Club: NWSP Water Polo Ltd



As part of its efforts to provide child safeguarding training and support services to organizations involved in activities with children, Tdh Hellas implemented a series of seminars and needs assessment with the NWSP Water Polo Ltd sports club, which runs water polo summer camps for children from Greece and abroad. Water Polo NWSP project team received support and guidance to develop a safeguarding policy and to implement safe programming guidelines, while strengthening their child safeguarding culture.

Advocacy

In 2025, Terre des hommes Hellas continued to promote children's rights through joint advocacy initiatives aimed at raising awareness, influencing policies, and strengthening child protection.

Key actions included:

- A satellite event by Tdh Hellas and UNICEF Greece during the World Congress for Justice with Children, focusing on child-friendly and restorative justice.
- Comments on a draft law by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, advocating for amendments to ensure stronger safeguards for the protection and care of children in line with national, EU, and international law.
- Participation in IRC's roundtable on the impact of the Pact's Solidarity Mechanism on unaccompanied children in Greece and an IRC event on safeguarding unaccompanied children's rights under the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum.
- Participation in the 13th Annual Seminar of the European Forum for Restorative Justice that co-hosted a workshop with UNICEF Greece on supporting children on the move through restorative approaches.
- Presentation of the research "An assessment of the child friendliness of the Greek justice system"- conducted by Tdh Hellas and UNICEF Greece -in the transnational roundtable organized by the Themistokles & Dimitris Tsatsos Foundation - Centre for European Constitutional Law (CECL).

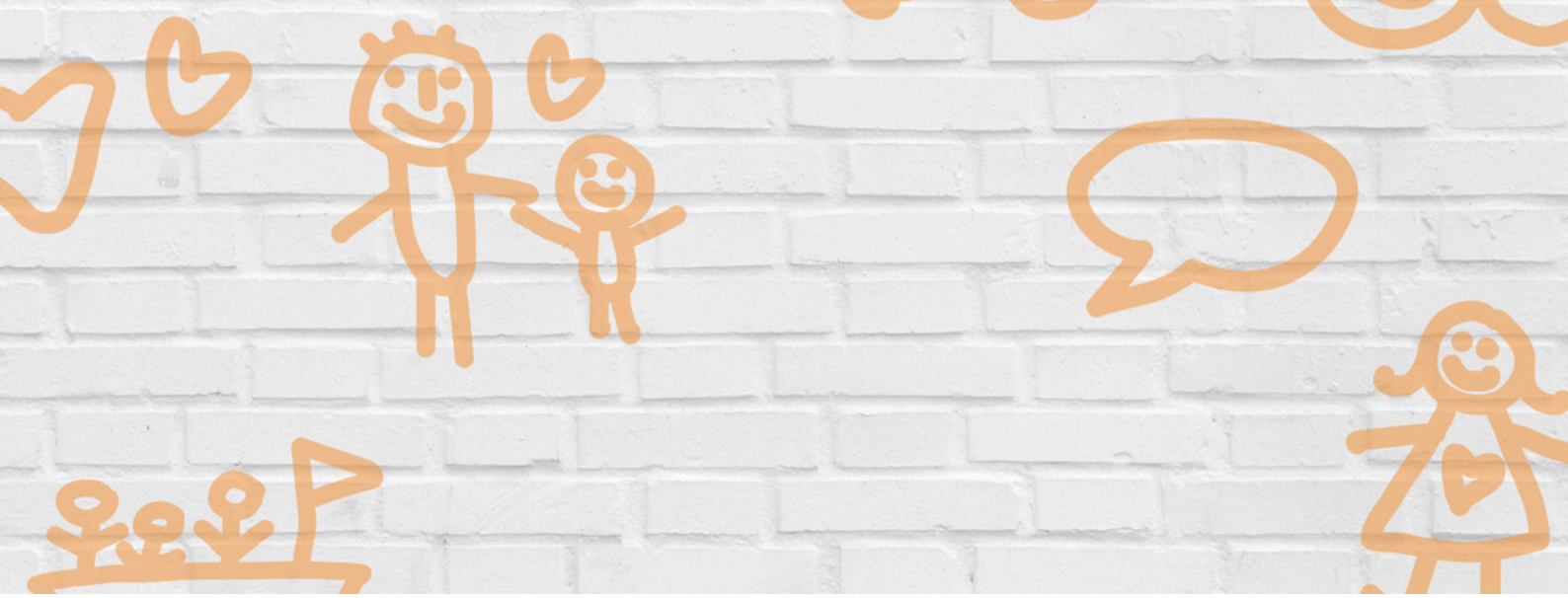
Partnerships

Adventure Therapy Greece, Association Roditeli Bulgaria, Avans University, Brave Phone Croatia, Centro Penc, Dråpen i Havet (Norway), European Forum for Restorative Justice, Foróige (Ireland), HALT Netherlands, HERA Center, Hope for Children (Cyprus), Jesuit Refugee Service Romania, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, KMOP, Lawren.io, Nisma-Arsis Albania, Noldus, NWSP Water Polo Ltd, Rafto Foundation (Norway), Restorative Justice Netherland, Social Activities and Practice Institute (SAPI), Social Insurance Board, SOS Children's Villages International, SOS Children's Villages Italy, Terre des hommes Foundation in Lausanne, Terre des hommes Hungary, Romania, Albania, Kosovo, Moldova, Ukraine and Bangladesh, UNICEF Greece, War Child Holland, Members of the Child Friendly Justice-European Network

Transparency

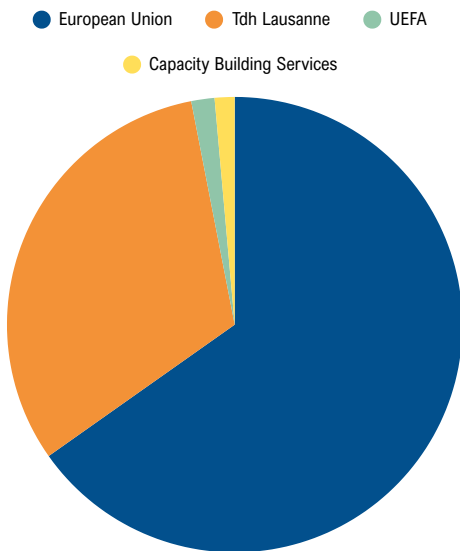
At Terre des hommes Hellas, we place great emphasis on the transparency of our actions and funding. In more detail:

- We work with an external firm of independent auditors for annual audits.
- We publish on our website our annual financial reports, activity reports as well as our internal regulations and codes of values.
- We publish all the documents related to the establishment of the organization in Greece, such as the decisions and the statutes of the General Commercial Registry (G.E.MI.).
- We are members of the national registers of the Ministry of Immigration and Asylum as well as in the Public Database of the Ministry of Interior.
- We conduct internal controls with the Headquarters of Terre des hommes in Lausanne

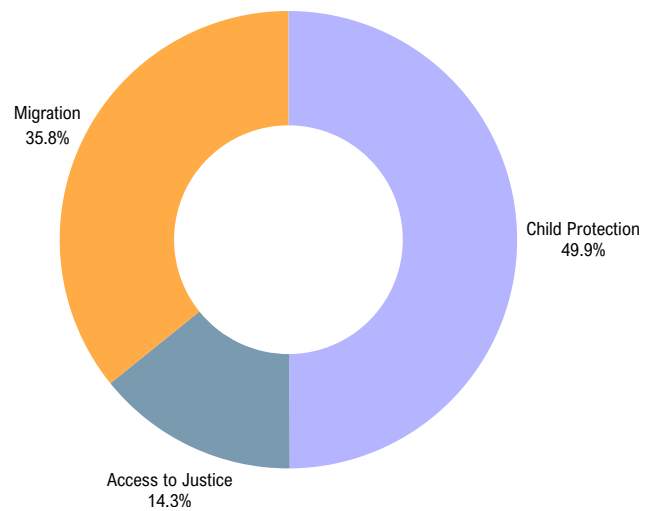


Funding

2025 resource allocation per donor in EUR



2025 resource allocation by thematic allocation



We would like to thank our donors for their support and trust in 2025



