

ESIP feedback to the roadmap on the European Child Guarantee

The [European Social Insurance Platform](#) (ESIP) represents **statutory social security schemes** from 17 Member States, the UK and Switzerland, including **institutions responsible for the provision of family and child benefits, as well as services to children, including healthcare and early childhood education and care (ECEC).**

ESIP would like to take the opportunity provided by the European Commission via this feedback to the Roadmap to **offer the expertise gathered within its [Family and Social Inclusion Committee \(FaSI\)](#)**, in order to support the elaboration of effective tools to fight against child poverty and support inclusion of vulnerable children.

We would like to stress the need to ensure that any future European Child Guarantee should be **accompanied by earmarked EU funding** targeted to its implementation to maximise its impact.

ESIP calls on the Commission to **include ESIP's FaSI members as part of the relevant stakeholders to be consulted** during the drafting of the Child Guarantee. Indeed, our Members can provide **valuable resources in terms of expertise (management and knowledge), data and best practices** based on national measures already implemented.

For instance, the French national Family Benefits Fund (CNAF) strives to promote access to early childhood education and care (ECEC) for all children and including children with disabilities and children from low income families¹. ECEC services across France are required to follow the same fee scale which is adjusted accordingly to family income. The funding from the French family branch of social security to ECEC services also increases when the income of parents using the services are low. Specific childcare solutions to help parents go back to work are also provided by CNAF².

Our members also have **extensive expertise in developing or managing programmes dedicated to supporting families and children, especially the most vulnerable ones**, managing their financing, and **coordinating actions** with a wide range of actors and institutions also involved in combating child poverty.

An example of the support provided to vulnerable families and children is the Italian "Bonus asilo-nido" (Nursery bonus), provided by the Italian National Social Security Institution

¹ Examples of disability inclusion and social mixity include the bonus granted to ECEC to promote access of children with disabilities and children from low-income families as well as a territorial bonus (for the ECEC in areas most in need).

² The occupational integration nurseries allow jobseeker parents to benefit from childcare and specific support with a view to their long-term integration into the labour market. This best practice is relevant in view of the child guarantee as removing barriers to parents' employment is a fundamental tool in fighting structurally against child poverty.



(INPS). This benefit is intended to help cover the cost of attending nurseries (and home assistance in case of children with chronic diseases who cannot attend nurseries) for parents with children under 3 years old. The amount (but not the entitlement) depends on the household's economic situation.

One example of a coordinating role that our members play is the "Netzwerk Familienleistungen Mainz", which was founded in 2018 at the initiative of the German Family Benefits Office (Familienkasse) together with the State Government of Rhineland-Palatinate and the State capital Mainz. The network gathers local partners, such as municipalities and charities, together with federal and regional authorities providing benefits and services to families. It creates a central contact point for families and aims to ensure that families receive the services they are entitled to and needs-based counselling quickly and easily, regardless of which part of the network they turn to. The network also contributes to the development of common operational standards among the network's partners.

As such, ESIP's FaSI Committee is already set up as a **forum for exchange between national experts** on those topics. FaSI members and the FaSI itself thus put themselves forward in support of the Commission in designing the best tools to tackle child poverty in the EU.

