

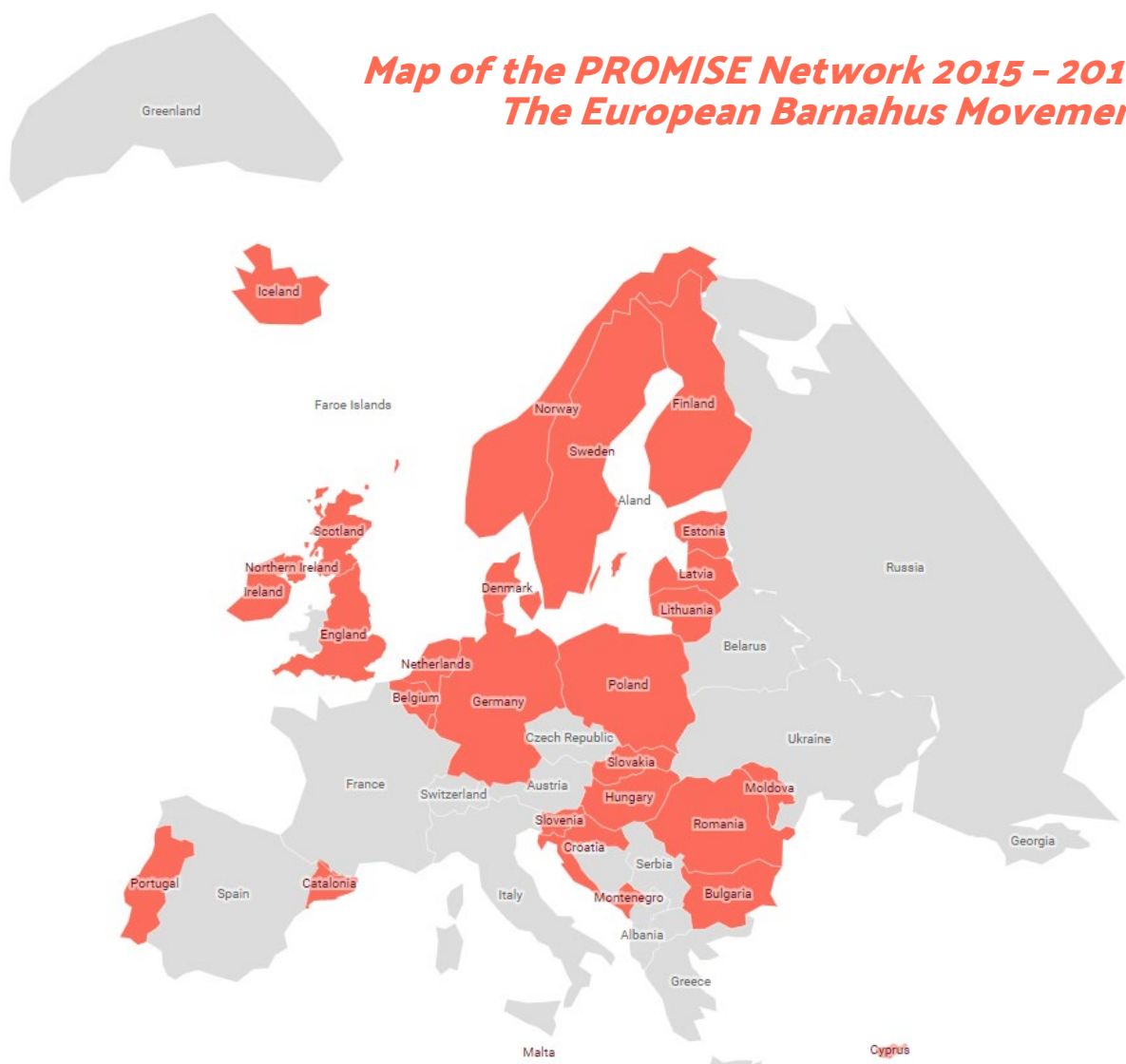
P R O M I S E Network concept paper

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The PROMISE partners and experts formally launched its journey in 2015 and have since then worked together to promote, establish and develop Barnahus across Europe through a wide range of activities. Beyond implementing training, exchange, development of practical tools and information sharing, the Promise partnership and experts have developed **a deep sense of partnership and mutual support, commitment and recognition.**

This partnership has not only engaged and benefited the Promise partners and experts for the past four years – it has invited and tied many other stakeholders to the growing movement for Barnahus in Europe.

Entering into the fourth year of partnership, the PROMISE partner, expert, pilot and consultation countries are invited to seek new opportunities by formalising the PROMISE Network, with the **purpose of galvanizing continued and intensified support for the European Barnahus Movement, promote harmonisation and a consolidation of good Barnahus practice across Europe and build capacity to establish a competent and committed Barnahus workforce across Europe.**



This map shows which countries have contributed to and/or are implementing Barnahus and similar services on the basis of the PROMISE Barnahus Quality Standards. List on next page.

PROPOSED OVERALL OBJECTIVE & ACTIVITIES

The key objective of the network will be **to facilitate activities that increase the members’ positive impact on the lives of child victims and witnesses of violence and their families** at national and European level. **To this end, the network’s activities will support members to:**

- **Improve practice** by having access to training, mentorship and practical tools, including University certified training in forensic interviews and therapy
- **Gain recognition, and in the longer-term accreditation,** for excellence in practice by having access to training, support, mentoring and tools to benchmark progress to practicing in line with the Barnahus standards
- **Share expertise and learning and helping shape the European Barnahus Movement** by having access to a broad network which actively engages in exchange and mutual learning
- **Extend outreach and visibility** by being part of a broad professional network, visibility in European social media and opportunities to meet other professionals from across Europe
- **Explore funding opportunities** by offering access to expertise and reliant partnerships

Short term activities:

- Training – in-house, self-training, European competence centre
- Practical tools and guidance
- Data collection, evaluation and research to monitor impact
- Child participation
- Exchange and mutual support
- Peer support through mentorship and training of trainers
- Advocacy and awareness-raising at national and European level

In the longer term, the network envisages to develop and engage in:

- Accreditation
- Exchange and support internationally

<i>Map on previous page includes the following countries:</i>		Lithuania	PROMISE Partner country
Belgium	PROMISE Partner country	Luxembourg	PROMISE Pilot country
Bulgaria	PROMISE Partner country	Malta	PROMISE Pilot country
Croatia	PROMISE Expert country	Moldova	PROMISE consultation country
Cyprus	PROMISE Partner country	Montenegro	PROMISE consultation country
Denmark	PROMISE Expert country	Netherlands	PROMISE Expert country
England	PROMISE Pilot and expert	Northern Ireland	PROMISE consultation country
Estonia	PROMISE Partner country	Norway	PROMISE Expert country
Finland	PROMISE Partner country	Poland	PROMISE Partner country
Germany	PROMISE Partner country	Portugal	PROMISE consultation country
Hungary	PROMISE Partner country	Romania	PROMISE Partner country
Iceland	PROMISE Expert country	Scotland	PROMISE consultation country
Ireland	PROMISE Partner country	Slovakia	PROMISE consultation country
Latvia	PROMISE Partner country	Slovenia	PROMISE consultation country
		Spain	PROMISE consultation country
		Sweden	PROMISE Expert country

PROPOSED ORGANISATION, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

It is proposed that the network is set up in a way that formalises its status as a formal European Network, eligible for EU and other operational funding. The proposed structure below meets the key elements that are required in terms of organisation, governance and management while minimizing the set-up and operational costs and administrative burden of formalising the network.

Secretariat

The CBSS Secretariat, which has acted as the Promise project coordinator since 2015, offers to provide the **joint Secretariat and act as the officially appointed coordinator of the network** in its premises in Stockholm, including desk, HR, admin, communication and finance support. **This will dramatically reduce the set-up and operational costs of the network and ensure continuity in the daily operation and management of the network.**

This set up will also ensure **eligibility for EU operational and action grants**, firmly founded in a long-standing and trusted partnership between the EU and the CBSS in this, and other, areas.

The Promise network will be established as a subgroup under the CBSS Children at Risk Unit, involving stakeholders from all over Europe. **Membership will thus not be confined to the Baltic Sea region but will be open to stakeholders from Europe and its near neighbourhood.**

General Assembly/European Barnahus Forum

The General Assembly is held annually and consists of all full and developing members, which respectively have 1 vote. The General Assembly approves the annual work plans, budget and operational and financial reports and elects steering group members. Associate members and network supporters are invited to join the General Assembly as observers.

The General Assembly coincides with a biannual European Barnahus Forum.

Steering Group

It is envisaged that the network will establish a Steering Group to guide and oversee the work of the network. The Steering Group is accountable to the General Assembly. The Steering Group functions include:

- To provide strategic direction, leadership and guidance
- To develop and support activities promoting the European Barnahus Movement, including project proposals;
- To make budgetary decisions, including activities which affect the budget;
- To approve or delay applications for membership of the network;
- In the longer term, to approve or delay applications for accreditation;
- To decide and inform in cases of loss of membership or in the longer term, accreditation.
- In the longer term, to publicise new accreditations, and award the accreditation publicly at the Barnahus Forum.

Permanent Steering Group membership

- **Council of Baltic Sea States Children at Risk Unit** – Network Secretariat
 - Head of the Children at Risk Unit – Chair
 - Children at Risk Assistant – Secretary and communication officer
 - Head of Administration – Treasurer and tiebreaker
- **Child Circle** – Network Coordination
- **Barnafrid** via Linköping University – Research and Accreditation
- **At least two positions of 2-year rotating memberships on the Steering Group from the network membership**, elected by the network members at the biennial Barnahus Forum.

HM Queen Silvia will be invited to take the position as Honorary Chairman of the Steering Group.

The Council of Europe will be invited to participate as an observer and adviser to the Steering Group.

Mr Bragi Gudbrandson will be invited as Special Adviser to the Steering Group.

Rotating Steering Group membership

It is envisaged that there will be **at least two positions of 2-year rotating memberships on the Steering Group, elected by the network members at the biennial Barnahus Forum**. Acting members may be invited by the permanent members to serve on the steering group before the first election at the General Assembly at the Barnahus Forum.

Special Advisors and Experts

The network wishes to capitalise on the strong leadership and commitment from key experts in Europe. The Special advisers will be invited to hold Steering Group membership until resignation or majority decision of the Steering Group.

Technical Advisors

The network wishes to involve actors with specific technical expertise to join Steering Group meetings as relevant. This may involve actors with specific technical experts, researchers, practitioners etc, including for example the developers of the Promise case management and tracking tool.

Network Coordinator

The network will appoint a network coordinator at assistant level who will facilitate and manage the network activities and the daily running of the network.

The network coordinator is accountable to the Steering group and will be line managed by the Head of the Children's Unit at the CBSS Secretariat.

PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE AND FEES

The network will embrace a broad and diverse membership **from across Europe and its near neighbourhood**, drawing on existing and emerging Promise partnerships with stakeholders from across Europe and across sectors. The network membership will fully embrace multi-disciplinary and interagency collaboration, promoting involvement and exchange from all relevant and interested sectors.

It is envisaged that the network will offer different membership categories: **Full Membership, Associate Membership and Network Supporters**. This approach will ensure that we can involve a broad variety of stakeholders that subscribe to the network's vision and mission, while at the same time keeping the establishment and successful operation of Barnahus at the centre of the network.

Each full member, associated member and supporter will add value and ensure broad representation of interests, enrich exchange, build multidisciplinary knowledge and contribute to reach and dissemination of the network's collective knowledge, activities and outputs.

In order to ensure eligibility for EU funding, the network must have member organisations/bodies or authorities in **at least 14 participating countries from the EU**.

Overview of membership and benefits

Benefit	Full Membership	Developing Membership	Associate Membership
Fee	300 – 5000 pa	300 – 5000 pa	250 pa
Access to Website & Publications	YES	YES	YES
Network Advocacy at international, regional or national level on members' behalf	YES	YES	YES
Online Member Space, peer exchange and support, access to PROMISE experts and advocates, access projects (action grants)	YES	YES	NO
Training Courses at European Barnahus Competence Centre	YES (fully paid or heavily subsidised depending on available funding)	YES (fully paid or heavily subsidised depending on available funding)	By invitation and payment, based on capacity
Other training & Capacity building, including webinars	YES	YES	By invitation and if applicable, payment, based on capacity
European Barnahus Forum & other conferences	YES	YES	By invitation and if applicable, payment, based on capacity
European Barnahus Case Management Tool	YES	YES	N/A
Contributions to development of policy and tools	YES	YES	By invitation only
Vote in General Assembly	YES	YES	NO (May observe GA)
Representation on network steering group	YES	NO	NO
Barnahus Accreditation	YES	PENDING - SUPPORT TOWARDS ACCREDITATION	NO

Full Members (Barnahus and similar services)

Full membership is open to a formally established Barnahus or similar service in a European country as defined by the Council of Europe.

In order to join as a full member, the service must comply with the following requirements:

- A functioning multidisciplinary service with representation from law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, medical and mental health services
- Full compliance with the Barnahus Criteria
- Commitment to take all possible action to (progressively) practice according to the Barnahus Quality Standards, within the boundaries of the national context
- Some form of formal interagency agreement, preferably a written interagency agreement
- Child-friendly facilities and interventions
- Clear and transparent governance and finance
- Service provision fully compliant with national & European law and requirements for example on different sectors of the multidisciplinary service provision, protection of data and privacy, rights of victims and defendants;
- Non-for profit – service provision is free
- Service provision only carried out by competent, qualified and specialised staff
- Policy and procedures for safeguarding children from harm are in place

In the longer term it is envisaged that full membership only will be offered to Barnahus that have earned accreditation by the network (Accredited Member). For this purpose, an accreditation system will be developed on the basis of the Barnahus Quality Standards. Accreditation will be subject to a decision of the Steering Group and will be managed by the member of the Steering group responsible for Research and Accreditation.

Full members will enjoy:

- 1 vote per service in the General Assembly, eligible to hold a position on the Steering Group
- Fully or partly subsidised participation in training, conferences, PROMISE tools, and other activities of the Network (sliding scale per number of participants)
- Members-only access to the PROMISE Network Member Space offering peer exchange and support, access to PROMISE experts and advocates for special support for national level impact and needs, access to funds via solid partnerships (action grants)

Proposed membership fees for full members

Annual income in Euro	Annual Fee in Euro
-100 000	300
100 001- 500 000	500
500 001 – 1000 000	1000
1000 001 – 2000 000	1500
2000 001 – 3000 000	2000
3000 001 – 4000 000	2500
4000 001 – 5000 000	3000
5000 001 -	5000

Developing Members

Membership in this category is open to developing and pilot Barnahus or similar multidisciplinary interagency services that are working towards compliance with the Barnahus criteria, in a European country as defined by the Council of Europe.

In order to join as a developing member, the service must comply with the following requirements:

- A multidisciplinary service with representation from at least some of the following actors: law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, medical and mental health services
- Commitment to take all possible action to (progressively) comply with the Barnahus Criteria
- Commitment to take all possible action to (progressively) practice according to the Barnahus Quality Standards, within the boundaries of the national context.
- Child friendly facilities and interventions
- Service provision fully compliant with national & European law and requirements for example on different sectors of the multidisciplinary service provision, protection of data and privacy, rights of victims and defendants;
- Non-for profit – service provision is free
- Service provision only carried out by competent, qualified and specialised staff
- Clear and transparent governance and finance
- Policy and procedures for safeguarding children from harm are in place

Once the accreditation system is in place, this category will be replaced by a new membership category “Accreditation Track Members” consisting of services that are working toward implementing the standards for accreditation but aren’t fully there yet.

Developing members will enjoy:

- 1 vote per service in the General Assembly
- Fully or partly subsidised participation in training, conferences, and other activities of the Network (sliding scale per number of participants)
- Members-only access to the PROMISE Network Member Space offering peer exchange and support, access to PROMISE experts and advocates for special support for national level impact and needs, access to funds via solid partnerships (action grants)

Proposed membership fees for developing members

Annual income in Euro	Annual Fee in Euro
0-100 000	300
100 001- 500 000	500
500 001 – 1000 000	1000
1000 001 – 2000 000	1500
2000 001 – 3000 000	2000
3000 001 – 4000 000	2500
4000 001 – 5000 000	3000
5000 001 -	5000

Associate Members

This membership category seeks to involve the many stakeholders across Europe that play a crucial role in promoting and supporting the establishment, development, competence and dissemination of Barnahus in Europe, including for example Governments, national and local authorities, Universities, research institutes, centres of expertise, NGOs, regional and international organisations, child rights organisations and champions.

In order to join as an associate member, the stakeholder must comply with the following requirements:

- Be an organisation or individual that fully supports and wants to promote the vision, mission and objectives of the PROMISE Barnahus network
- If the applicant is an organisation, it should be formally constituted as a non-governmental, inter-governmental, governmental, academic, educational, children's rights or child victim support organisation operating at a national, regional or international level

Associate members will enjoy:

- Special levels of visibility/participation at the Barnahus Forum, website, other communications
- Participation in training, conferences, and other activities of the Network as relevant, for a fee or partly subsidised
- May observe the General Assembly

The associate membership annual fee is 250 EURO.

Supporters and sponsors

The PROMISE Barnahus network will work actively to engage network supporters and sponsors, including private foundations, corporate foundations, private benefactors, and other donors. This category can also include Governments, national and local authorities, Universities, research institutes, centres of expertise, NGOs, regional and international organisations, child rights organisations and champions that aren't affiliated as associate members.

BUDGET & FUNDING

As noted above, the network will be set up and operated in the most cost-effective way while maximising reach and impact and securing sound administrative and financial management.

The network will benefit from in-kind contributions of CBSS and Child Circle in its initial phase. This includes developing concept, exploring interest in the network, developing a strategy and annual work plan, formally establishing the network and membership and organising the formal launch of the network. It also includes producing a project proposal for the EC 2019 Action Grant calls under the FRC Programme (Daphne).

The CBSS Secretariat, which has acted as the Promise project coordinator since 2015, offers to provide the joint Secretariat of the network in its premises in Stockholm, including desk, HR, admin, communication and finance support. This will dramatically reduce the set-up and operational costs of the network and ensure continuity in the daily operation and management of the network.

It is envisaged that the network will run at minimum costs, with some of the operations funded by an EC action grant and if needed, membership fees covering minimum expenses. In the longer term, the network will seek to establish a Framework Partnership Agreement with the EC and develop a system for membership fees, which will be used for co-financing.

The funding will provide partial reimbursement of 1 full-time assistant level coordinator and other operational costs to the CBSS. It can also include, for example:

- Venue and catering for Steering Group meetings, subsidised travel and accommodation for special advisors, full and developing members
- Development, service and maintenance for a Case Management Tool
- Website maintenance
- Webinar software
- Design and printing costs for key documents, occasional translations
- Additional activities funded via projects or direct contributions when budget allows.

The budget will be approved by the Steering Group and the General Assembly.

NETWORK DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Date	Action	Funding	Output
Jan/Feb 2019	Development of initial Concept and exploring interest	N/A (in-kind CBSS, Child Circle)	Concept Overview of interest in network
March/April 2019	Development of terms of reference and formal invitation to join network	N/A	Terms of Reference Membership established
May 2019	Formal establishment of network - no cost operation	N/A (in-kind CBSS, Child Circle)	Network formally established
May 2019 – September 2019	Development of 5-year strategy and annual work programme for 2020	N/A (in-kind CBSS, Child Circle)	5-year strategy Annual work programme
June 2019	Submission of EU Funding grant application for Promise III	N/A (in-kind CBSS, Child Circle and partners)	EU funding application submitted
November 2019	Formal launch of network in Brussels	Part of PROMISE partner meeting & Media & Desk launch	Network formally launched
January 2020 – December 2021	Network activities commence	EU project (if approved) Member fees Other contributions	
2020 -	Explore FPA with the EC	If successful, operational funding from the EC, commencing YYYY. Certain operational and overhead costs will be directed to CBSS for costs involved in running Secretariat.	