

Technical Support to implement reforms to support the development of family centred early childhood intervention services in Greece - ECI Greece

Grant Agreement n° 101048313

Family Centred ECI Training Package for Staff of ECI Services

PPT 2: The institutional basis of ECI in Greece



Funded by the European Union via the Technical Support Instrument and implemented by EASPD, in cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support



- Human rights and child rights = the conceptual framework of ECI
- corroborate the right to have access to all settings and fully participate in society.
- Foundation for the value and dignity of every person

Reflected in laws, and conventions, in particular **UN Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)** on the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)** both ratified by Greece.

Key references:

- UNCRC Article 6 - children have a right to develop to ‘the maximum extent possible’
- UN Committee on the Rights of the Child: general comment on Implementing Child Rights in Early Childhood
- The UNESCO Global Partnership Strategy for Early Childhood 2021 – 2030
- European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education - ECI KEY POLICY MESSAGES, 2012
- The UNESCO Holistic Early Childhood Development Index
- The UNICEF report, The State of the World’s Children: Early Childhood, 2001
- The UNESCO ‘Education for All’ Global Monitoring Report
- The European Commission Education and Training 2020 Working Group on Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC): The European Commission’s Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) group of experts Report.

LEGAL & POLITICAL BASIS OF ECI IN GREECE



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for Persons with Disabilities

Legal basis of ECI in Greece

	Ministry	Law or Min. Decree	Regulations
1	Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs	L. N. 3699/2008	ECI mentioned 12 times in the Law in Articles: 2, 4, 8, 32. Development of ECI departments in Special Needs Schools, Centres for Educational Counselling Support to propose and implement ECI programmes, for children aged from 4 to 7 years old
2	Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs	M.D.211076/ΓΔ4/13-12-2018	Centres for Educational and Counselling Support (KEDASY- public services) prepare early educational intervention programs and have the responsibility to monitor and support their implementation (Art: 14,16,17)
3	Ministry of Health	M.D. 80157/1-11-2018	Parents pay initially for services in private therapy centers (such as, physiotherapy, speech or occupational therapy), and then they are reimbursed by their insurance fund
4	Ministry of Health	M.D. 47305/12-12-2018	Identifies 4 fields of ECI: ICD-10 code R46. 3 for Overactivity, R46. 4 Slowness and poor responsiveness, R62. 8 Other lack of expected normal physiological development, R62.9 Lack of expected normal physiological development, unspecified

The new National Strategy for disability - March 2021

Objective 10: Children with disability:

Art. 2. We are enacting an Early Childhood Intervention program for children with disability 0-6 years old

21

We are establishing and implementing a contemporary and effective framework for the Early Childhood Intervention program, following public consultation and evidenced-based study.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS General Secretariat for Social Solidarity & Fight Against Poverty

National Strategy on Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction

The situation in Greece

- No mapping of ECI service providers in Greece
- Lack of a commonly accepted definition of ECI
- Dominant medical model
- Lack of instituted services for families and children with disability under the age of 2
- Lack of an official ECI referral process for children
- Lack of a uniform institutional framework
- Limited interministerial coordination
- Deficient or no funding
- No early identification of needs
- Lack of a certification mechanism and quality criteria
- Lack of an ECI training framework
- Service delivery by private NGOs/Fragmented service system

Technical assistance on ECI - 2021

- Training
- Country Report
- Agora ECI
- ECI roadmap & Suggestions
for a comprehensive Legal
Framework



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Thank you!