



Note for the File

Event	CP Working Group meeting
Date and Place	09.08.2022, 15.30, Microsoft Teams
Attended by	IOM Poland, National and International NGO and IO actors (full list recorded)
NFF prepared by	Anna Posmykiewicz

Summary of Relevant information:

A presentation by Agnieszka Oknińska from Polish Ministry of Interior and Administration on the Polish National Referral Mechanism and Child Referral (aka the 'Little Algorithm')

The algorithm defines:

- A minor is a person under 18 years of age
- Minors might not be aware they were exploited
- Minor cannot self-identify they were exploited
- A victim of SEA or other form of abuse under 15 years old should not be questioned directly by the police – only the judge can do the interview (it can also be done only once and should be recorded). Safe interrogation spaces are located in court's premises.
- Minors should be informed about their rights, and should receive legal support.
- This year so far, there have been 13 minors who received KCIK's help.
- Most of the child CT victims in Poland are teenage girls over the age of 15.

Discussion on foster care for child VoTs and children at risk:

- Minors are placed most often in institutional foster care rather than family care.
- Foster care homes often have issues facilitating the needs of non-Polish speaking minors. On the other hand, family-based care is often not feasible due to the lack of foster family candidates. Moreover, those who are available usually do not have cultural background to accommodate non-Polish children, while non-Polish families do not have an easy access to trainings on foster care.

IOM is currently offering trainings on fostering unaccompanied and separated children in Poland in partnership with SIP (Association for Legal Intervention). The trainings are delivered across Poland and are aimed at foster families and foster care professionals. For more information on the trainings, please contact Hanna Dobrzynska (hdobrzynska@iom.int).