



Labklājības ministrija

# Inter-institutional and inter-professional cooperation

- At the political level, in order to strengthen the field of protection of children's rights and to implement a coordinated policy, the **Children's Affairs Cooperation Council (3 ministers)**;
  - several subgroups responsible for specific areas related to the protection of children's rights, which unite specialists from various state/ municipal institutions, NGO;
- For more closer cooperation in municipal level and more holistic and operative manner of work inter-institutional **cooperation groups have been established in the municipalities**, which include specialists from law enforcement, health, education and social fields, in order to promote the protection of children's rights and to deal with specific cases related to violations of the protection of children's rights;
- The regulatory framework determines the obligation of inter-institutional and inter-professional cooperation - however, in practice this cooperation tends to be formal, as it is basically implemented by reporting cases, however, cooperation in its broader sense is limited;



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- Cooperation in cases of violence, where only adults are involved, the challenges become more, because the responsibility for receiving support and assistance lies both on the perpetrator of violence and the victim;
- No common understanding about which cases which institutions should be informed;
- Adults must be strongly motivated to receive support and help, and it is impossible without strong will, personal involvement and action;
- As a result, repeated and severe cases of violence occur and specialists often have no tools to get involved;
- A significant steps has been taken are the separation without the victim's submission and regarding the determination of learning a violent behavior course as an obligation for the violent person.



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# Challenges 1

- Less formal inter-institutional cooperation:
  - Building trust in local teams;
  - Group / team supervisions;
  - Experience exchange;
- Training of specialists (deeper understanding the phenomenon of violence, not blaming the victim etc.), including continuous learning process;



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## Challenges 2

- Administrative reform (119 to 43 municipalities), and as there are larger municipalities the existence of one group no longer fulfills its defined purpose, therefore two-level cooperation groups are under discussion process;
- Interprofesional group for adults (Tukums example);
- A more precise level of algorithms between the involved and integration of services, feedback;
- Violence data monitoring system.