

Webinar on procedural rights of migrant and refugee children in legal proceedings

7 October 2025
11:00-12:30 CET
Online (Teams)

This webinar will dive into international and EU frameworks ensuring the procedural rights of migrant and refugee children in legal proceedings, including their effective participation in asylum and migration-related proceedings.

The webinar, organized by the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), is built on [a workshop held in Brussels](#) and will bring together EU-wide experts, practitioners, and representatives working in the field of legal proceedings and child participation across the European Union (EU).

Please register to attend the webinar [here](#).

AGENDA

11:00-11:05 Welcome and introductions

11:05-11:35 Procedural safeguards in asylum and migration procedures under international law

- International legal standards and case-law of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

Mikiko Otani, ICJ Commissioner, Former Member and Chair of the UN CRC Committee

11:35-12:00 Legal representation and safeguards for unaccompanied minors under the EU Pact on asylum and Migration

Isabela Atanasiu, Legal Officer, DG HOME, European Commission

12:00-12:30 Q&A and discussion

How can legal frameworks better align with the procedural rights of migrant and refugee children under international human rights law?

Mikiko Otani is a Commissioner and a Member of the Executive Committee of the ICJ. She is an international human rights lawyer with over 30 years of experience practicing family law in Japan, specializing in women's and children's rights. She is a former member and Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Her international experience includes serving as an Alternate Representative of Japan to the UN General Assembly's Third Committee and as an Advisor to the Japanese Delegation at the 53rd UN Commission on the Status of Women. Mikiko has been actively involved in various NGOs and professional organizations, such as the Japan Federation of Bar Associations and the International Bar Association. She is now President of Child Rights Connect.

Isabela Atanasiu is a Legal and Policy Officer in the Asylum Unit of DG HOME (Migration and Home Affairs) at the European Commission since 2015. She previously worked as a case handler in DG Competition of the European Commission. Prior to joining the European Commission, Isabela held several research positions in Madrid, Florence, and Brussels. She holds a PhD in European Studies awarded by the European University Institute.