## CONTENTS

### Introduction
- A Word from the President and the Director 3
- About COFACE Families Europe 4

### Shaping future policies and legislation
- Work-Life Balance 6
- European Pillar of Social Rights 7
- Disability 8
- Safer Internet 9

### Publications and Positions
- Compendium on Financial Inclusion 10
- Civil Society and SDGs 10
- Recommendations European Pillar of Social Rights 10
- Toys and Diversity 10
- New policies for 21st century families 11

### Building Bridges - External cooperation
- EU projects 15
- The Network 16

### COFACE Events: Transfer of knowledge and consensus-building across countries
- Compendium on Financial Inclusion 18
- SDGs and Gender Equality 18
- European Pillar of Social Rights 18
- The impact of digitalisation on 21st century families 18
- Mainstreaming family concerns in key debates 19

### A growing international community of practice: offline and online
- Media, Social Media and Events 20
- COFACE Families Europe new visual identity 22
- A Year in Figures and Tags 22

Date of publication: April 2017 – Editor: Ana Pérez, Communication Manager. Graphic design: www.3milesup.org
This publication has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation «EaSI» (2014-2020). For further information please consult: http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi
A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Reader,

As newly arrived Director half way through the year in 2016, I was impressed by the highly motivated and competent team in the Brussels-based secretariat and the supportive members of the board of COFACE. It allowed me to fit right in, and get straight to work with the Network on implementing the vision set out for ourselves: “COFACE Families Europe works towards a family friendly environment, enabling all families and their members to benefit from sufficient financial resources, available quality services and adequate time arrangements in order to live and enjoy their family life in dignity and harmony.”

This report highlights some of our key achievements in 2016, thereby highlighting our contribution to EU policies and legislation, our expertise in different family-related policy areas, our ability to build bridges across sectors, and our close work with high-level stakeholders to shape the future.

We are a European civil society watchdog especially active in the field of social/economic policy, but also beyond. Mainstreaming the general interest and the family perspective in areas which hugely impact our social policy efforts (digitalisation, consumer policy, finance, and more) is also an essential part of our strategy.

Please get in touch if you would like join us in this common journey towards a better society for all families.

Liz Gosme
Director COFACE Families Europe

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

A fresh new start for COFACE Families Europe in 2016!

We welcomed new members in our governing bodies and in our network, all fully committed to best serve the interests of families in Europe.

In this annual report you will discover the great variety of activities we were involved in.

Together with our members and supported by a supermotivated and ambitious team led by our new director Liz Gosme, we were very active and reached out to many partners. We focused our advocacy action in Europe and beyond in the fields of digitalization, disability, social rights and were especially active in the field of work life balance. With our European Reconciliation Package and as leader of a wide Alliance of European NGOs, supported by the European Parliament, we pushed the European Commission to deliver an ambitious package of concrete legislative measures to allow families all over Europe to better balance their work and family life.

It is clear we need to continue our action in 2017 together with our members, social partners, national governments and other stakeholders to bring about change for families in Europe.

COFACE Families Europe is ready and well-equipped to keep the focus on the great variety of families out there and defend their needs in Europe and beyond! We hope our approach and our work can also inspire you.

Annemie Drieskens
President COFACE Families Europe
ABOUT COFACE FAMILIES EUROPE

COFACE Families Europe is a pluralistic network of civil society associations representing the interests of all families. It was founded in 1958. With 59 member organisations in 23 Member States of the EU, we represent more than 25 million families in Europe.

Our mission is to promote the well-being, health and security of families and their members in a changing society and serve as a trusted entity for family mainstreaming and for the voice/needs of families in the EU and beyond.

Our vision is to work towards a family friendly environment, enabling all families and their members to benefit from sufficient financial resources, available quality services and adequate time arrangements in order to live and enjoy their family life in dignity and harmony.

Core values

COFACE Families Europe is rooted in a set of six core values:

- **Non-discrimination.** We recognise all family forms.
- **Equal opportunities.** We believe equality between women and men is a cornerstone for the reconciliation of family and professional life.
- **Respect of human rights.** We seek to advance the rights of families and their members to a decent quality of life.
- **Empowerment.** We aim to give a voice to all family members as citizens, consumers and workers.
- **Social inclusion.** We advocate for the shaping of policies to tackle poverty and social exclusion of families and their members.
- **Solidarity.** We promote intergenerational solidarity between family members.

Actions

Represent
Representing its member organisations at European and international institutions (UN, OECD, Council of Europe), and at other institutions operating at European level (EU agencies and stakeholder groups, NGO alliances, forums, platforms).

Advocate
Supporting advocacy campaigns for families wherever the interests of families and their members are at stake.

Coordinate
Coordinating and facilitating projects, programmes, activities and initiatives of member organisations, bringing a European dimension to their local initiatives to drive change for families.

Monitor
Closely following EU and international initiatives, assessing the negative and positive impacts for families. Assess emerging family trends across Europe through studies in various fields, and making the link with EU/international initiatives.

Network
Establishing networking systems for the continuing exchange of information and actions with member organisations on matters arising within the European Union, as well as reaching out to individuals who support COFACE Families Europe's mission.

Initiate
Developing new projects, conferences, seminars, trainings and study days, and putting in motion programmes of action at European level, in partnership with other organisations.
Core values

COFACE Families Europe is rooted in a set of six core values:

- Non-discrimination. We recognise all family forms.
- Equal opportunities. We believe equality between women and men is a cornerstone for the reconciliation of family and professional life.
- Respect of human rights. We seek to advance the rights of families and their members to a decent quality of life.
- Empowerment. We aim to give a voice to all family members as citizens, consumers and workers.
- Social inclusion. We advocate for the shaping of policies to tackle poverty and social exclusion of families and their members.
- Solidarity. We promote intergenerational solidarity between family members.

Our mission is to promote the well-being, health and security of families and their members in a changing society and serve as a trusted entity for family mainstreaming and for the voice/needs of families in the EU and beyond.

Our vision is to work towards a family friendly environment, enabling all families and their members to benefit from sufficient financial resources, available quality services and adequate time arrangements in order to live and enjoy their family life in dignity and harmony.

COFACE Families Europe is a pluralistic network of civil society associations representing the interests of all families. It was founded in 1958. With 59 member organisations in 23 Member States of the EU, we represent more than 25 million families in Europe.

Governance

The General Assembly is open to the representatives of all member organisations and lays down our general strategy every year.

The Administrative Council is COFACE’s most important decision-making body.

Members
Elisabeth Potzinger (AT) - President
Annemie Drieskens (BE)
Marie Nyssens (BE)
Eric de Wasch (BE) - Treasurer
Mariela Nankova (BG)
Hervé Hoffmann (CH)
Stuart Duffin (CZ)
Sven Iversen (DE)
Antonia Torrens (EL) - Vice-President
Jean-Bernard Audureau (ES) – Vice-President
Ascensión Iglesias (ES)

Eija Koivuranta (FI)
Mériadec Rivièrè (FR)
Virginie Durin (FR)
Silvija Stanic (HR)
Maria Klinger (HU)
Shirley Power (IE)
Gaetano Santonocito (IT)
Roland Anen (LU)
Peter Grabner (SL)
Stanislav Trnovec (SK)
Sarah Wellard (UK)

The Executive Bureau carries out the Administrative Council’s decisions and is composed of a President, two Vice-Presidents and a Treasurer.

The Secretariat in Brussels ensures the representation and the smooth functioning of COFACE.

Staff
Liz Gosme, Director – Florian Charron, Project and Finance Manager – Ana Pérez, Communication Manager – Martin Schmalzried, Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer – Paola Panzeri, Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer – Magdi Birtha, Policy and Advocacy Officer.
SHAPING FUTURE POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

WORK-LIFE BALANCE

2016 has been a year of institutional progress in the area of Work-Life Balance: the European Parliament initiated a report that few months later became a resolution, the European Commission held a public consultation to advance its Roadmap and the Council of the EU, through the Slovak presidency organized a major conference on this topic. COFACE has been a key stakeholder for the three institutions and was invited to contribute actively in the policy making, as expert, both at the public hearing of the European Parliament and at the Slovak Presidency conference.

European Parliament
In early 2016, the European Parliament Committees EMPL and FEMM, initiated a report on “Creating Labour Market conditions Favourable for Work-Life Balance”. Both Committees organised a public hearing on 22 March, giving the floor to a pool of experts. COFACE Families Europe was called as expert to present its view and position.

The report was voted first in Committee and presented to the Parliament plenary session in September. COFACE Families Europe campaigned with its members and partners to make sure that the report was voted by a majority. Finally, on 13 September, the European Parliament voted the report that became a resolution by 443 votes in favour, 123 against and 100 abstention. We were very glad that our efforts paid off and the European Parliament approved the report.

The resolution contains our main lobby points and key areas we identified in the response to the public consultation, including the demand for a paternity leave directive and carers’ leave directive, the establishment of standards for care services for elderly and persons with disabilities and some indications on flexible working arrangements, like smart-work, with the note that use of technologies in the labour market should not create a culture of total availability of employees.

European Commission
As announced in its Roadmap in 2015, the European Commission launched a public consultation. COFACE Families Europe and many of its Members replied to the public consultation to express the need for and ambitious package made of legislative and non-legislative measures. COFACE Families Europe also participated in a series of meetings at all levels to ensure the voice of families would be represented. Along 2016, it became clear that the Package would be a reality and would be launched in the first half of 2016.

Council of the EU – Slovak Presidency
After the announcement of a Package of initiatives to be launched by the European Commission on 26 April 2017, and the vote of a European Parliament Resolution, the Presidency of the Council reaffirmed the importance of delivering measures on Reconciling Work and Family Life by organising an official conference in Bratislava on “Work-Life balance in a changing society”.

The Slovak Presidency conference was built around three main areas: childcare, care for the elderly and other dependants, leaves and flexible working arrangements. COFACE was invited to deliver a keynote speech on the need for a policy mix that could encompass all these elements to achieve effective positive change for families and on the specific challenges faced by family and informal carers, who have to reconcile their work and care responsibilities.
EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

On 8 March, the European Commission presented a first, preliminary outline of the European Pillar of Social Rights and launched a public consultation. The Pillar proposal consisted of 20 key social and employment policy principles, a compass to guide future EU social policy. The Pillar builds on progress made under the EU social open method of coordination, the European Semester, and the EU Social Investment Package adopted in 2013. The aim of the European Commission with the new Pillar, is to agree on an EU framework to monitor social and employment performance of EU Member States, and push for more convergence in the Eurozone.

COFACE Families Europe participated actively in shaping the future Pillar, starting with publishing a discussion paper Laying the foundations for a European Pillar of Social Rights. The first section of the discussion paper focused on the content of the future Pillar, drawing out the six policy principles which in our opinion are most relevant to address the immediate needs of families and challenges related to demographic changes in the last decade. The second section discussed process-related elements of the future Pillar, with a focus on the scope of the Pillar, on ways to make the Pillar relevant at local level, and how to ensure the link with other ongoing EU legislative processes.

The discussion paper set out the context for our reflection seminar that took place on 27 September 2016 in Brussels with a wide-range of speakers providing different perspectives from EU to the local level. We were delighted to have over 70 participants, including many of COFACE members having an active discussion on how the Pillar could become a useful tool to make positive changes at the local level and improve the situation of the most vulnerable citizens.

Later in the year, we also published our Recommendations on how to make the European Pillar of Social Rights a useful social policy framework for all families in Europe. In these recommendations, we focused on building a solid architecture for the future European Pillar of Social Rights and to ensuring the Pillar principles can build long-term goals for Europe, with a focus on six principles:
1. Skills, education and life-long learning,
2. Gender equality and work-life balance,
3. Long-term care,
4. Childcare,
5. Disability and
6. Access to essential services.

We will continue our work together with our members to advocate for a more Social Europe.

COFACE Families Europe, as member of the EU Alliance for Investing in Children, also released a joint statement recognising the potential of the Pillar to help eradicate child poverty and promote children’s well-being.
DISABILITY

On 1 June, COFACE Families Europe was appointed as co-chair of the European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-Based Care. We were delighted to take up this important role for a year together with the European Network on Independent Living and Mental Health Europe. The Expert Group is a broad coalition gathering stakeholders representing people with care or support needs and their families, including children, people with disabilities, homeless people, people experiencing mental health problems; as well as service providers, public authorities and intergovernmental organisations. The Expert Group has an important role in supporting EU policy makers to develop laws and policies that advance deinstitutionalisation in Europe and to make a link with national, regional and local experts through the extensive membership of the network.

On 6-7 October, COFACE Families Europe represented the Expert Group at a seminar co-organised by the Polish Ministry of Health, the Expert Group and the European Commission. The objective was to discuss how to bring support and health care services to the people in the community rather than placing people in institutions, or in long-term hospital care. The seminar was built on promising practices from Poland and other European countries on how to provide community-based services in the area of mental health, geriatrics, long-term care and palliative care, by using ESF and ERDF funding in combination.

The Work Forum on the implementation of the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities took place in June in Brussels. The annual Forum was organised by the European Commission and the European Disability Forum. The Work Forum aimed to share experiences about the implementation and monitoring of the UN Convention at national and EU level, and to promote solutions to common challenges. COFACE-Families Europe was appointed as rapporteur of the Work Forum and was responsible for writing the conference report.

COFACE-Disability members advocated for inclusive education for all children. COFACE Families Europe followed closely the process of developing a General Comment on Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Many children with disabilities are still sent to special schools instead of being included in the mainstream school system – a stigma that affects the whole family. COFACE-Disability therefore welcomed very much the text and the inclusive approach taken by the UN CRPD Committee.

COFACE Families Europe answered a Questionnaire of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities. We hope that it will be of great help to better cover the challenges of persons with disabilities and their families face in Europe. In our response, we highlighted that COFACE Families Europe takes a life course approach towards disability and calls for the development of high-quality community-based support services for those needing care, or support.

COFACE-Disability held its annual Assembly in October in Brussels, where key legal and policy challenges around the implementation of the UN CRPD were discussed. Furthermore, COFACE-Disability decided on its 2017 Work plan that includes the revision of the European Charter for Family carers and a comprehensive study on the challenges and needs of family carers.
SAFER INTERNET

With virtual reality just around the corner, augmented reality in the pipeline, algorithms coupled with Big Data and the Internet of Things personalizing our online and off-line environment, and continuous progress in machine learning and artificial intelligence, this makes for a cocktail which will revolutionize the way we use the Internet and our devices, creating both new opportunities and new risks. Safer Internet Day was celebrated worldwide on 9 February 2016 and COFACE Families Europe was, as usual, very involved on this Day, followed by a key note speech at the Safer Internet Forum on the 24 November 2016.

COFACE also contributed to the Better Internet for Kids bulletin with a piece on how the provisions of the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will affect children and young people.

COFACE spoke at a European conference on effective protection of minors in the digital world, highlighting key challenges from a family perspective. The conference was organised by the Slovak Presidency to debate the proposed revision of the Audio-Visual Media Services Directive (AVMSD), which aims to create a level playing field for traditional media and new media, trying to keep up with the pace of change and innovation in the media world. Harnessing the potential of technology, while also protecting children from harmful online practices, is a key priority for COFACE Families Europe.

The ENABLE partnership held the final event of the European Project. COFACE has been involved since the beginning of the project as a member of the Think Tank, bringing some of the expertise gathered from the #DeleteCyberbullying project and promoting the ENABLE deliverables. COFACE spoke in a workshop on bullying in the context of child’s play – toys, games, social media and gaming environments.

COFACE contributed to a study on Cyberbullying among Young People published by the European Parliament. This study provided an overview of the extent, scope and forms of cyberbullying in the EU taking into account the age and gender of victims and perpetrators as well as the medium used. The study illustrates the legal and policy measures on cyberbullying adopted at EU and international levels and delineates the EU role in this area.

We have been exploring the dilemmas of modern parenting. The online world offers ‘new’ sets of challenges, where children may encounter certain ‘risks’ or ‘inappropriate content’ online at a much earlier age, and parenting clearly needs to ‘adapt’ to this new reality. Not all ‘traditional’ parenting can be transposed to online settings. So while a parent might know how to react to bullying, this doesn’t necessarily apply to cyberbullying.

On the 10 of October, Mental Health Europe held a conference on the issue of mental health in the digital age. COFACE Families Europe presented the #DeleteCyberbullying project and lessons learned. The project ended in 2014 with key deliverables such as an Android app, an awareness-raising video, an online virtual march and the outcomes of a global European conference on the topic of cyberbullying. Besides the expertise gathered on how to best tackle cyberbullying, one very interesting lesson learned was the comments left by users on its awareness raising video, which reflected the many “myths” surrounding cyberbullying in the minds of regular users/individuals, showing that we are still a long way from ensuring that end users understand the phenomenon and are equipped to adequately respond.
21st century social services: promoting human rights or nourishing dependency?

New policies for 21st century families

Digitalisation has raised broad interest in the past two years with a number of key stakeholders looking at its impact. COFACE-Families Europe has tackled the challenges and opportunities raised by digitalisation through a variety of portfolios: work-life balance and telework, employment, data protection and online safety.

Digitalisation, or more broadly, the tremendous progress of technology over the last 20 years, has already brought about deep transformations in our society; a trend which is bound to continue in the future as a number of relatively “new” developments are bound to have a deep impact on families.

COFACE Families Europe launched a discussion at the end of 2016 at a Berlin conference on the social impact of digitalisation, looking at six dimensions including smart work, digital literacy, the digital economy, the potential of technology in social/health service provision, connected children and safety online, and the threats and opportunities of Big Data. As a result of the conference, we produced a series of short briefs summarising some of the emerging trends and challenges. These are the “digital briefs” available on our website:

- Big data: threat or opportunity?
- The digital economy: the future of work is now
- Connected children: vulnerable users or digital experts?
- Smart work: can digitalisation help reconcile work and family life?
- Digital literacy: an essential skill for the new world of work

COFACE Policy Briefing for the 2016 OECD Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting in Mexico

COFACE Compendium on Financial Inclusion

This publication is a compilation of good practices from seven civil society organisations, providing independent advice, social loans and advocating for a financial system at the service of Europe’s citizens. The publication covers topics such as budgetary education and awareness raising campaigns, debt mediation initiatives, and courses to raise the low level of financial capability. It also showcases social innovations such as social mortgage credits that make financial services fair, accessible and affordable to vulnerable families. The compendium is available in English, French and Spanish.

Recommendations for the future European Pillar of Social Rights

COFACE published its recommendations on how to make the European Pillar of Social Rights a useful social policy framework for all families in Europe. In these recommendations, we focused on building a solid architecture for the future Pillar and to ensuring that its principles can build long-term goals for Europe, with a focus on six principles: 1-skills, 2-gender equality and work-life balance, 3-long-term care, 4-childcare, 5-disability and 6-access to essential services. The recommendations were built on the consultation we carried out with our broad membership.

The role of civil society organisations in the achievement of the SDGs

The main outcome of the COFACE and UN Focal Point on the Family conference ‘Sustainable Development Goals and Gender Equality: the role of family policies and exchange of good practices’ is a paper presenting concrete recommendations of what needs to be done at EU and national level to empower women and contributing to care and pay equality, increased employment, improved childcare and care infrastructure as well as better well-being overall.

Toy catalogues in Europe: Making or Breaking Stereotypes?

In the framework of our #ToysAndDiversity campaign, we launched a European study of toy catalogues, using a diversity lens. On the basis of the study, we developed six key principles with a view to raising awareness of our key concerns in relation to toy marketing and advertising. We invited parents and families to be fully aware of the impact of the choices they make when buying toys for children. We also called on industries to closely consider using our principles as guidance in the production and marketing of toys in the future.
New policies for 21st century families

Digitalisation has raised broad interest in the past two years with a number of key stakeholders looking at its impact. COFACE-Families Europe has tackled the challenges and opportunities raised by digitalisation through a variety of portfolios: work-life balance and telework, employment, data protection and online safety.

Digitalisation, or more broadly, the tremendous progress of technology over the last 20 years, has already brought about deep transformations in our society; a trend which is bound to continue in the future as a number of relatively “new” developments are bound to have a deep impact on families.

COFACE Families Europe launched a discussion at the end of 2016 at a Berlin conference on the social impact of digitalisation, looking at six dimensions including smart work, digital literacy, the digital economy, the potential of technology in social/health service provision, connected children and safety online, and the threats and opportunities of Big Data. As a result of the conference, we produced a series of short briefs summarising some of the emerging trends and challenges. These are the “digital briefs” available on our website:
BUILDING BRIDGES - EXTERNAL COOPERATION

An important role of COFACE Families Europe is to function as a bridge between civil society organisations, research bodies and public authorities. We build on the experience of our member organisations and we listen to the needs of families at grassroots level and channel these to policy and decision makers at EU level, daily ensuring links between EU and local realities. In addition to consulting our member organisations, we regularly link up to other networks to exchange best practice, learn about other ways of solving societal problems, and grow our network, on which we can rely for our events, projects and advocacy work.

We are actively engaged in a number of EU working groups, to which we bring our knowledge about the needs of the families across Europe. These are either projects or networks run by the European Institutions, the United Nations, other civil society networks, corporate networks and research projects.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
★ European High-Level Group on Disability
★ European Platform for Diet, Physical activity and Health
★ Financial Services Users Group
★ CEO Coalition for a Better Internet for Kids
★ Industry coalition on Safer Internet
★ European Consultative Consumer Group
★ Stakeholder Group for the Fitness Check of EU Consumer Law
★ European Migration Forum

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
★ Interest Group on Carers
★ Child Rights Intergroup
★ Committees FEMM, EMPL, IMCO

EU AGENCIES
★ European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (EUROFOUND)
★ European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)
★ Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)
★ European Banking Authority (EBA)
★ European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

CORPORATE NETWORKS
★ ICT Coalition for the Safer Use of Connected Devices and Online Services by Children and Young People in the EU
★ Women Entrepreneurship Platform
An important role of COFACE Families Europe is to function as a bridge between civil society organisations, research bodies and public authorities. We build on the experience of our member organisations and we listen to the needs of families at grassroots level and channel these to policy and decision makers at EU level, daily ensuring links between EU and local realities. In addition to consulting our member organisations, we regularly link up to other networks to exchange best practice, learn about other ways of solving societal problems, and grow our network, on which we can rely for our events, projects and advocacy work.

We are actively engaged in a number of EU working groups, to which we bring our knowledge about the needs of the families across Europe. These are either projects or networks run by the European Institutions, the United Nations, other civil society networks, corporate networks and research projects.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
- European High-Level Group on Disability
- European Platform for Diet, Physical activity and Health
- Financial Services Users Group
- CEO Coalition for a Better Internet for Kids
- Industry coalition on Safer Internet
- European Consultative Consumer Group
- Stakeholder Group for the Fitness Check of EU Consumer Law
- European Migration Forum

BUILDING BRIDGES - EXTERNAL COOPERATION

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
- Interest Group on Carers
- Child Rights Intergroup
- Committees FEMM, EMPL, IMCO

EU AGENCIES
- European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (EUROFOUND)
- European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)
- Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)
- European Banking Authority (EBA)
- European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

CORPORATE NETWORKS
- ICT Coalition for the Safer Use of Connected Devices and Online Services by Children and Young People in the EU
- Women Entrepreneurship Platform

INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES
- United Nations (special consultative status at the ECOSOC)
- Council of Europe

EU CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORKS
- Alter-EU
- Better Internet for Kids
- eTwinning
- EASPD cooperation (together with MHE, ENIL, EDF, Inclusion Europe)
- EESC – Liaison Group
- EU Alliance for Investing in children
- EU Alliance against Disability Cuts
- European coalition to end violence against women and girls
- European Disability Forum (European NGO Group)
- European Disability Forum Task Force on the European Accessibility Act
- European Expert Group on the transition from institutional to community-based settings
- European Platform on Asylum and Migration
- European Financial Inclusion Network
- Population Europe
- Social Platform
- Sustainable Development Goals Watch

EU PROJECTS

FINISHED PROJECTS
- Families&Societies: studying diversity of family forms, relationships, and life courses in Europe
- ENABLE: European Network Against Bullying in Learning and Leisure Environments
- POSCON: Positive Online Content and Services for Children in Europe
- Delete Cyberbullying: European Awareness raising campaign on Cyberbullying

CURRENT PROJECTS
- More Years Better Lives: on the challenges of demographic change
- WAF Project: Work Autonomy, Flexibility and WorkLife Balance
- Female breadwinner families in Europe
- SIP-Bench III: Benchmarking of parental control tools for the online protection of children
- Think Forward Initiative of the bank ING: with the aim of finding out how and why we make financial choices.
THE NETWORK

AUSTRIA
★ Katholischer Familienverband Österreichs

BELGIUM
★ Association Aidants proches
★ Association de parents et professionnels autour de la personne polyhandicapée (AP³)
★ Centre d’Action laïque
★ Fonds du Logement Wallon
★ Gezinsbond
★ Ligue des Familles

BULGARIA
★ Center of Women’s Studies and Policies (Supporting member)
★ National Mouvement Women and Mothers Against Violence

CROATIA
★ Parents’ Association Step by Step

CYPRUS
★ Pancyprian Organisation Polyteknon

CZECH REPUBLIC
★ Women for Women

FINLAND
★ Väestöliitto - the Family Federation of Finland

FRANCE
★ Aide à domicile en milieu rural (ADMR)
★ Association des paralysés de France (APF)
★ Association de parents d’élèves de l’enseignement libre (APEL)
★ Association pour le Spina Bifida et Handicaps associés
★ Confédération Syndicale des Familles
★ Familles de France
★ Familles rurales
★ Union Nationale des Associations Familiales (UNAF)
★ Union Nationale des Associations de familles de traumatisés crâniens (UNAFTC)
★ Union Nationale des Associations de parents, de personnes handicapées mentales et de leurs amis (UNAPEI)
★ Union des acteurs de parrainage de proximité (UNAPP)
★ Maman Travaille

GERMANY
★ Association of German Family Organisations

GREECE
★ Confederation of large families’ association of Greece (ASPE)
★ Family and Childcare Centre (KMOP)
★ Movement of siblings of people with mental health problems (KINAPSI)

HUNGARY
★ Hungarian National Foundation for Recreation
★ Pro familia Hungarian Scientific Society
★ National Association of Large families (NOE)
IRELAND
- Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA)

ITALY
- Italian Association of Parents (AGE)
- Associazione Italiana per l'Assistenza agli Spastici (AIAS)
- Coordinamento Familiari Assistenti «Clelia»
- Movimento Italiano Genitori (MOIGE)
- Anziani e Non Solo Società Cooperativa (ANS) (Supporting member)

LATVIA
- Union of Latvian Large Family Organisations (ULLFA)

LUXEMBOURG
- Association des Parents d’enfants mentalement handicapés (APEMH)

POLAND
- Foundation Houses of Lonely Mothers with Children

PORTUGAL
- Associação de Famílias para la integração da pessoa deficiente (AFID)
- Confederação das Associações de Família (CNAF)
- Liga portuguesa dos deficientes motores (LPDM -CRS)

ROMANIA
- Family and Childcare Foundation

SLOVAKIA
- Club of Large Families

SLOVENIA
- Family Initiative

SPAIN
- Asociación General de Consumidores de España (ASGECO)
- Asociación Salud y Familia
- Confederación española de familiares de enfermos de Alzheimer y otras demencias (CEAFA)
- Confederación española de Consumidores y Usuarios (CEACCU)
- Fundación de Familias Monoparentales «Isadora Duncan»
- Unión de Asociaciones Familiares (UNAF)
- Instituto de Robótica para la Dependencia
- Unión Cívica Nacional de amas de casa de España (UNAE)
- Unión de centros de acción rural (UNCEAR)

SWITZERLAND
- Fondation Pro-XY

UK
- Family and Chilcare Trust
- Grandparents Plus

EUROPEAN NETWORKS
- European Foundation for the Care of Newborn Infants (Supporting member)
COFACE EVENTS: TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AND CONSENSUS-BUILDING ACROSS COUNTRIES

Launch of the “COFACE Compendium on Financial Inclusion”
1 February 2016, Brussels

COFACE organised a launch cocktail reception of its Compendium on Financial Inclusion at the European Economic and Social Committee in Brussels. The reception coincided with a meeting of the EU Commission Financial Services Users Group and reached directly key policymakers and stakeholders in the field of financial services.

Conference “SDGs and Gender Equality: the role of family policies & exchange of good practices”
19-20 April, Amsterdam

COFACE organised, in cooperation with the UN Focal Point on the Family, this conference, supported by the University of Amsterdam and the European Commission, and was organised in partnership with Pro Parents and the Institute on Gender Equality and Women’s History (Atria). The conference put a spotlight on the role of family policies in the implementation of the SDGs and specifically engage in one of the most important and holistic targets of the SDGs: to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (Goal 5).

Seminar “European Pillar of Social Rights”
27 September 2016, Brussels

COFACE organised the seminar hosted together with the European Economic and Social Committee. The seminar brought together key influencers to reflect openly on the strengths and challenges of the Pillar, and address any potential gaps before the Pillar took shape in 2017. As a key stakeholder in the EU political arena, COFACE was interested in discussing both content and process, which are essential foundations of a strong and forward-looking Pillar.

Conference “The impact of digitalisation on 21st century families”
7-8 November 2016, Berlin

COFACE and its German member AGF organised this conference, with the aim of leading the way in launching a European debate on the social impact of digitalisation in order to reflect the rapid digital changes impacting families. We gathered experts to examine how new ways of working and consuming are impacting family relations and how people can strategically prepare for the future. We also examined both national and EU policies and discussed how they could apply to 21st century trends.
MAINSTREAMING FAMILY CONCERNS IN KEY DEBATES

COFACE input at the United Nations expert meeting on «Family policies and 2030 SDGs» in New York

The expert group meeting on 'Family policies and 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda' took place on 12-13 May in New York, and contributed to further analysis of the role of family policies in advancing broader development goals and a number of SDG targets. COFACE was represented by its President Annemie Drieskens to reflect on ‘The role of civil society organisations in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals’, and to provide a European perspective in the debates. The meeting coincided with the annual observance of the International Day of Families, this year turning around ‘Families, healthy lives and sustainable future’.

COFACE represented at the OECD Ministerial Meeting on Digital Economy in Cancun

COFACE attended the OECD 2016 Ministerial Meeting on Digital Economy: Innovation, Growth and Social Prosperity held in Mexico on June 2016, to bring the family perspective and to explore new topics and challenges to better understand the impact of digitalisation on families.

The Ministerial Meeting aimed to move forward the digital agenda in key policy areas such as internet openness and innovation, trust in the digital economy, building global connectivity and jobs and skills in the digital economy. COFACE, together with the Civil Society Stakeholder group CSISAC before the Ministerial meeting to engage the OECD members in a dialogue on fundamental social concerns “Towards an Inclusive, Equitable, and Accountable Digital Economy”.

COFACE brings vulnerable families perspective to the launch of the FEAD network

COFACE took part in the launch of the FEAD network – a network promoting exchange of good practice to effectively address poverty in Europe in the framework of the new Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived. We highlighted the needs of vulnerable families in Europe, drawing attention to some of the challenges, such as financial exclusion, the impact of economic migration, the need for affordable early childhood education and care to enable parents to reconcile work and family life.

COFACE participation at the European Union Intellectual Property Office

COFACE has been a member of EUIPO for over two years and focused its area of work on how intellectual property affects families. COFACE Vice-President Jean-Bernard Audureau represented COFACE focusing on two main areas of work: the impact of counterfeits on health, on the economy and society (job losses, VAT and tax losses) and traceability of branded products and social responsibility of companies, especially in relation to child-related products.
MEDIA, SOCIAL MEDIA AND EVENTS

COFACE, through its website, blogs, and social media channels reaches thousands of individuals, in different segments (citizens, journalists, ministries, companies, other NGOs...). COFACE publishes press releases and issues a monthly newsletter –by the way, you can subscribe here:
tinyurl.com/cofacenws

COFACE produces factsheets, key publications and disseminates videos and animations to deliver complex ideas in an easy and accessible way to thousands of people.

COFACE organises one annual conference, gathering a wide range professionals from the European Institutions, European and national NGOs, corporate networks and researchers from all over Europe. Besides, it organises smaller and strategic expert groups on timely and specific topics.

2016 was a transition year for our communications. The second part of the year we worked on efficient communication methods and the new website www.coface-eu.org

Profile of our website visitors in 2016:
Main group age 25-34: 38%
Gender proportion: 47% female 53% male
Main languages: English 45%, French 10%, Spanish 7%, Italian 7%

In 2016, we launched 16 press releases. The most popular press release was “Reconciliation: a safety net for all families!” released in February.

[1] Number of views  [2] Number of comments, likes and shares

LinkedIn

Reach$^{(1)}$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/16</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/16</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/16</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/16</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/16</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Engagement$^{(2)}$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Engagement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/16</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/16</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/16</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/16</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/16</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visitor demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>48.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YouTube

We published 7 videos on a new playlist called “Digital Families” on YouTube. The videos were created for our conference on Digital Families in Berlin.

Profile of our website visitors in 2016:
Main group age 25-34: 38%
Gender proportion: 47% female 53% male
Main languages: English 45%, French 10%, Spanish 7%, Italian 7%

In 2016, we launched 16 press releases. The most popular press release was “Reconciliation: a safety net for all families!” released in February.

[1] Number of views  [2] Number of comments, likes and shares
MEDIA, SOCIAL MEDIA AND EVENTS

COFACE, through its website, blogs, and social media channels reaches thousands of individuals, in different segments (citizens, journalists, ministries, companies, other NGOs…). COFACE publishes press releases and issues a monthly newsletter -by the way, you can subscribe here: tinyurl.com/cofacenws

COFACE produces factsheets, key publications and disseminates videos and animations to deliver complex ideas in an easy and accessible way to thousands of people.

COFACE organises one annual conference, gathering a wide range professionals from the European Institutions, European and national NGOs, corporate networks and researchers from all over Europe. Besides, it organises smaller and strategic expert groups on timely and specific topics.

2016 was a transition year for our communications. The second part of the year we worked on efficient communication methods and the new website www.coface-eu.org

Profile of our website visitors in 2016:
- Main group age 25-34: 38%
- Gender proportion: 47% female 53% male
- Main languages: English 45%, French 10%, Spanish 7%, Italian 7%

In 2016, we launched 16 press releases.
- The most popular press release was “Reconciliation: a safety net for all families!” released in February.

A GROWING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: OFFLINE AND ONLINE

Reach(1) Engagement(2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>07/16</th>
<th>08/16</th>
<th>09/16</th>
<th>10/16</th>
<th>11/16</th>
<th>12/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LinkedIn</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demographic profile of visitors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>13-17</th>
<th>18-25</th>
<th>26-34</th>
<th>35-44</th>
<th>45-54</th>
<th>55-64</th>
<th>65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>13-17</th>
<th>18-25</th>
<th>26-34</th>
<th>35-44</th>
<th>45-54</th>
<th>55-64</th>
<th>65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NEW VISUAL IDENTITY

We switched from to

A YEAR IN FIGURES AND TAGS

#worklifebalance #genderequality #migrants #familycarers #disability #futureofwork #digitalskills #saferinternet #consumers #financialinclusion #socialrights #inclusiveeducation #ecce #services #children #diversity #humanrights

MEETINGS
Number of meetings organised by COFACE:
4 Statutory meetings/European consensus-building
3 Expert meetings/Policy capacity-building
4 External events/Seminars & Conferences

Number of meetings attended by the COFACE staff in 2016: 210

POLICY
3 Policy positions and recommendations
3 Reports
5 Joint reports
6 Consultation responses
7 Joint statement with other NGOs
10 Analyses
7 Policy briefs
5 Trainings

COMMUNICATIONS
16 Press releases
11 Newsletters
3 Digital platforms (1 website & 2 blogs)
3 Communication publications
6 Social Media communities
7 Videos in the on “Digital Families”

A big thank you to our main funder, our members, the staff, our partners, colleagues, friends, followers... for the continued support!

New slogan:
MEETINGS
Number of meetings organised by COFACE:
3
Statutory meetings/European consensus-building
4
Expert meetings/Policy capacity-building
4
External events/Seminars & Conferences

Number of meetings attended by the COFACE staff in 2016:
210

POLICY
3
Policy positions and recommendations
3
Reports
5
Joint reports
6
Consultation responses
7
Joint statement with other NGOs
10
Analyses
7
Policy briefs
5
Trainings

COMMUNICATIONS
16
Press releases
11
Newsletters
3
Digital platforms (1 website & 2 blogs)
3
Communication publications
6
Social Media communities
7
Videos in the on “Digital Families”

A big thank you to our main funder, our members, the staff, our partners, colleagues, friends, followers… for the continued support!

A YEAR IN FIGURES AND TAGS NEW VISUAL IDENTITY!

We switched from to a better society for all families

New slogan:
Join us!

- Is your organisation an NGO representing families or services to families?
- Do you want to join an international community of practice to work collectively in the interest of families?
- Do you want to become an expert on EU family matters?
- Do you have a local innovation you would like to scale up across other EU countries?
- Are you looking for best practices from other countries or seeking to set up new European projects?

Rue de Londres 17, 1050 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 500 56 90
secretariat@coface-eu.org
www.coface-eu.org
Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn