



SAFE ACCOMPANIMENT

Strengthening Youth Workers Supporting Children and Young People Affected by Parental Loss, Separation and Family Vulnerability

ACTIVITY 8 days / 7 nights International Training Course	DATES 1-8 October 2027	VENUE Alanya, Antalya, Türkiye
PARTNERS SOUGHT 4 organisations from 4 different EU countries	LOCAL COOPERATION Istanbul University Child Protection Application and Research Center	PIF DEADLINE 1 October 2026



PARTNER SEARCH OPEN

We welcome applications from organisations working directly with children, families, adolescents, young people, volunteers or vulnerable groups. Send your PIF by 1 October 2026 to info@gencogulluler.org.tr. Applications will be reviewed quickly and selected organisations will receive a prompt response.

1. PROJECT RATIONALE

Children and young people may experience parental death, divorce or separation, long-term parental absence, changes in caregivers, economic hardship, migration, family conflict or other forms of vulnerability. The project does not treat family structure as a diagnosis and does not assume that every child experiencing loss or separation is traumatised. Instead, it focuses on strengthening the competence of youth workers who may encounter different emotional, social, educational or developmental support needs.

Across many civil-society settings, support for vulnerable children still concentrates heavily on financial aid, donations, scholarships and occasional social activities. These responses are valuable, but sustainable youth work also requires continuity, safe relationships, ethical boundaries, appropriate referral, multidisciplinary cooperation and a development-oriented perspective.

CORE QUESTION

How can youth workers move beyond one-time assistance and provide safe, ethical and sustainable accompaniment to children and young people affected by parental loss, parental separation or family vulnerability?

2. ABOUT KARDEŞ PAYI YARDIMLAŞMA DERNEĞİ

Kardeş Payı Yardımlaşma Derneği is an Istanbul-based civil society organisation working with children and families affected by parental loss and different forms of social and family vulnerability. Its work combines regular social and material support with family visits, educational and social activities, health-related assistance and volunteer-based accompaniment.

A central strength of the organisation is its relationship-based volunteer practice, including its Kardeş Aile approach. The association aims to move from short-term aid towards long-term, responsible and development-focused accompaniment in which volunteers are better prepared, supported and connected with professional referral mechanisms.

Website: <https://kardespai.org/>

3. MAIN AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- 1 Strengthen youth workers' child-sensitive and trauma-informed awareness without turning them into therapists or clinicians.
- 2 Improve competence in safeguarding, professional boundaries, ethics, confidentiality and personal data protection.
- 3 Build practical skills for communication with children, adolescents, young people and families in sensitive situations.
- 4 Clarify referral pathways and the limits of the youth worker role within multidisciplinary support systems.
- 5 Improve volunteer preparation, supervision, retention and sustainable relationship-based support.
- 6 Exchange European practices through honest peer learning: what works, what does not, and why.
- 7 Co-create transferable tools under the SAFE COMPASS framework and prepare future cooperation projects together.

4. LEARNING CONTENT AND METHODOLOGY

The training will combine academic expertise, non-formal education, peer learning and field experience. Academic inputs will not remain as conference-style lectures; each input will be translated into practical youth-work exercises, case discussions, simulations and reflection.

Learning Area	What We Will Work On
Child and adolescent development	Understanding different developmental stages and how loss, separation or instability may be experienced differently.
Trauma-informed youth work	Recognising possible signs of distress, creating safer environments, using supportive communication and avoiding re-traumatisation.
Loss and grief awareness	Understanding grief responses while respecting individual and cultural differences and avoiding clinical diagnosis.
Ethics and professional boundaries	Confidentiality, gifts, one-to-one communication, physical contact, social media, dependency, disclosures and safe closure of relationships.
Safeguarding and child protection	Risk awareness, safe volunteer practice, organisational responsibility, reporting and referral.
GDPR / KVKK and privacy	Sensitive family information, photos, health data, messaging applications, consent and access to case information.
Multidisciplinary cooperation	Working with families, teachers, psychologists, social workers and other specialists through a clear Circle of Care model.
Sustainable volunteering	Volunteer selection, preparation, matching, supervision, motivation, burnout prevention, continuity and recognition.

Non-formal and Informal Learning Methods

- Icebreakers and energisers
- Team-building exercises
- World Café and peer consultation
- Role plays and case simulations
- Ethical Dilemma Lab
- Data Protection Lab
- Circle of Care simulation
- Open-space sessions
- Reflection groups and Youthpass
- Intercultural / cultural evenings
- European Practice Exchange: one good practice + one challenge from each partner
- Collaborative SAFE COMPASS toolkit development

5. INDICATIVE 8-DAY TRAINING FLOW

The detailed timetable will be co-developed with selected partners and expert contributors. The following structure presents the intended learning progression for 1-8 October 2027.

Day 1 - 1 October	Arrival, welcome, safe learning space, group building, expectations, project logic and mapping of partner realities.
Day 2	Understanding children and young people in context: parental loss, separation, family vulnerability, developmental stages and protective factors.
Day 3	Loss, grief and trauma-informed youth work: expert input, communication practice, role play and reflection.
Day 4	Safeguarding, ethics and professional boundaries: Ethical Dilemma Lab, reporting, referral and safe volunteer relationships.
Day 5	Privacy and data protection: GDPR / KVKK, consent, photos, messaging applications, case information and Data Protection Lab.
Day 6	Circle of Care: multidisciplinary case simulations involving youth workers, families, teachers, psychologists, social workers and other professionals.
Day 7	Kardeş Aile Practice Lab, European Practice Exchange, sustainable volunteering, supervision and co-development of SAFE COMPASS tools.
Day 8 - 8 October	Transfer plans, Youthpass, evaluation, dissemination commitments, first KA2 project seeds, closing and departure.

Role of Istanbul University

The Istanbul University Child Protection Application and Research Center will contribute as a local cooperation partner. Academic and professional experts are expected to support selected sessions on child protection, development, parental loss, grief, trauma-informed approaches, ethics, safeguarding and multidisciplinary cooperation. The learning design deliberately combines three sources of expertise: academic knowledge, Kardeş Payı field experience and European youth-work practice.

THE LEARNING FORMULA

Academic input → practical case → role play / simulation → group reflection → expert feedback → transfer into daily youth work

6. WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are looking for 4 motivated partner organisations from 4 different EU countries. Previous Erasmus+ experience is welcome, but real field experience and willingness to contribute are more important than having a long project history.

- Youth organisations and NGOs working with children, adolescents or young people
- Family support, child protection or social inclusion organisations
- Organisations working with parental loss, single-parent families, vulnerable families or young people at risk
- Organisations managing volunteers, mentors, buddy systems or relationship-based support
- Organisations with safeguarding, psychosocial youth work, education, social work or community-based practice
- Organisations willing to stay engaged beyond the mobility and jointly develop future cooperation projects

7. WHAT PARTNERS WILL DO

Phase	Partner Responsibilities	Expected Contribution
Before	Send PIF and OID information; support needs analysis; nominate relevant youth workers; prepare one good practice and one real challenge; brief participants on safeguarding, travel and learning expectations.	Accurate organisational input, suitable participant profile and active preparation.
During	Full participation in the 8-day course; lead or co-lead peer-learning moments when relevant; contribute to case work, cultural exchange, SAFE COMPASS tools and Youthpass reflection.	Practice-based knowledge, peer learning and co-creation.
After	Organise a local transfer activity; test selected methods; share dissemination evidence and feedback; join online follow-up and the KA2 Project Development Workshop.	Local impact, sustainability and long-term cooperation.

WE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR PASSIVE SENDING ORGANISATIONS

Selected partners should contribute to preparation, peer learning, follow-up and future project development. We want a partnership that continues after the mobility.

8. FROM KA153 TO FUTURE KA2 COOPERATION

SAFE ACCOMPANIMENT is intended as the beginning of a longer European cooperation process rather than a one-off training course. After the mobility, we plan to organise a dedicated KA2 Project Development Workshop with the selected partnership. The purpose will be to transform shared learning, field challenges and the SAFE COMPASS tools into new cooperation-project concepts that can improve the well-being of children, adolescents, young people and families.

We are highly motivated to prepare future projects together with partners that share this long-term ambition. Possible themes include family resilience, child and youth well-being, safe mentoring, safeguarding systems, volunteer supervision, social inclusion, access to education, life skills, youth participation, digital safety and data protection, and stronger cooperation between civil society, universities and professional services.

EXPECTED KA2 FOLLOW-UP

A dedicated project-development workshop + online co-design meetings + joint preparation of new European cooperation proposals based on needs identified during the KA153 process.

9. RIGHTS-BASED AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The partnership will use a rights-based perspective. Particular reference will be made to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the principles of best interests, non-discrimination, protection, development and participation. Broader human-rights principles of dignity, equality and access to opportunities will also inform the project.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) formally covered the 2000-2015 period. We will recognise their legacy - especially poverty reduction, universal education, gender equality, child and maternal health and global partnership - while using the current UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the operational framework for future cooperation. Relevant SDGs include 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 16 and 17.

Framework	How It Connects to Our Cooperation
UN Convention on the Rights of the Child	Best interests; protection from harm; development; participation; respect for the child as a rights-holder.
MDG legacy	Reducing poverty and disadvantage; improving education and health; gender equality; stronger international partnership.
Current SDGs	Well-being, quality education, reduced inequalities, peaceful and inclusive institutions, and partnerships for sustainable impact.

10. PARTNER APPLICATION AND PIF SUBMISSION

We are selecting partners on a rolling basis so that the consortium can be completed quickly and the proposal can be developed together. Organisations that match the profile will receive a prompt response from the coordination team.

1	2	3
SEND PIF	QUICK REVIEW	FAST RESPONSE
E-mail your PIF and OID information before the deadline.	We will assess field relevance, motivation and consortium fit.	Suitable organisations will be contacted as quickly as possible.

DEADLINE: 1 OCTOBER 2026

Please send your Partner Identification Form (PIF) and organisation information to info@gencogulluler.org.tr. We will review submissions on a rolling basis and return to suitable organisations as quickly as possible.

Please include: organisation name and country; OID; website/social media; short profile; relevant child/family/youth work experience; relevant safeguarding or volunteer-management experience; reason for joining; contact person and e-mail.

Recommended e-mail subject: **SAFE ACCOMPANIMENT - PIF - [Country] - [Organisation Name]**

Send PIF to: info@gencogulluler.org.tr

Applicant organisation: Kardeş Payı Yardımlaşma Derneği, Türkiye

Important: This document is a partner-search concept note for a proposal under preparation. Final implementation, activity details and financial coverage are subject to Erasmus+ grant approval and the final approved application.

Reference Frameworks

- Kardeş Payı Yardımlaşma Derneği: <https://kardespai.org/>
- T.C. Ministry of Family and Social Services - Guide for Supporting Children Who Have Experienced Parental Loss (2024): <https://www.aile.gov.tr/ebeveyn-kaybi-yasamis-cocuklari-destekleme/>
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/convention-text>
- United Nations Millennium Development Goals: <https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>
- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>