

PETITION

END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

DEMAND TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW

“We may look like adults, but inside each of us is still the child we once were.” - Steven Spielberg

It's a basic human instinct to protect that innocence in others. **But what happens when the very systems designed to protect our children fail?** Every day, violence against children increases across Europe, United States and around the world.

The current situation, with violence against children increasing daily is reminiscent of the scene in Francis Ford Coppola's *Apocalypse Now*, in which the military first devastates a village and then hypocritically treats the wounded civilians. This is exactly how many institutions behave today: **they inflict the first blow with neglect and mistakes, and then offer only superficial help after the damage has been done.**



A European court concluded that the system had not acted unlawfully. Procedures were followed, therefore **Sara Sharif had to die**. This case exposes a total failure of the UK child protection system, where **legality replaced effective safeguarding and accountability.**



ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

ACCORDING TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION NEARLY EVERY CHILD EXPERIENCES SOME FORM OF VIOLENCE ANNUALLY THIS IS NOT JUST A EUROPEAN PROBLEM

The Council of Europe reports that **1 in 5** children has suffered sexual abuse. These are not just statistics. They are children. Despite international treaties and official pledges, many countries lack enforceable law or fail to apply them in practice. It is precisely this gap between rules on paper and the reality of the everyday life.

In the **U.S.** investigations have revealed thousands of migrant children placed in illegal and hazardous jobs instead of receiving state protection - all while big brands profit. The system that was supposed to be their safe haven has turned into a source of exploitation.

IT'S TIME TO STOP WITH COSMETIC FIXES

For decades, lawyers and advocates have been trying to fix this mess. We need to start again — with new, simple, immediate changes that will actually help children.

WE CALL FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

- 1. Radical transparency**
All cases of child violence and trafficking must be publicly reported. While identities can be protected, basis facts-name, age, city-must be accessible. The public deserves to know.
- 2. Real accountability**
Officials who fail children must face personal consequences - not shielded by the public budget.
- 3. Urgent Justice 24/7**
Child protection cases must be handled with the same urgency as emergency services. With rotating 24/7 legal teams, we can close cases within a week. The child's own voice, not adult interest, must come first.

JOIN US

We are no longer asking for cosmetic reforms. We demand bold, immediate action that saves children - Not excuses after the harm is done.

You can be part of the change:

- ✓ Sign and share this **petition**
- ✓ **Volunteer** to raise awareness
- ✓ **Donate** to support advocacy and direct action

Lets break the cycle. Lets protect every child.

Name and Surname	Address or Email	Date of Birth	Signature and Date

Send the petition to Email: haltmar@1sign.org or Postal Address: 1SIGN Foundation, Terezin 40, 788 14 Petrov nad Desnou, Czech Republic

PS: Any institution focused on the protection of children's rights faces an inherent structural tension. If it is driven mainly by idealism, it may lack effectiveness and professional capacity. If it is driven purely by efficiency and administration, it risks becoming impersonal and disconnected from the human reality it is meant to serve. A functional and ethical system therefore requires balance. This balance can be achieved through a clear division of roles. Administrative and procedural tasks—such as reporting, compliance, and coordination—should be handled by trained professionals. At the same time, the substantive and human-centered work should involve volunteers or professionals who are active in other fields. For example, a teacher working four days a week could dedicate part of their time to child protection within a social and legal framework. By engaging people of different ages, professions, and life experiences—who participate not only as employees but as part of a broader mission or civic responsibility—the work gains a stronger qualitative dimension. When this engagement is not solely tied to earning a living, the risk of burnout, emotional overload, and helplessness caused by an excessive number of cases is significantly reduced.