

2 THE RIGHT TO TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION

You have the right to translation and interpretation. This means that if the people who work in the court speak a language that you do not understand, you have the right for a professional to help you understand what they are saying and translate important documents for you.

They must also look for professional help if you have difficulty seeing or speaking. For example, they can find a person that speaks sign language or provide documents in braille.

If there is something which you do not understand, you can ask:

- What crime you are being accused of.
- In what way it is believed you participated in the crime.
- What your rights are.
- How the criminal proceedings work.
- Who is going to participate in the criminal proceedings.

You have the right to be informed in a clear and simple way of:

1 THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!



If you are going to court



This brochure has been created within the framework of the project:

Child-Friendly JT

The right of minors to information, translation and interpretation in criminal proceedings: Development of child-friendly justice tools
JUST-AG-2016-O6-760674

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

WHO ARE THE LEGAL AUTHORITIES?

They are the people who work in the courts or tribunals, such as judges, magistrates, and prosecutors.



COURT AND TRIBUNAL

These are the places where conflicts are resolved.

PROSECUTORS

They are public defenders. They act on behalf of citizens when a crime has been committed. Their job is to look for evidence of the crime and prove who has committed it.

JUDGES OR MAGISTRATES

They are the people who decide on a judicial process. The State gives them power to judge, give sentences, and make sure they are completed.

LETTER OF RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

If you are going to court

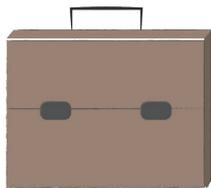


If the legal authorities suspect or believe that you have committed a crime and begin criminal proceedings against you, **you have the right to be given clear and detailed information on your rights.**

The following leaflet will explain these rights to you

3 THE RIGHT TO A LAWYER

You have the right to have a lawyer defend you. You can ask to see a lawyer you trust. If you do not have a lawyer and it is possible you could be detained as a sanction, they must provide you with one before the court. This service may be free.



This right also includes:

- You can speak to your lawyer to get advice before going to court and/or being interrogated by legal authorities.
- Your lawyer can accompany you whilst the legal authorities are interrogating you, and he/she can speak to defend you.
- Your lawyer can accompany you during certain investigations or evidence taking carried out by the police.
- All of your conversations will be private.

4 THE RIGHT FOR YOUR MOTHER, FATHER, OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO BE INFORMED

You have the right for the legal authorities to provide your mother, father or legal guardian with the same information as you. For example, they should be informed that you are suspected of having committed a crime, what your rights are, how the criminal proceedings work, who will be participating, the steps that are going to be followed, etc.

There are situations in which it is not in your best interests for your mother, father or legal guardian to be informed. In these cases, you can ask for another adult to be informed. Such adult needs to be accepted by the authority.

5 THE RIGHT FOR YOUR MOTHER, FATHER OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO ACCOMPANY YOU DURING THE CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

Your mother, father or legal guardian can be with you during the whole criminal proceedings. For example, when you have to speak to judges or prosecutors.

There are situations in which it is not in your best interests for your mother, father, or legal guardian to accompany you. In these cases, you can ask another adult to accompany you. Such adult needs to be accepted by the authority.



6 THE RIGHT TO AN INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENT

You have the right to have an individual assessment. Professionals who work in the court will ask you about your family, friendships, studies, etc.

This assessment is carried out in order for the legal authorities to know your individual needs, and make decisions or take measures that they believe are appropriate for your case.

Generally the assessment will take place at the beginning of the proceedings, before the court trial.

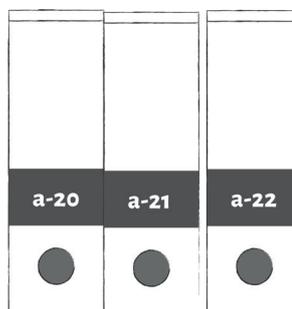
7 THE RIGHT TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE TRIAL



You have the right to attend and participate in the trial. This means that you can be present when the trial takes place and express your opinion.

If you are not able to attend the trial, you have the right to ask for a new trial or to ask for another kind of judicial appeal, under certain conditions.

8 THE RIGHT TO ACCESS THE CASE MATERIALS



You have the right for you or your lawyer to have access to the documents which are related to your case.



9 THE RIGHT TO THE PROTECTION OF YOUR PRIVACY

You have the right to have your privacy protected throughout the process. The trial is usually held without public or the judge/court may decide to hold the trial in the absence of public.

The recordings of the interrogations will not be made public either. This means that only you and the authorities can see and hear them.

10 THE RIGHT TO APPEAL

If you believe that your rights are not being respected, you can appeal. This means that you can ask for the decisions that were made which affect you to be revised.