

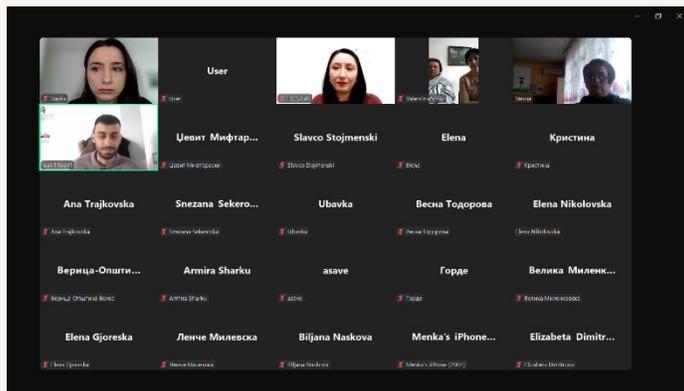


We dedicate this monthly newsletter to the children and young people who lost their lives in the tragic fire in Kocani on March 16, 2025. With a heavy heart, but with an even stronger determination, we continue to work, with dedication, for the protection and the well-being of children.

## Workshop on “Organizing meetings between children and decision-makers” and piloting an e-library

Within the framework of the project “Place to Grow: Child-friendly municipalities”, Family and Child Care Center - KMOP Skopje held a workshop aimed at strengthening the capacities of representatives from local governments, kindergartens, primary and secondary schools from Vinica, Debar, Gostivar, Veles and Kisela Voda in organizing meetings with children.

The event was held on March 24, 2025 on the online platform Zoom with 27 representatives of local governments, as well as employees of kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, social workers and other professionals who work with children from these municipalities, including psychologists, pedagogues, and special education teachers. The workshop was also attended by parents, representatives of the parent council and other stakeholders.



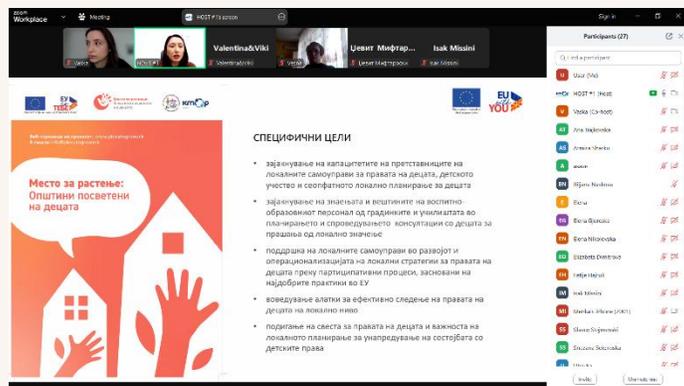
This workshop had a special emphasis on the development of one of the resources from the project's e-library, which aroused the greatest interest among the participants:

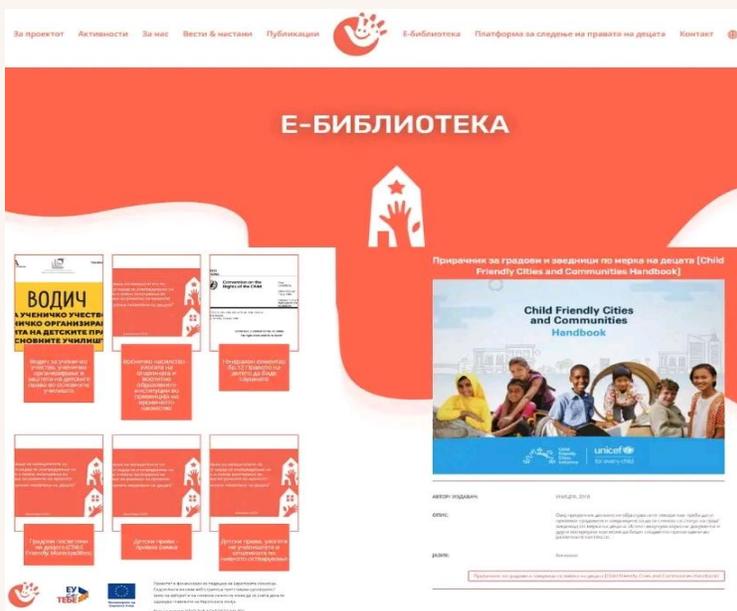
“Organizing meetings between children and decision-makers: Important aspects for creating an atmosphere in which children feel comfortable and respected”.

The workshop covered the following topics:

- Improving consulting skills with children
- Creating a safe and supportive atmosphere for their participation
- Organizing meetings between children, young people and decision-makers, especially in risky situations
- Introducing the E-library – the resources and opportunities it offers
- Exchanging ideas for its improvement, play and free time for children.

The event served as a safe platform for attendees to share their thoughts and gain new knowledge and skills.





The **E-Library** of “Place to Grow” offers 37 educational resources intended for local authorities, educational staff and all interested persons who want to expand their knowledge and skills on the topics:

- Promotion of children's rights and children's participation
- Methodologies for research and consultation with children
- Development of local strategies for children's rights

During the workshop, participants learned about the existence, functionalities and resources available in the e-library of the “Place to Grow” project and had the opportunity to provide recommendations for its further improvement.

The aim of the e-library is to enable continuous learning and development of knowledge and skills among local authorities and educational staff, as well as to encourage portability and wider application of training materials by actors not directly involved in the project.

In order to provide relevant support, the e-library is continuously updated, expanding the topics according to the identified needs of local authorities for the promotion of children's rights and children's participation in local planning.



## Conclusions and recommendations

Participants recognize the e-library as an important resource for advancing work with children and their participation in local decision-making. Their recommendations are:

- Increasing the number of materials in Macedonian and Albanian.
- Expanding the resources with additional good practice manuals.



The project is financed by the European Union

