

European Child Guarantee

The role of local level prevention systems for implementing the European Child Guarantee

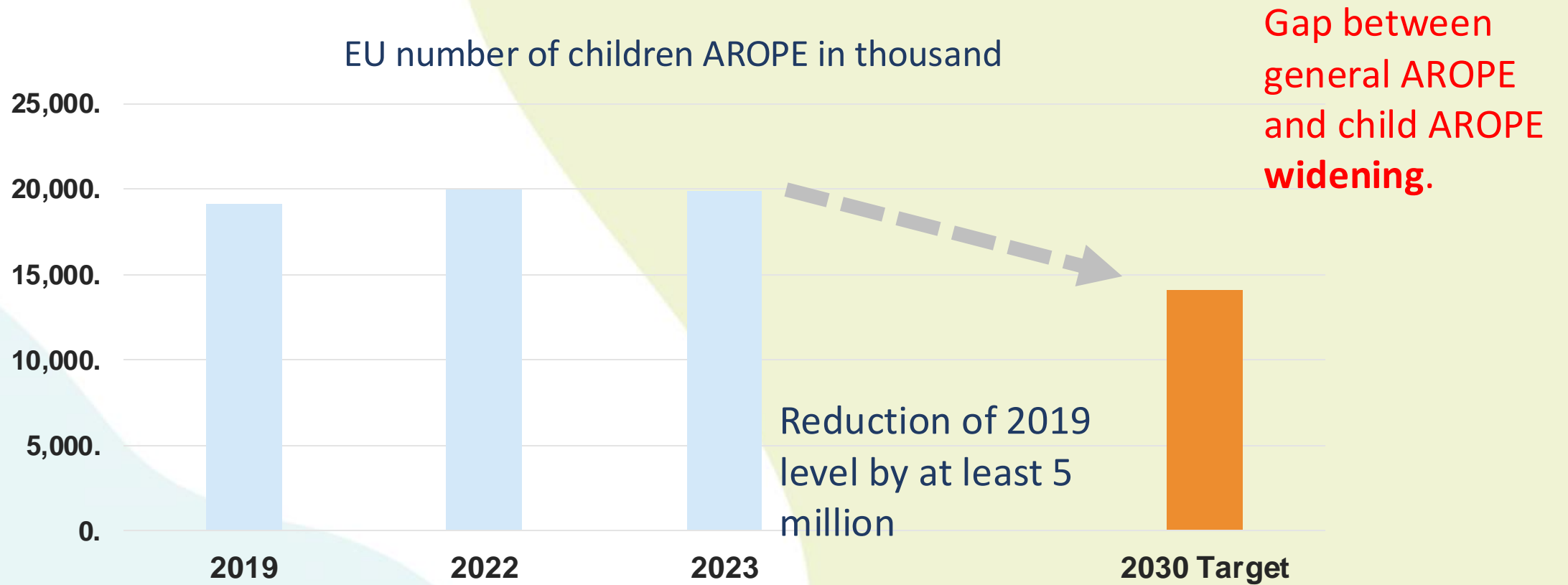


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European Commission



European Pillar Social Rights' **child poverty reduction target** : further effort needed



State of play in the implementation, three years after the adoption of the Recommendation



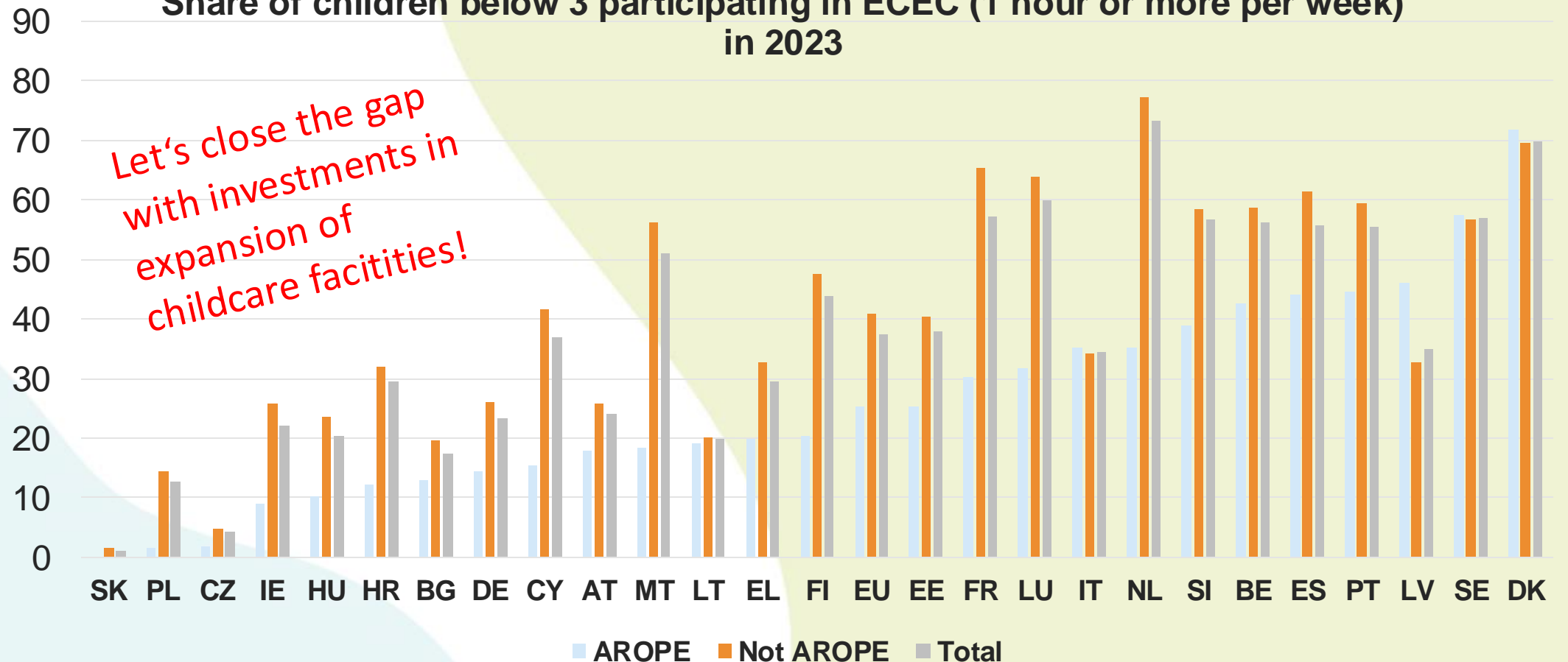
Implementation reports received so far

BE, BG, CY, DK, EE, EL, FI, HR, HU, IE, IT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SE

ECEC participation gap between children AROPE and not AROPE remains large:

EU average: 16%

Share of children below 3 participating in ECEC (1 hour or more per week) in 2023



Source: Eurostat (ilc_caindform25b) ; low reliability of data – AROPE: IE, HR, CY, MT, LT, LU, NL, DK – ; data not available (RO)

National measures

- Measures often of universal nature - as opposed to being **targeted** at children in need; often not clear on **access** of disadvantaged to the universal measures
- More actions recorded in domains of **childcare** and healthy **school meals**
- Only a few Member States plan activities to support households with disadvantaged children in the domains of adequate **housing** and healthy **nutrition**
- Issues with establishing monitoring frameworks and with data collection (lack of use of national **administrative data**, issues with identifying of the **specific target groups**)
- Challenge of **coordination** of actions between the different levels (national, regional and local)

Examples of national measures

Cyprus

Extension of free compulsory pre-school education for all children aged 4

Netherlands

Free school trips and activities for all children

Luxembourg

Free school meals for pupils in primary public schools

Examples of ongoing **Technical Support Instrument** projects



Supporting Greece in the efficient implementation of the National Action Plan on the European Child Guarantee developed (22EL12) – Support in monitoring the implementation of the plan and consulting children.



Supporting Luxembourg in developing a Plan for the European Child Guarantee (22LU03) – Support in monitoring the implementation of the protection of children rights and consulting children.



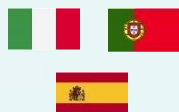
Support for enhancing the equity of the education system in Romania (22RO06) – Support in developing the legal framework for school desegregation and building the capacity of the education system to prevent and combat school segregation.



Improving staff working conditions for better quality in early childhood education and care in Austria (22AT11) - Support in improving access and quality of early childhood education and care (ECEC) for children aged 0-6 years.

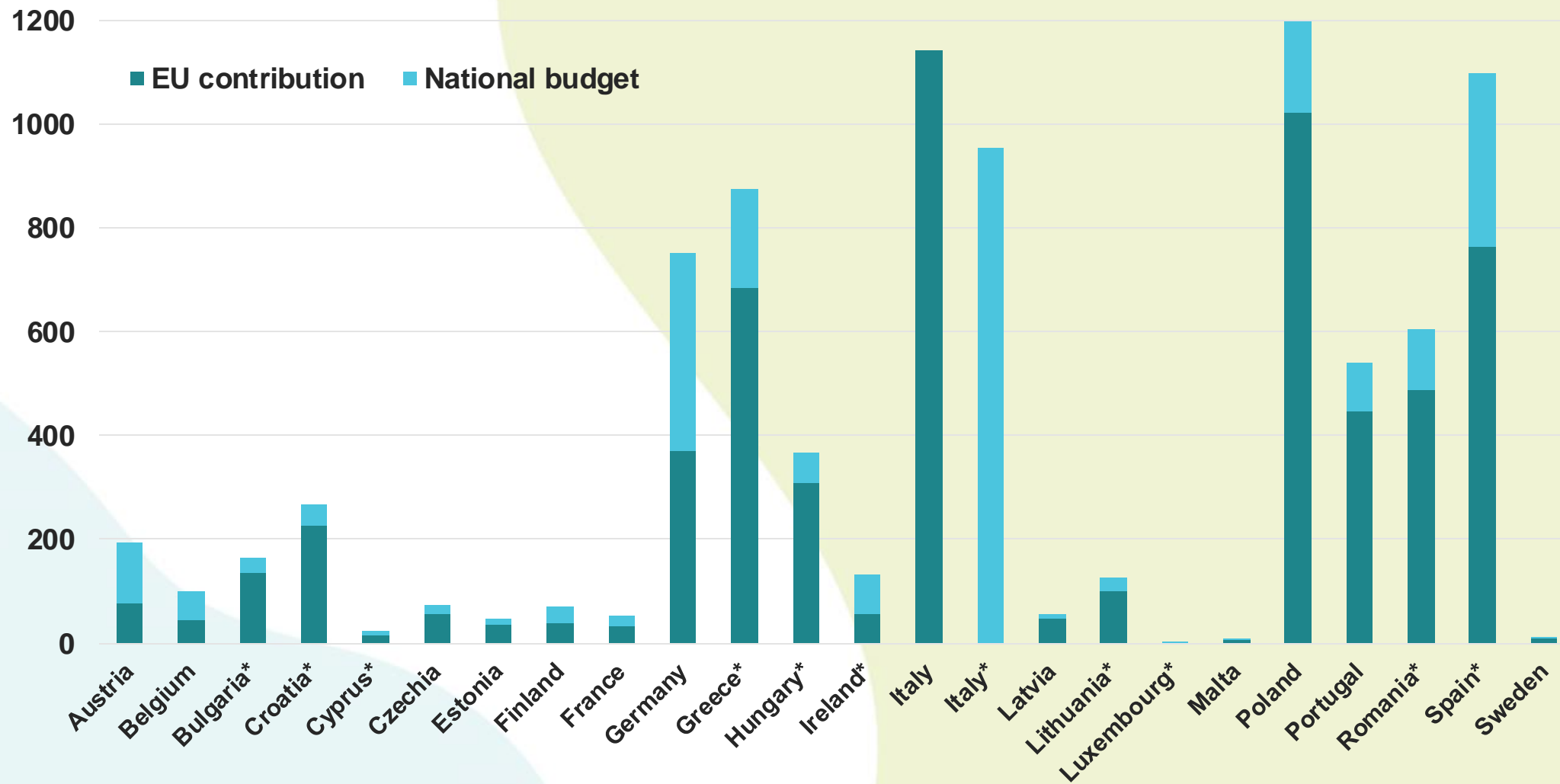


Inclusion of children with disabilities in the context of deinstitutionalisation of substitute care in Slovakia (22SK01) – Support in adopting a revised model for the social inclusion of children with disabilities in substitute care through the implementation of an integrated package of quality services.



Multi-country project on combatting disparities in access to inclusive education in Portugal, Italy and Spain (22ES04) – Support in improving the design, the consistency of the implementation and the quality of the inclusive education policies

ESF+ total budget to fight child poverty (€ millions)



SK, SI, NL, DK - not indicated specific targeting for child poverty

Measures under ESF+ (source: Member States' reports)

For example:

ECEC:

- Creation and operation of childcare facilities (PL, SK)
- Improving quality & upskilling of staff (PT, RO, SK)
- Enhancing participation in childcare for vulnerable households, eg decreasing costs (CY, IT), sensibilization campaigns to enroll poor children in ECEC (ES)
- Integration of children with disabilities in ECEC (PT)

EDUCATION:

- Reducing early school leaving (RO, BG, PT)
- Personal/social development initiatives for young early school leavers (IE)
- Professional support for children with disabilities (teaching assistants) and professional development of educational workers (HR)
- Financing of cultural, sporting and/or leisure activities (HR, FR, HU, RO, SK)

Beyond ESF+, other investment in children

Recovery and Resilience Facility

EUR 45,2 billion EUR total investments into Education and ECEC, including:

- Investments in the digital infrastructure and connectivity of schools, often with a focus on disadvantaged and rural schools
- Measures to increase participation rates in ECEC, in particular among disadvantaged groups
- Some of the investments in early childhood education and care are also supported by reforms aiming to improve access, inclusiveness and quality.

European Regional Development Fund

- Building new or modernising the existing capacity of institutions providing ECEC (HR)
- Actions for the extension of canteen and sport infrastructures to promote all-day schools (IT)
- Affordable housing for families with children in need, eg Roma communities (SK)

Political Guidelines for the Commission 2024-2029:

*‘... addressing the root causes of poverty through a **first-ever EU Anti-Poverty Strategy**...’*

*‘...we will **strengthen the Child Guarantee** to prevent and fight social exclusion through education, healthcare and other essential public services...’*

Thank you!



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