



CHILD PARTICIPATION AS VICTIMS OR WITNESSES IN CRIMINAL CASES IN ITALY

National Report for AIMJF's Comparative and Collaborative Research.

La participación de niños como víctimas o testigos en causas penales en Italia

Informe nacional para la investigación comparativa y colaborativa de la AIMJF

La participation des enfants en tant que victimes ou témoins dans des affaires pénales en Italie

Rapport national pour la recherche comparative et collaborative de l'AIMJF

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Abstract: The paper is part of a collaborative research organized by the International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates (AIMJF/IAYFJM) on child participation as victims or witnesses in criminal cases. The article explains the legal, institutional and procedural aspects of child participation in the Justice System in Italy.

Resumen: El documento es parte de una investigación colaborativa organizada por la Asociación Internacional de Juventud y Familia (AIMJF) sobre la participación de niños, niñas y adolescentes como víctimas o testigos en causas penales. El artículo explica los aspectos legales, institucionales y procesales de la participación infantil en el sistema de justicia en Italia

Résumé : Le document fait partie d'une recherche collaborative organisée par l'Association Internationale des Magistrats de la Jeunesse et de la Famille (AIMJF) sur la participation des enfants en tant que victimes ou témoins dans des affaires pénales. L'article explique des aspects légaux, institutionnels et procéduraux de la participation des enfants dans le système de justice en Italie

Introduction

The International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates (IAYFJM or AIMJF, in the French and Spanish acronym) represents worldwide efforts to establish links between judges from different countries, promoting transnational judicial dialogue, in order to provide better conditions for a qualified attention to children based in a human rights approach.

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To do so, AIMJF organizes research on international problems facing the operation of the courts and various laws relating to youth and family and training programs.

The aims of this research are to identify similarities and discrepancies among countries and to develop a cartography of how child participation as victims and witnesses in criminal cases is organized worldwide.

This national report is based on a questionnaire prepared by AIMJF.

Questionnaire

1. Right to be heard

1.1. Are children presumed to be capable witnesses (or presumed invalid/untrustworthy by reason of their age alone, or similar)?

The two fundamental elements for proceeding with the examination of a child witness are: Ability to witness and truthfulness of the statements.

According to article 196, of the Italian Criminal Procedure Code, *“Every person has the ability to witness”* (paragraph 1), and *“If, in order to evaluate the statements of the witness, it is necessary to verify his physical or mental suitability to give testimony, the judge, even ex officio, can order the appropriate verification with the means permitted by law”* (paragraph 2).

With respect to children, article 120 of the same code provides that *“The following cannot participate as witnesses in proceedings: a) children under the age of fourteen...”*; however, the jurisprudence of legitimacy has long interpreted and clarified the scope of the rule (Cass. Pen., Section III, 28/02/2003, n. 19789) establishing that *“the cited article 120 does not contain any prohibition on witness of children, since it limits itself to establishing that children under the age of fourteen and other subjects belonging to the categories specifically indicated therein (mentally ill, drunk, intoxicated by drugs,*



subjected to custodial security measures or preventive measures) cannot intervene as witnesses to proceedings. In this way, only a general unsuitability of the persons listed to carry out the guarantee function that the law provides for the carrying out of certain activities (for example, inspections and searches), in which the interested party has the right to be assisted by trusted person. The under age of a witness, therefore, does not affect his ability to witness, which is governed by the general principle contained in Article 196, paragraph 1, of the mentioned code, but, if anything, on the assessment of the witness and, that is, on its reliability : it is in this perspective that the special regime dictated by article 498, paragraph 4, of the aforementioned code operates for the examination of the child, entrusted to the President of the judging body (bench) and conducted on the basis of questions and objections proposed by the parties, possibly with the help of a family member or an expert psychologist, without prejudice to the right to allow deposition in ordinary form, when direct examination cannot harm the serenity of the witness”.

1.2. Are there any restrictions to the right to be heard (minimum age, or other criteria)?

See previous answer 1.1.

1.3. Are children allowed to refuse to make a statement? If so, in which cases?

Witnesses in criminal proceedings is mandatory. However, article 497 of the Italian Criminal Procedure Code, in paragraph 2, establishes that a child under the age of fourteen are exempt from warnings regarding the consequences of false declarations and must not declare that they assume the obligation to tell the truth.

2. Broad perspective of the legal framework and procedure

2.1. Is there a specific legal framework that defines how to treat child victims/witnesses of crime (e.g. special norms in the criminal procedural code, special child code, special victims code, etc)?

It is worth mentioning the “Carta di Noto” – a document that collects the guidelines for the investigation and psychological examination of children was born from the interdisciplinary collaboration of magistrates, lawyers, psychologists, psychiatrists, child neuropsychiatrists, criminologists and forensic doctors –, signed in 1996 and updated in 2017, which provides:

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1. *It is necessary that the experts (psychologists, psychiatrists and child neuropsychiatrists) and other professional figures (magistrates, lawyers, Judicial Police) involved in collecting the testimony of children possess specific skills related to an updated training in forensic psychology and testimony.*
2. *The child must be heard in cross-examination as soon as possible. The statements must be taken using interview protocols or methods based on the indications of accredited scientific literature, in the awareness that hearing the child could cause modifications and alterations of the memory. Hearings carried out or repeated at a considerable time interval must be evaluated with great caution due to the changed psychological condition compared to the time of the facts and the potential factors of contamination of the memory.*
3. *It is appropriate that the psychological or psychotherapeutic assistance activity of the child - except in cases of particular urgency and gravity - takes place after he has given testimony in the evidentiary incident.*
4. *The function of the expert in charge of carrying out the hearing and/or an assessment for judicial purposes must remain distinct from that aimed at support and treatment and must therefore be entrusted to different subjects. The distinction of roles and subjects must be respected even in the case in which such tasks are attributed to public Social and Health Services. In any case, the data obtained during the support and therapy activities of the child are not influential, by their nature, for the purposes of ascertaining the facts.*
5. *The experts must have specific and documentable expertise. It is the right of the parties to the proceedings, on the occasion of the assignment of each expert assignment, to discuss the actual expertise of the expert and the content of the questions.*
6. *The interview procedures must be adapted to the cognitive and emotional development of the child. The hearing of children must be carried out using an auxiliary expert with the function of communication facilitation. His contribution does not have clinical or mere psychological assistance purposes, but must be aimed at collecting useful elements to shed light on the fact being investigated, mitigating the risk of secondary victimization.*
7. *To avoid even involuntary conditioning in the conduct of interviews, it is preferable that the expert who assists the magistrate in collecting the testimony is different from the expert responsible for verifying the suitability to testify.*



8. When collecting statements, the number of hearings must be reduced. The child must be warned of the purpose of his hearing with the possibility of saying that he "does not remember" and "does not know". The interviews must be appropriately audio-video recorded, taking care to also document the methods of interaction between the expert and the child (non-verbal communication, feedback, etc.). When asking questions, it is necessary to avoid them revealing the expectations of the questioner or taking for granted facts that are the object of investigation. The meeting must take place at times, times, ways and places that ensure, as far as possible, the serenity of the child, avoiding any contact with the accused. The duration and methods of the hearing must be limited to times related to the age and emotional conditions of the child. During the interview it must be verified whether the child has previously told the alleged facts to other people and in what ways.

9. The evidentiary incident is the privileged place for acquiring the child's statements during the proceedings. In order to limit the risk of both secondary victimization phenomena and re-elaboration/contamination of the memory of the events experienced, it is appropriate to proceed with the hearing in the S.I.T. only in case of necessity, or when the evidentiary elements are not sufficient to continue the criminal action.

10. For subjects under the age of twelve, it is considered necessary, except in cases of exceptional and proven reasons of protection of the child, that an expert assessment is always ordered in order to verify their suitability to testify on the facts being investigated.

11. In the evaluation of the child, experts should use evidence-based methodologies and tools that possess the characteristics of repeatability and accuracy and that are recognized as reliable by the relevant scientific community.

12. In terms of suitability to testify, the parties and experts shall ensure that the questions are formulated in such a way as not to imply judgments, definitions or other profiles of competence of the judge.

The expert shall not use expressions such as "reliability", "credibility", "truthfulness", "compatibility" because they are potentially misleading. The question posed to the expert should refer to what is accredited by the knowledge base of the scientific community. If the expert request exceeds his/her competence and what is accredited by the current scientific heritage, the expert must make this known to the judge.



13. The suitability to testify on which the expert is called to express himself/herself includes general and specific abilities. The former concern cognitive functions such as memory, attention, comprehension and linguistic expression abilities, the ability to identify the source of information, the ability to discriminate between reality and fantasy, the plausible and the improbable, etc., as well as the level of suggestibility and psycho-affective maturity. Specific abilities concern the child's ability to organize and report the memory in relation to the experiential complexity of what is supposed to have happened and the possible presence of suggestive influences, internal or external (deriving from interaction with adults or peers) that may have interfered in the story.

14. When assessing specific suitability, it is necessary to clarify and consider the circumstances and methods through which the child narrated the facts to family members, social workers, the Judicial Police and other subjects.

15. The expert cannot be entrusted with the task of ascertaining the truthfulness and validity of the story or stories given; the scientific methods that have been developed cannot be applied to ascertaining the factual truth of the child's narrative production. Suitability to testify does not imply the truthfulness and credibility of the narration.

16. The assessment of suitability to testify must precede the hearing of the child and, in any case, it is not possible to infer the capacity itself from the quality (internal coherence, narrative characteristics, etc.) of the testimony given. In the case of intra-family abuse, the assessments must be extended to family members, where possible and, where necessary, to the social context of the child.

17. It is not methodologically correct to express an opinion on the suitability to testify without having examined the child and the adults of reference, unless there is the ritual and material possibility, in which case giving an account of the reasons for the incompleteness of the investigation.

18. There are no psychological, emotional and behavioral signals that can be validly assumed as revealing or "indicators" of victimization. It is not scientifically founded to identify clinical pictures attributable to a specific experience of abuse, nor to consider any symptom as proof of them. Likewise, the absence of psychological, emotional and behavioral symptoms in the child cannot exclude them.



19. *It is not possible to diagnose a post-traumatic stress disorder or an adjustment disorder by inferring their existence from the sole presence of symptoms, which could have another origin.*

20. *Particular attention must be paid to some specific situations, capable of influencing the declarations of children, such as:*

a) separations of parents characterized by an increase in conflict where, even more than in other cases, situations of false positives or false negatives can occur;

b) alarms generated only after the emergence of a hypothesis of abuse;

c) phenomena of suggestion and "declarative contagion";

d) conditioning or manipulation, even involuntary (e.g. psychotherapeutic, school context, etc.).

21. *All audio-video recorded material, even in everyday and domestic contexts, relating to the listening of children by significant adult figures, must be acquired in the files in order to assess the possible presence of suggestive elements.*

22. *If the child is subjected to psychological tests, the protocols and results of the administration must be produced in full and in original. The tests used must be characterized by proven validity and scientific fidelity. The choice of tests is entrusted to the expertise of the expert who must answer to the judge and the parties about their degree of scientificity. The tests, including projective ones, and the drawings cannot be used to draw conclusions on the veracity of the abuse. The use of anatomical dolls is highly discouraged. The use of drawings and/or games, if strictly necessary, should be aimed solely at promoting communication with the child.*

23. *In cases of collective abuse and/or mistreatment, i.e. events in which it is presumed that one or more*

2.2. Is there any coordination between different role players (such as the police, education, social services, health system) to initiate legal proceedings and coordinate response (evidence collection and intervention), including avoiding multiple interviews of the child? Is there any flowchart in your country to coordinate these interventions? If so, could you please share it?

There are no specific rules in the Criminal Procedure Code that require coordination between the various parties who may come into contact with the child.



2.3. Can you briefly explain what are the major steps of the legal procedure in criminal cases (felonies) with child victims or witnesses involved?

See previous answer 1.1.

2.4. In which moment(s) can a child be heard in this procedure?

The child will be heard in the trial phase. However, he/she may also be heard in the preliminary investigation phase through the institution of the evidentiary incident. On this point, art. 392, paragraph 1-bis, of the Criminal Procedure Code provides that in proceedings for the crimes referred to in Articles 572, 600, 600-bis, 600-ter and 600-quater, even if relating to pornographic material referred to in Article 600-quater.1, 600-quinquies, 601, 602, 609-bis, 609-quater, 609-quinquies, 609-octies, 609-undecies and 612-bis of the Criminal Code, the public prosecutor, also at the request of the injured party, or the person under investigation may request that the testimony of a child or an adult injured party be taken with an evidentiary incident, even outside the cases provided for in paragraph 1. In any case, when the injured party is in a particularly vulnerable condition, the public prosecutor, also at the request of the injured party, or the person under investigation may request that the testimony of a child or an adult injured party be taken with an evidentiary incident, even outside the cases provided for in paragraph 1. investigations may request that an evidentiary incident be held to take his testimony.

2.5. Does the child have the power to initiate, suspend or terminate the criminal procedure (such as giving consent for the complaint or the possibility to refuse consent or revoke consent)? If so in which cases?

No

3. Preparation for the child participation

3.1. Is there in your country specific child-friendly information material for children as victims or witnesses (e.g. brochure, video etc)? If so can you please share them?

No.

3.2. How do children have access to these materials? (e.g. brochure available at police station/court; brochure sent to the child together with summon; witness preparation conducted in court with support of a video, or with support of a special professional; investigator/judge orally explaining in child-friendly language before

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interview/hearing, or any other?) How long before the interview/hearing does this happen?

[See previous answer.](#)

3.3. Is there any assessment of the child conducted before a child is interviewed/heard? If so, what is assessed / for what purpose (e.g. background and circumstances of child; whether the child would be able to speak freely; capacity of child to express him/herself; capacity to participate, if uncertain; capacity to handle interview and possible effects; potential vulnerabilities and special needs, etc)? If so, what is the legal background of their professional conducting this assessment? To which institution does this professional belong? Is there any kind of report produced?

[In general, as explained in the answers 1.1. and 1.2, it is necessary to distinguish whether the child is over or under fourteen years of age. In the first case, except in special cases, no assessment is made, because the child is considered capable of discernment. In the second case, an assessment can be requested by the parties or can be decided *ex officio* by the judge. The assessment is focused on his or her capacity of discernment, to participate in the process as a victim or as a witness, that include: the capacity of the child to be able to speak freely, to express him/herself, to participate, to handle interview and possible effects, etc.](#)

[The assessment is made by a psychiatrist and/or a psychologist with a consolidated and specific background competence in the topic, usually coming from a public health institution.](#)

[At the moment of the oath, the question he/she must answer is read to him/her, and among other things, the deadline for producing the outcome of the expert report is set.](#)

3.4. Is there any kind of contact or evaluation with the parents or legal guardians?

[The evaluation mentioned include contacts with the parents and the legal guardians.](#)

3.5. Is the child allowed/invited to visit the facilities where he or she will be heard prior to the interview/hearing?

[No.](#)

3.6. Does the child receive any kind of support prior to the interview/hearing (psychological, social, medical, legal)?

[No.](#)



4. Protection and Support

4.1. Is there any risk assessment conducted for the child victim/witness after a crime has been reported? If so, who conducts it? Is there any specific tool? If so, can you share it please?

No.

4.2. In case of identification of risks, what kind of protective measures are available in your country?

See previous answer.

4.3. What kind of support measures are available for child victims / witnesses of crime (psychosocial, medical, legal) before, during, after the judicial process)

Legal and psychological supports.

4.4. In case of intrafamilial violence, which measures can be / are usually adopted to grant the child's security? Is there any/which kind of support offered to the remaining members of the family? Are there any specific measures in case of child abduction or child kidnapping?

A specific precautionary measure is provided for: removal from the family home (art. 282-bis of the Criminal Procedure Code).

In particular, with the provision that orders removal, the judge orders the defendant to immediately leave the family home, or not to return, and not to access it without the authorization of the judge who is proceeding. Any authorization may prescribe certain methods of visitation.

The judge, if there are needs to protect the safety of the injured party or his or her close relatives, may also order the defendant not to approach certain places habitually frequented by the injured party, in particular the workplace, the home of the family of origin or of close relatives, unless attendance is necessary for work reasons. In this latter case, the judge prescribes the relevant methods and may impose limitations.

The judge, at the request of the public prosecutor, may also order the periodic payment of an allowance to cohabiting persons who, as a result of the precautionary measure ordered, remain without adequate means. The judge determines the amount of the allowance taking into account the circumstances and income of the person obligated and establishes the methods and terms of payment.



He may order, if necessary, that the allowance be paid directly to the beneficiary by the employer of the person obligated, deducting it from the salary due to him. The payment order has the effect of an enforceable title.

5. Environment

5.1. In which institution/what kind of environment is the child interviewed/heard in pre-trial/trial phase?

When the child is under fourteen years of age, he or she is heard through a special procedure called “*protected hearing*”, which can be implemented *ex officio* following a report or complaint and during the preliminary investigation phase with the so called “*evidentiary incident*” (incidente probatorio).

5.2 Is there any specificity in this environment to adapt it for children? (e.g. separate ‘building’ specifically for children; non child- specific building, but separate entrance for children; separate interview/hearing room for children)

Except specific local experience (e.g. separate ‘building’ specifically for children), there is non child-specific building but separate interview/hearing room for children in the Court.

5.3. Are there guidelines for the environment where the child is interviewed/heard? (architecture, setting)? If so can you please share it? Can you share a photo of this space?

Yes, see the answer 7.3.

5.4. Is there a specific waiting area for the child?

The waiting area for the access to the separate interview/hearing room for children in the Court.

5.5. Are there protection measures to avoid direct contact (including visual) between the child and the alleged offender? if so what kind? (e.g. separate entrance, separate waiting area, separate interview/hearing rooms, use of video link, voice or image distortion etc)

Yes, separate entrance, separate waiting area, separate interview/hearing rooms.

5.6. In case identification of the offender is needed, how is this conducted, and where?

5.7. If the child lives in a different city in relation to the city where the proceeding is tried, what are the specificities at stake?

The child's place of residence is irrelevant.



5.8. Is it possible in your country that the interview is conducted virtually (the child and the interviewer are in different places)? In which circumstances? Are any / which special security measures (are) adopted?

Before the Covid-19 no, but during yes and after in some specific circumstances if is requested and authorized by the judge.

5.9. Must a child appear in court to be interviewed or are recorded investigative interviews admitted as evidence in court? If the child has to appear in court, which circumstances are determinant?

The videorecording of the interviews is allowed and in sexual crimes, is mandatory and is admitted as evidence in Court.

6. Specific legal guarantees for the child

6.1. Does the child have the right to legal assistance? for free? Is this assistance specialized? At what moment does this assistance come in (e.g. already advising whether or not to report a case / during the first interview / only in court / other)

The child witness is not entitled to legal assistance. he/she may contact a lawyer in order to understand what his/her rights and duties as a witness are

6.1.1 What is the role of the legal assistant (representing views of child or best interests of child; advising the child; talking on behalf of the child; ...)?

See 6.1

6.2 Does the child have the right to be accompanied by a support person? If so, what is the role of this person? What is this person entitled to do in support of the child?

In the ordinary criminal proceeding no.

6.3. What is the role of parents/legal representative?

6.3.1 When are parents/legal representative excluded (e.g. perpetrator, exploitative, intimidating/influencing, non-supportive, conflict of interests...)?

6.3.2. If excluded, is there another legal representative appointed/ if so by whom?

6.4. What kind of measures are adopted to grant the right to privacy / confidentiality (public excluded / in all cases / in which cases? press statements so that child can not be identified?)



Article 472 of the Criminal Procedure Code provides that, upon request of the interested party, the judge orders that evidence be taken behind closed doors that may cause harm to the privacy of witnesses or private parties in relation to facts that are not the subject of the charge.

The trial relating to the crimes provided for by Articles 600, 600-bis, 600-ter, 600-quinquies, 601, 602, 609-bis, 609-ter and 609-octies of the Criminal Code is held behind closed doors; however, the injured party may request that even just part of it be held behind closed doors. The trial is always held behind closed doors when the injured party is a child. In such proceedings, questions about the private life or sexuality of the injured party are not permitted unless they are necessary for the reconstruction of the fact.

The judge may order that the examination of children be held behind closed doors.

6.5. Is the child allowed to plea for cautionary measures?

No

6.6. Does the child have the right to appeal any decision?

No but as an injured party he may challenge certain provisions (for example the provision with which the public prosecutor requests the archiving of the preliminary investigations)

7. Interviewing structure and procedure

7.1 Who hears the child victim/witness in the pre-trial phase / who in the trial phase?

In pre-trial phase, judicial police and public prosecutor; in the trial phase, the judge

How often is a child usually heard in total (pre-trial and trial)?

It depends on the type of process

Does the law limit the total number of interviews/hearings conducted?

No.

7.2. Is it mandatory that this professional has specific training for child interviews?

No.

7.3. Is any kind of interview protocol adopted in your country (pre-trial and/or trial stage)?

If so, which one? If so, could you please share it?

7.4. Who is allowed to participate in the interview/hearing? Who is sitting in the same room as the child / who is sitting in another room, if any?



In the trial phase the child's testimony is examined by the president on questions and objections proposed by the parties. In the examination, the president may avail himself of the assistance of a relative of the child or of an expert in child psychology. The president, after hearing the parties, if he believes that the direct examination of the child cannot harm the serenity of the witness, orders by order that the deposition continue in the forms provided for in the previous paragraphs. The order may be revoked during the examination.

7.5. Who is addressing the child victim/witness: only the interviewer? cross examination allowed? if only the interviewer, how can other participants ask questions? How is the communication between those who follow the interview and the interviewer? What kind of communication tool is used?

See 7.4

7.6. Is the interviewer allowed not to ask the questions raised by others? Is the interviewer allowed to rephrase the questions raised by others?

the general rules regarding testimony apply.

7.7. Is the interviews audio and video recorded, if so for what purpose (accuracy of statement, use as evidence in court, use in other courts, other)?

7.7.1. In case the recording is admitted as evidence in court: what protection measures can be applied (e.g. image and voice distortion, child heard in a separate room etc)?

7.8. How is the quality of the recording? In case of failure in the recording, what are the measures adopted?

7.9. If no audio/video recording: is the child allowed to review his or her statements and to correct them? Is the child/legal representative allowed to get a copy of written statement / recording?

7.10. If there is a special procedure for hearing child victims and witnesses, is it mandatory for the child to participate in such a way or has he/she the right to choose to be heard as any other victim or witness? Are there still adaptations in this case?

8. Offender's right during or after the interview



8.1. Is the alleged offender allowed to participate in the interview of the child witness? Is his/her defence attorney allowed to participate? Is participation of either of the two mandatory?

See 8.2

8.2. If the offender is not present during the interview, how can he or she make additional questions to the child? How can he or she contradict the child's statements?

The child's testimony is examined by the president on questions and objections raised by the parties. In the examination, the president may avail himself of the assistance of a relative of the child or of an expert in child psychology. The president, after hearing the parties, if he believes that the direct examination of the child cannot harm the serenity of the witness, orders by order that the deposition continue in the manner provided for in the previous paragraphs. The order may be revoked during the examination.

When proceedings are being carried out for the crimes referred to in Articles 572, 600, 600-bis, 600-ter, 600-quater, 600-quinquies, 601, 602, 609-bis, 609-ter, 609-quater and 609-octies and 612-bis of the Criminal Code, the examination of the child victim of the crime or of the mentally ill adult victim of the crime is carried out, at his or her request or that of his or her lawyer, by using a glass mirror together with an intercom system.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the previous paragraphs, when it is necessary to proceed with the examination of an injured party who is in a particularly vulnerable condition, the judge, if the injured party or his or her lawyer so requests, orders the adoption of protected methods.

9. Parallel proceedings – coordination

9.1. In case of parallel proceedings (such as in family or child protection procedures) based on the same facts, is it clear who has the priority to conduct the interview?

Yes. In case of parallel proceedings, the criminal proceeding (at the Ordinary Court if the offender is an adult, at the Juvenile Court if the offender was a child, between 14 and 18 years of age at the time of the crime) take priority over other proceedings.

9.2. Is there any coordination procedure between different courts/authorities? How is the coordination procedure?



The coordination is in the practice, in some District a Protocol has been adopted indicating in details how to proceed, in particular in sexual crimes (i.e. in Milan: [Protocol of Intents for the adoption of coordinated interventions in the activity of combating sexual abuse of children and in the protection of children who are victims of sexual abuse](#)).

9.3. If another court/authority has not participated in the interview and needs additional information, is this court/authority allowed to interview the child again? And/or can interviews be shared (who can share with whom)?

If requested, the other Court has not participated in the interview of the child, can request the sending of the interview.

10. Training

10.1. Are judges and magistrates trained to deal with child victims?

Yes, is organized by the Superior School of Judiciary (SSM), tendentially one module every year. Unfortunately the training are not mandatory and the number of participants at each module is limited.

10.2. Is the content of the training interdisciplinary? Do other professionals also participate in the same training?

A trainers yes, as trained people are only judges and magistrates.

11. Reforms in progress

11.1. Are there reforms in progress in your country regarding child's victim rights, the procedure among others? What is the aim and the main subject of it?

No.