



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

UCCA has a zero-tolerance policy towards inappropriate or violent behaviours by its staff members. The organisation firmly believes in protecting and defending the rights of children, as outlined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse. Minors, defined as individuals under the age of 18, are a priority for UCCA, which strives to protect their rights when they interact with the organisation's volunteers, trainees, and external collaborators. UCCA aligns with the "EU Strategy for the Rights of the Child" and actively promotes the participation of girls and boys in political and democratic life, their socio-economic inclusion, their right to health and education, equal opportunities, and the prevention of violence. UCCA also advocates for a legal system that caters to the needs of children and supports a safe and child-friendly environment.

UCCA is concerned about the prevention of child abuse and acts in virtue of the respect and safety of children and adolescents who take part in the activities developed in the territory. Our organization is aware that violence and abuse constitute a serious problem, widespread worldwide, that deserves to be addressed proactively. UCCA undertakes, therefore, to take decisions and take actions to protect the interests of minors. The drafting of this document and these guidelines testify, in fact, our commitment to protect minors who are involved in the initiatives of our organization.

1. we recognize the value of each individual, not tolerating any form of discrimination based, in particular, on age, race, skin colour or ethnic or social origin, sex, genetic characteristics, sex genetic characteristics, language, religion or individual beliefs, political or other opinions, membership of a national minority, gender identity or sexual orientation, heritage, birth or disability;
2. we recognize the right of every child to protection from all kinds of violence or abuse. We undertake to take any action to prevent the perpetration of such violence against children and to report any abuse;
3. among the protection measures promoted by the association , the interest of minors is considered a priority;
4. Ucca supports the right of children to be heard and to share their point of view and promotes this approach in its activities;
5. We are committed to providing all necessary support to employees, trainees, volunteers and collaborators who work closely with minors;



6. We are committed to informing staff, including trainees, volunteers and collaborators, to continuously inform staff of the safeguards put in place to prevent the potential risks of child abuse and exploitation

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PROTECTION OF MINORS

Ucca and all its staff, volunteers, trainees and collaborators, are committed to enforcing the following points:

1. intervene in cases where there is physical or psychological violence against a child;
2. not adversely affect the child's harmonious and socio-relational development, especially not by psychological abuse;
3. not to perpetuate any negative behaviour which may serve as an example to the child;
4. take action if children under the age of 18 are sexually abused, regardless of the age of majority or the legal consent procedures in the various countries. A misconception about the age of a minor is not to be considered as an acceptable defense
5. take action where there are interpersonal relationships with minors who may be considered to be exploited, ill-treated or abused;
6. not to act in such a way as to endanger or endanger the child;
7. not to use offensive or harmful language by giving inappropriate advice in an improper manner;
8. avoid inappropriate or sexually provocative behaviour;
9. avoid establishing or maintaining interpersonal contacts through online means (e- mail, chat, social, etc.) outside the activities approved and/or related to the execution of the project. Communication must always be professional and never harmful to the child;
10. never allow one or more minors with whom you work or have worked to sleep in their domain/residence except in exceptional cases previously authorized by the consent of the parents or guardians and scrupulously following safety procedures for the protection of the child;
11. never allow to sleep in the same room or bed as a minor with whom you work;
12. never lend money, property or other utility to a child outside the parameters and purposes established by the project activities or without the knowledge of the parent or guardian;
13. not to tolerate or participate in behaviour on children that is illegal, harmful or that puts their safety at risk;
14. never discriminate or treat differently or favour some minors by excluding others.



The above list is not exhaustive or exclusive. The basic principle pursued by our association remains to avoid actions or behaviors that may be inappropriate or potentially abusive towards children.

It is also essential that staff, volunteers and external collaborators in the event of contact with minors:

1. be vigilant in identifying situations at risk to minors and can be appropriately assigned to the responsible person;
2. report any suspicion or certainty of potential abuse or mistreatment of a child, as set out in this Policy;
3. organise the work and the workplace in such a way as to minimise the risks;
4. are always under control in carrying out activities with minors;
5. ensure the dissemination and maintenance of a culture of openness that allows staff, volunteers, minors and carers to raise and discuss any subject and concern with ease;
6. ensure that they maintain appropriate behaviour towards the minors with whom they work;
7. make the relationships with minors clear, protecting them always and without acting against them or in a way that adversely affects them;
8. enhance the skills and competences of children, helping them to understand their rights, acceptable and unacceptable behaviour and what to do if a problem arises;
9. always maintain a high professional and personal profile;
10. respect and protect the rights of children, always treating them in a fair, honest, legal and with dignity and respect;
11. encourage the participation of the child in all those actions aimed at supporting the development of self-protection capacities.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PRIVACY OF MINORS

The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children's Privacy sets out the procedures to be followed for the collection and processing of personal data of children in accordance with the main European regulations¹.

1 EU 2016/679

The written consent of their parents or guardians is required for the purpose of the collection of children's data and for communication activities relating to association projects. Ucca's employees responsible for the collection of personal data of minors can rely on the Privacy Policy of the organization adopted in 2017 pursuant to the law on the protection of personal data (EU) 2016/679.

The association is committed to:



1. not to share the information provided by the beneficiaries of its activities and services with third parties;
2. maintain confidentiality through the employees responsible for managing the staff of the persons involved in the association's research activities. The declarations are drawn up specifically for each project and cannot be used for any other purpose;
3. any publication must comply with the guidelines on the protection and protection of the rights of the child;
4. the dissemination of information containing minors who have taken part in the association's activities will be authorised only with the written consent of their parents or their guardians. The principle applied in this case will follow the provisions of Article 3 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Adolescence. The principle remains valid for both printed and digital publications and for information or images regarding the media with which the organization has come into contact;
5. the collection of data and/or images of minors may be authorised only if it is foreseen and/or strictly necessary for the implementation of the organisation's activities or projects. This information may only be used for the purposes for which it was provided and for a period of time limited to the duration of the project. It is the responsibility of the employees of the organization to obtain the permission of the parents or guardians of the child, as well as the consent of the child, as required by current legislation. The images and data acquired will be stored on the internal servers of Ucca accessible only to staff members with the appropriate credentials who have already signed the code of ethics and the code of conduct. Data saved on internal servers is password protected and secure from external attacks;
6. Ucca shall draw up appropriate forms for informed consent for minor parents. For the publication of photos and images it is always necessary the authorization that must be issued by the parents through a release that remains revocable at any time in accordance with art.7 D.lgs. n 196/2003. The relevant legislation on the consent for the privacy of minors is the General Regulation on the protection of personal data, GDPR, approved by the European Union, with particular reference to the Italian legislation, Art.2-quinquies of Legislative Decree No. 101/2018 states that the age limit for valid consent may not be less than 14 years.

Rome, April 5th 2024.