We need to talk …
To stop sexual abuse of children in the circle of trust

Panel
Baroness Doreen E. Massey, Rapporteur, Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe
Ms Gabriela Cuevas Barron, IPU President
Ms Najat Maalla M’jid, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children
Mr Ted Chaiban, Director of Programs, UNICEF
Ms Joyce Cook, Chief Member Associations Officer, FIFA
Ms Gloria Viseras, Olympic athlete-gymnast, Spain

Moderator
Ms Marja Ruotanen, Director, Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe

Come and join us
Monday 15 July 2019, 1.15-2.30 pm
Conference Room 1, UN HQ, New York

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The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, in June 2019, adopted a report Ending violence against children: a Council of Europe contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. We need to make the fight against violence against children a priority. Only if governments, parliaments and civil society work together can we achieve SDG Target 16.2 and hope to end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children by 2030.

At least 1 in 5 children in Europe is a victim of sexual violence. It is estimated that in 70% to 85% of cases, children are victims of someone they trust. Offenders can be family members, peers, the clergy, coaches, teachers.

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 can help us to prevent sexual violence, to protect children and to prosecute offenders.

Preventing and responding to sexual abuse of children in the circle of trust starts by having a difficult conversation. We need to talk to overcome denial and fear, break taboos and better understand the complexity of sexual abuse. We need to empower and move everyone to act.

Come and join us to learn about on-going initiatives and to share experience and good practices in protecting children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust!

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