

NEWSLETTER

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OVERVIEW OF COORDINATE PROJECT

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THE AIM OF COORDINATE The aim of the COORDINATE project is to initiate the community of researchers and organisations that will drive forwards the [read more](#)

IMPORTANCE OF MEASURING CHILD WELLBEING In present-day Europe, significant child wellbeing inequalities exist. Policies to improve child wellbeing [read more](#)

GUIDE GUIDE will provide comparative data collected systematically over time on subjective well-being, using [read more](#)



Project [COORDINATE](#) started on 1st April 2021 and has been awarded €5 million in funding from the European Commission under Horizon 2020 to carry out a range of activities that will build the capacity and infrastructure to collect and use longitudinal survey data to improve child wellbeing across Europe. Project is led by Professor Gary Pollock from the Policy Evaluation and Research Unit at Manchester Metropolitan University and Associate Professor Jennifer Symonds from the Geary Institute at University College Dublin. The [COORDINATE Consortium](#) includes 22 partners from 14 countries. The partners are

a representative range of European countries in terms of population size, socio-economic, geographical, cultural and linguistic diversity.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101008589

THE AIM OF COORDINATE

The aim of the COORDINATE project is to initiate the community of researchers and organisations that will drive forwards the coordinated development of comparative birth cohort panel survey research in Europe. The infrastructural community initiated by COORDINATE will benefit from enhanced access to current infrastructural data platforms, and will promote the harmonisation of and improve access to international cohort panel survey data in the study of children and young people as they grow up. The programme of work that COORDINATE will complete will continue the research initiated in Measuring Youth Well Being ([MyWEB](#)) and the European Cohort Development Project (ECDP) to prepare the next phases of Europe's first crossnational accelerated birth cohort survey: EuroCohort - Growing Up in Digital Europe ([GUIDE](#)), shorter GUIDE/EuroCohort.



The aim of COORDINATE is realised through the following three objectives:

- 1. Facilitate improved access to international birth cohort panel and cross-sectional survey data**
- 2. Extend the consortium network to maximise EU and European coverage for the full GUIDE/Eurocohort survey**
- 3. Undertake joint research in the form of a large-scale cohort pilot survey using a harmonised instrument and research design in key European countries**

DEVELOPING RESEARCH CAPACITY ACROSS EUROPE

COORDINATE will facilitate improved access to existing survey data on child wellbeing, increase longitudinal survey capacity across Europe through webinars, summer schools, and grants for trans-national visits.

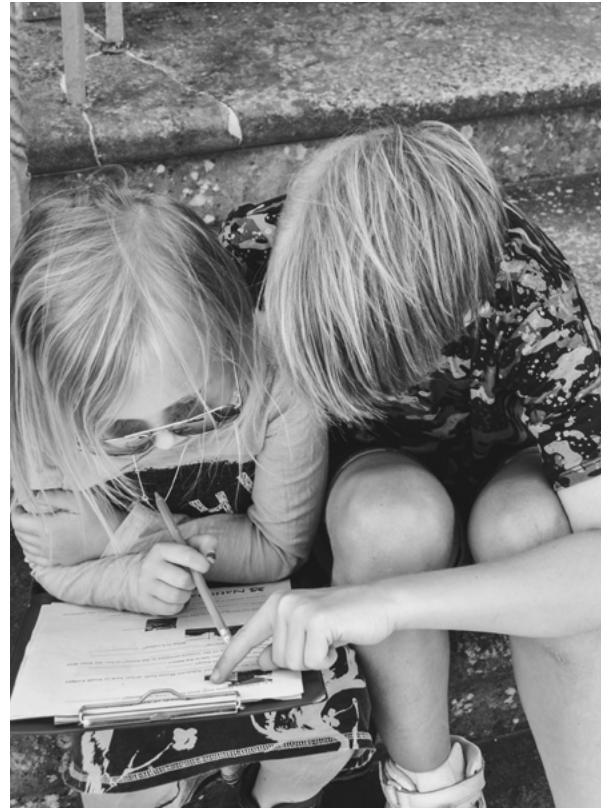
IMPORTANCE OF MEASURING CHILD WELLBEING

In present-day Europe, significant child wellbeing inequalities exist. Policies to improve child wellbeing must be evidence-based, and project COORDINATE is helping to make sure that existing data on child wellbeing is available to both researchers and policy makers. Longitudinal surveys which collect data from birth allow us to see how individuals change over time. They also make it possible to examine the extent to which experiences early in life are associated with outcomes later in life. While the indicator-based measures are important, we also need to assess young people's own evaluation of their lives. We are, therefore, interested in measuring both objective and subjective wellbeing. It is possible to measure satisfaction with family, friends, school, environment and self, including such psychological dimensions as self-acceptance, personal growth, competence, autonomy, and purpose in life.

GIVING CHILDREN A VOICE IN RESEARCH THAT CONCERNS THEM

COORDINATE will establish Youth Advisory Boards (YABs) in the UK, Portugal, Croatia, and Finland to engage young people at all levels and stages of the research. The YABs will overview and advise researchers on key questions regarding the project.

It is possible to compare existing longitudinal surveys but there are challenges because they don't all use the same questions and ask children of different ages. COORDINATE is helping to improve comparisons by harmonising existing data. The best way to collect comparable longitudinal data on child wellbeing is by implementing the first Europe-wide birth cohort survey on the well-being of children and young people, which will be conducted over the next 25 years. To successfully launch and implement such a wide scale survey, project COORDINATE, is supporting a European Research Infrastructure that will subsequently



coordinate the first Europe wide birth cohort survey, named Growing Up In Digital Europe, or GUIDE for short.

COORDINATE is the next phase of the GUIDE project in recognition that policymakers across Europe are currently unable to draw upon consistent, comparable and high quality data on child wellbeing to inform policy.

GUIDE

GUIDE will provide comparative data collected systematically over time on subjective well-being, using questions defined rigorously by scientist, whilst taking into account the views of children and young people, and with the aim of being useful to policy makers. The obtained data will offer a greater insight into topics such as poverty, health, education, and bullying. A comparative longitudinal survey will reveal transitions in young peoples' lives, the step from education to the labour market, and will enable researchers to identify patterns of change, like the dynamics and the factors associated with children and young people being satisfied with their lives. Children, the future of Europe, are the most vulnerable. They can be protected only by strong political commitment to their wellbeing. Using a child-centric approach, this survey will provide the information needed for policy makers to create policies based on evidence and improve the well-being of children and young people. The political effort will not only promote European values, but it will also make a huge impact on reducing child poverty and promoting child wellbeing.

GUIDE has been included in the [ESFRI Roadmap 2021](#). This recognition will support us in the further development and implementation of GUIDE in the years to come.

