



# PROJECT FACT-SHEET

## The Now and the Future: Advancing the Rights, Empowerment and Protection of Child Human Rights Defenders (CHRDs) in Bulgaria

### BASIC FACTS

**Where:** Across Bulgaria



**When:** November 2022 - October 2023

**Duration:** 12 months

**Budget:** Around EUR 98,000

**Implementing partners:** CRCnct (lead), National Network for Children, and New Bulgarian University - Know-How Centre for Alternative Care for Children

### WHAT WE AIM FOR

To advance the recognition and the rights of CHRDs in Bulgaria, with a special focus on children who have or are likely to have experience of the child protection and care system, through connecting and empowering CHRDs and child-led groups to shape and take forward their own human rights activities and through fostering a more enabling environment for their initiatives

### WHAT RESULTS ARE EXPECTED

- Aspiring/actual CHRDs in Bulgaria**, especially children in alternative care, children with disabilities in residential care, Romani children, particularly girls, and children living in poverty, are empowered to safely and sustainably boost their activism and participation, including through a more enabling environment for CHRDs fostered by adults' increased understanding and recognition - and advancement of the rights, empowerment and protection - of CHRDs
- Relationships and collaboration are stirred around the rights of CHRDs with and among various civil society groups (parents, caregivers, young care-leavers and self-advocates) supporting children from marginalized categories (as identified under Objective 1) as well as groups supporting adult human rights defenders, towards a more enabling environment for CHRDs' action in Bulgaria
- Constant evaluation and learning are undertaken to inform action



### WITH AND FOR WHOM

#### Direct beneficiaries

All children in Bulgaria, regardless of age, gender and other characteristics, with a special focus on children from marginalized groups who (are likely to) experience the child protection system: **children in alternative care, children with disabilities in residential care, Roma children (particularly girls), and children living in poverty**

#### Indirect beneficiaries

Adults in Bulgaria, particularly adult defenders and civil society (CSO) representatives, parents, caregivers, young care-leavers and self-advocates

### WHAT ACTIVITIES

- Outreach to, selection, mobilization and financial and technical support** to CSOs working with children/CHRDs
- Tools development, publication and dissemination**
- Capacity-building workshops for children and adult defenders/CSO representatives** on safe, empowering and sustainable action as CHRDs
- Networking and coalition-building** among and between children/CHRDs and adult defenders and CSO representatives, parents, caregivers, young care-leavers and self-advocates
- Peer-to-peer exchanges for CHRDs** in Bulgaria (at regional/global level)
- Technical assistance on CHRDs' engagement in **international advocacy**
- Cross-cutting activity:** Documentation of findings on advancing CHRDs' rights in Bulgaria & results and learning to inform the project

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