

Code of Conduct

We all share the responsibility of ensuring that children participating in this event feel safe, respected, and empowered to take part. The following guidelines, based on the input of Child Rights Connect (developed with input from children), are designed to make the event a positive experience for everyone. Please keep them in mind and apply them at all times, whether online or offline.

1. Respect and Equality

- **Treat Others as You Would Like to Be Treated:** Avoid shouting, teasing, bullying, or using any form of violence or inappropriate language.
- **Embrace Diversity:** Everyone is equal, regardless of race, gender, age, religion, education, cultural background, or any other characteristic. Welcome and celebrate the diversity of opinions and ideas.

2. Use Accessible and Respectful Language

- **Child-Friendly Communication:** Use simple language and avoid jargon or complicated terms. Speak slowly and clearly. If something is unclear, don't hesitate to ask for clarification.
- **Mindful of Language:** Ensure that the language used in presentations, questions, and discussions is accessible to all participants, especially when children are involved. Language considered oppressive or discriminatory will not be tolerated.

3. Active Listening

- **Listen to Others:** Ensure that all participants feel heard and respected. Avoid interrupting others while they are speaking. Pay attention to what children have to say, and make an effort to understand their perspectives.

4. Voluntary Participation

- **Choice to Participate:** Participation is entirely voluntary. You are free to join or leave discussions at any time, and you can stop talking or answering questions whenever you feel like it.

5. Safety and Privacy

- **Physical and Emotional Safety:** If anyone (child or adult) behaves in a way that makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable, report it immediately to the Child Safeguarding Focal Point ute.mayrhofer@dka.at or any member of the event staff.
- **Online Safety:** Do not share photos, personal information, or details from private conversations on social media without explicit permission. If participating online, children should use their first names only, and chat comments should be respectful and constructive.
- **Protecting Privacy:** Do not ask children or young people for personal contact details. Always respect their privacy.

6. Social Media Conduct

- **Respect on Social Media:** Be respectful towards others when using social media. Do not take or post pictures of others, especially children, or share their private data without their consent. This includes screenshots if participating online.

7. Reporting Concerns

- **Be Vigilant:** If you observe or suspect any situation that may present a risk to children or young people, such as physical, psychological, or sexual abuse, report it immediately to the Child Safeguarding Focal Point.

Final Note

Please take the time to read and understand this Code of Conduct. Let's all work together to ensure a safe, inclusive, and positive environment for everyone. Have fun and enjoy the event!

More information to Child Rights Connect work: <https://childrightsconnect.org/>