



**Unaccompanied minors
in Belgium**



**Euromf 2019
Conference
4 October 2019
Warsaw**

Who are we?

- ▶ **55+ member organisations**
- ▶ **1 mandate: improve the access to rights, protection and social inclusion for children in migration**
- ▶ **2 target audiences: UAM & children in families without regular or with a precarious residence status**
- ▶ **National and bilingual network, multidisciplinary, long-term vision, pragmatic short-term approach.**

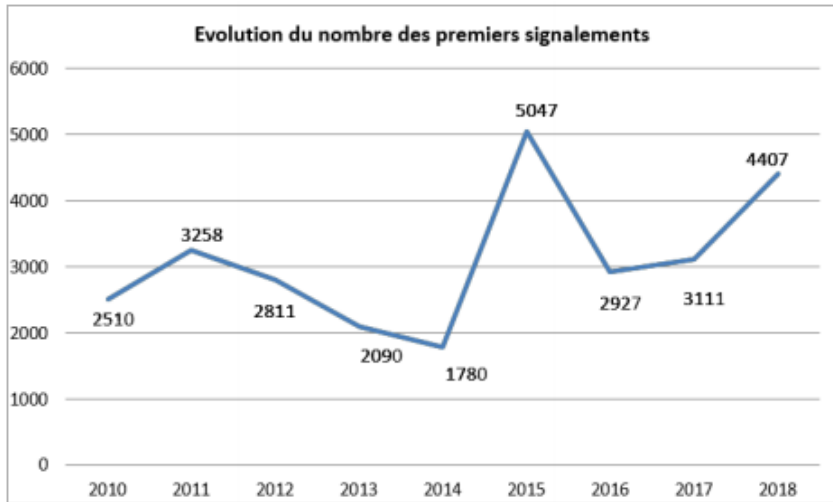


20 ANS JAAR

**Plate-forme mineurs en exil
Platform kinderen op de vlucht**



PROFILES OF UAM WHO ARRIVED IN BELGIUM IN 2018



Age



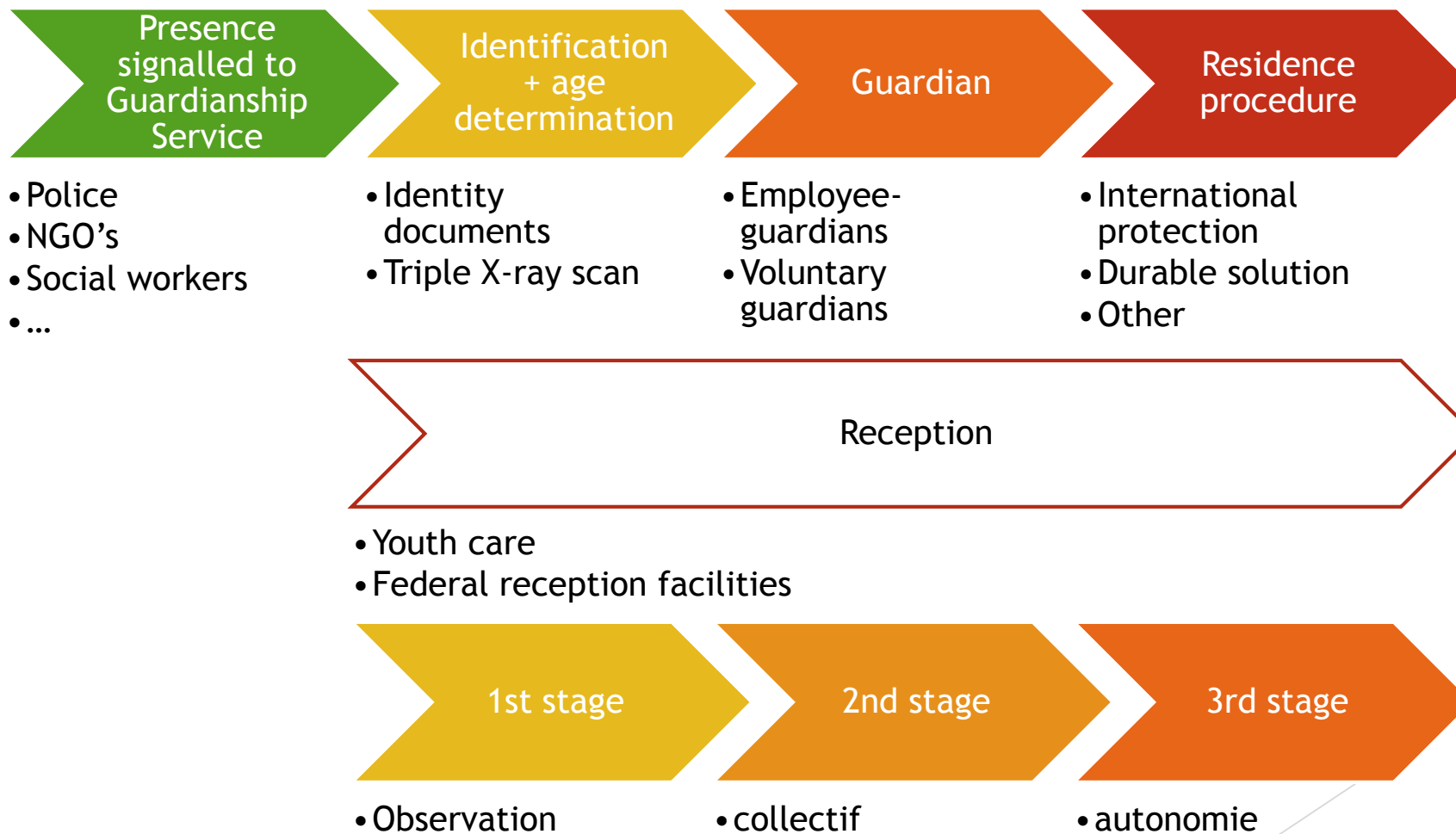
- 16-17 years
- 11-15 years
- 6-10 years
- 0-5 years

Gender



- boys
- girls

The process NBMV go through



Bottlenecks

- ▶ Disappearances
- ▶ Lack of information upon detection of an UAM on the territory
- ▶ Age determination procedure
 - ▶ Lack of scientific fiability
 - ▶ Lack of procedural safeguards
- ▶ Reception centres
 - ▶ 3 stages → Moving frequently
 - ▶ Non-adapted
 - ▶ isolated
- ▶ Education / vocational trainings
 - ▶ Illiterate youngsters
 - ▶ Recognising undocumented skills
- ▶ Access to mental health care
- ▶ Procedures
 - ▶ No holistic approach
 - ▶ Quid best interests of the child?
 - ▶ Conflict of interests
- ▶ Turning 18 - ageing out



The work of the Platform *Minors in exile*

Coordination

Awareness
raising

Training

Policy work

Research

Coordination of our network: 55+ organisations



Awareness rising: campaign against detention of children

SIGN THE PETITION AGAINST CHILD
DETENTION!

48428 people have signed! Let's get to
(at least) 50000 !



**EEN KIND SLUIT
JE NIET OP.
PUNT.**

**ON N'ENFERME
PAS UN ENFANT.
POINT.**

Research

- ▶ Report on the age determination procedure
- ▶ Ongoing: evaluation/report on the return houses
- ▶ To be confirmed: Reception and counselling of accompanied children

Belgian good practices

- ▶ Rising You(th): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixA9oXfj52o>
- ▶ NicetoNEETyou: <https://nicetoneetyou.be/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

- ▶ Questions?
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