

**DOSADAŠNJA POSTIGNUĆA I PREOSTALI IZAZOVI  
U OBLASTI DEČJIH BRAKOVA**

**RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND REMAINING CHALLENGES  
IN THE FIELD OF CHILD MARRIAGES**



# O PRAXISU

Praxis je domaća, nevladina i neprofitna organizacija, osnovana 2004. godine u Beogradu, koja se bavi zaštitom ljudskih prava pružanjem pravne zaštite i javnim zagovaranjem za uklanjanje sistemskih prepreka u pristupu pravima.

Praxis deluje u oblasti statusnih i socioekonomskih prava, anti-diskriminacije, rodne ravnopravnosti, migracija, prava deteta i reforme javne uprave.

Pored besplatne pravne pomoći, Praxis svoje ciljeve i zadatke ostvaruje i kroz monitoring javnih politika, istraživanja, analize i javno zagovaranje za sistemska rešenja i uklanjanje prepreka u pristupu pravima, kroz podizanje svesti o problemima integracije marginalizovanih i socijalno isključenih zajednica, edukacije, objavljivanje publikacija i stručnu podršku reformama, kao i kroz umrežavanje i saradnju.

# ABOUT PRAXIS

Praxis is a national non-governmental organization established in 2004 in Belgrade that protects human rights by providing legal protection and advocating for elimination of systemic obstacles in access to rights.

Praxis acts in the area of status and socioeconomic rights, anti-discrimination, gender equality, migration, child rights and public administration reform.

In addition to providing free legal aid, Praxis achieves its goals through monitoring of public policies, research, analysis and advocating for systemic solutions and the elimination of obstacles to accessing rights by raising awareness of the problems faced by marginalized and socially excluded communities attempting to integrate, educational outreach, publishing of reports, and providing expert support for reforms, as well as through networking and cooperation.

## **IZDAVAČ**

NVO Praxis

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NGO Praxis

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The views expressed in this publication are those of the author only and do not necessarily represent the official view of the UNHCR Office in Serbia.

All gender-specific words used in this report denote and refer equally to both sexes.

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# ŠTA JE DEČJI BRAK?

Dečji brak je „brak“ u kojem je bar jedan od partnera dete, odnosno osoba mlađa od 18 godina. On predstavlja štetnu tradicionalnu praksu koja grubo krši prava deteta, posebno devojčica, što je u suprotnosti sa [Konvencijom o pravima deteta](#), [Konvencijom o eliminisanju svih oblika diskriminacije nad ženama \(CEDAW\)](#), [Konvencijom Saveta Evrope o sprečavanju i borbi protiv nasilja nad ženama i nasilja u porodici \(Istanbulska konvencija\)](#), [Opštom preporukom br. 35 Komiteta za eliminaciju diskriminacije žena o ukidanju odredbi koje dozvoljavaju, tolerišu ili oprastaju](#)

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1 Definicija je preuzeta iz izveštaja Saveta za ljudska prava Ujedinjenih nacija, koji, takođe, definiše rani i prinudni brak. Rani brak se često izjednačava sa dečjim brakom, a podrazumeva brak u kom partner ima manje od 18 godina u zemljama koje dozvoljavaju sklapanje braka maloletnom licu koje je dostiglo telesnu i duševnu zrelost potrebnu za vršenje prava i dužnosti u braku. To je i slučaj u kom oba partnera imaju 18 ili više godina, ali ih druge okolnosti čine nedovoljno zrelim da daju svoj pristanak na brak, kao što su: nivo fizičkog, emocionalnog, seksualnog i psihosocijalnog razvoja ili nedostatak informacija o mogućim životnim izborima. Prinudni brak definisan je kao bilo koji brak sklopljen bez pune i slobodne volje jednog ili oba partnera i/ili u kojem jedan ili oba partnera ne mogu da prekinu brak usled porodičnog ili šireg društvenog pritiska/prinude.

# WHAT IS CHILD MARRIAGE?

Child marriage is a “marriage” in which at least one of the parties is a child, i.e. a person aged below 18.<sup>1</sup> It is a harmful traditional practice which grossly violates the rights of children, particularly girls, contrary to the [Convention of the Rights of the Child](#), [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women \(CEDAW\)](#), [Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence \(Istanbul Convention\)](#), [General recommendation No. 35 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women](#)

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1 Definition has been taken from the UN Human Rights Council’s report which also defines early marriage and forced marriage. Early marriage is often used interchangeably with child marriage. It refers to marriages involving a person aged below 18 in the countries that allow marriage with an underage person who has reached the physical and mental maturity needed for the fulfilment of marital duties. It refers also to marriages where both spouses are 18 or older but other factors make them unready to consent to marriage, such as their level of physical, emotional, sexual and psychosocial development, or a lack of information regarding the person’s life options. Forced marriage is defined as any marriage which occurs without the full and free consent of one or both of the parties and/or where one or both of the parties is/are unable to end or leave the marriage, including as a result of duress or intense social or family pressure.

oblike rodno-zasnovanog nasilja nad ženama, uključujući dečji ili prinudni brak i druge štetne prakse, **Preporukom br. 38 Komiteta za prava deteta** da država potpisnica uspostavi sistem za praćenje svih slučajeva koji uključuju dečje brakove među etničkim grupama, posebno među romskim devojkicama, i da pruži deci žrtvama sklonište i odgovarajuću rehabilitaciju i savetodavne usluge, kao i da organizuje kampanje podizanja svesti kojima bi se naglase štetne posledice dečjeg braka, i **zajedničkom opštom preporukom/opštim komentarem br. 31 Komiteta za uklanjanje svih oblika diskriminacije nad ženama i br. 18 Komiteta za prava deteta o štetnim praksama**.

Dečji brak predstavlja grubo kršenje prava deteta, a posebno devojčica, izlažući ih riziku od nasilja, eksploatacije i zlostavljanja. Rad na prevenciji i eliminaciji dečjih brakova dodatno je otežan u slučaju kada su devojčice i žene pravno nevidljive ili su u riziku od apatridije. Dečji brak nije privatna stvar porodice i zato je neophodno raditi na iskorenjivanju običaja, predrasuda, tradicije i drugih praksi, koje su u suprotnosti sa međunarodnim i nacionalnim zakonodavstvom.

on repealing the provisions that allow, tolerate or condone forms of gender-based violence against women, including child or forced marriage and other harmful practices, **recommendation No. 38 of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child** on establishing a system to track all cases involving child marriages among ethnic groups, particularly Roma girls, and providing child victims with shelter as well as appropriate rehabilitation and counselling services, and develop awareness raising campaigns highlighting the harmful consequences of child marriage, and **joint general recommendation/general comment No. 31 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and No. 18 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on harmful practices**.

Child marriage is a gross violation of the rights of children, particularly girls, which exposes them to the risk of domestic violence, exploitation and abuse. Work on the prevention and elimination of child marriages is additionally impeded in cases where girls and women are legally invisible or at risk of statelessness. Child marriage is not a private family matter, and it is therefore necessary to work on the eradication of customs, prejudices, tradition and other practices which are contrary to national and international legislation.



СИМОНА  
15. ГОДУША.

СЕМРАН  
17. ГОДУША.



ТРЕБА ДА  
РОДИ  
КУБА ЈЕ  
СВОЈИ ДИЛОУ  
НЕВУНОС  
СВОЈИ ПОР  
ОДУЦИ СВОЈЕ  
СЕСТРЕ СВОЈЕ  
ДУВА РУЦЕ

## ŠTA SMO RADILI NA POLJU PREVENCIJE I ELIMINACIJE DEČJIH BRAKOVA?

Praxis se prevencijom i eliminacijom dečjih brakova bavi od 2015. godine, kroz aktivnosti na projektu „Pravna pomoć licima u riziku od apatridije“ koji finansira Visoki komesarijat UN-a za izbeglice. Aktivnosti koje je sprovodio bile su usmerene na romske roditelje i romsku decu, ali i na opštu i stručnu javnost, sa posebnim fokusom na predstavnike relevantnih institucija i ustanova u lokalnim zajednicama u kojima se projekat realizovao.

## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING IN THE FIELD OF PREVENTION AND ELIMINATION OF CHILD MARRIAGES?

Praxis has been working on prevention and elimination of child marriages since 2015, through its activities on the project „Legal Assistance to Persons at Risk of Statelessness in Serbia“, funded by UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Praxis' activities have been directed at Roma parents and Roma children, general and expert public, with special focus on the representatives of relevant institutions in local communities where the project has been realized.



**Rad sa romskim roditeljima.** Tokom pet dvodnevnih interaktivnih radionica<sup>2</sup> sa 240 romskih roditelja o značaju zdravog razvoja dece u najranijem detinjstvu, poštovanju dečjih potreba i želja, neophodnosti redovne zdravstvene zaštite, seksualnom i reproduktivnom zdravlju, značaju pravovremenog i kontinuiranog obrazovanja, Praxis je radio na osnaživanju roditelja da se odupru dečjim brakovima i tako ne dozvole da njihova deca postanu žrtve dečjeg braka. Na radionicama održanim u Novom Pazaru, Kostolcu i Leskovcu, roditelji su imali priliku da otvoreno razgovaraju o uzrocima i posledicama dečjih brakova, kako bi se identifikovalo postojanje te pojave u njihovoj zajednici i došlo do predloga mehanizama koji bi doprineli prevenciji i eliminaciji ove štetne tradicionalne prakse.

**Rad sa predstavnicima institucija i ustanova.** Praxis je održao 13 sastanaka<sup>3</sup> sa više od 250 predstavnika relevantnih institucija i ustanova u Novom Pazaru, Požarevcu, Leskovcu i Beogradu, sa ciljem da se kroz interaktivni pristup temi i

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2 Za više informacija, videti saopštenja na sajtu Praxisa:

Praxis održao radionice usmerene na prevenciju i eliminaciju dečjih, ranih i prinudnih brakova

Praxis održao drugi krug radionica usmerenih na prevenciju i eliminaciju dečjih, ranih i prinudnih brakova

3 Za više informacija, videti saopštenja na sajtu Praxisa:

Praxis održao opštinske sastanke usmerene na prevenciju i eliminaciju dečjih, ranih i prinudnih brakova

Praxis održao konsultativni sastanak sa predstavnicima institucija u Novom Pazaru na temu prevencije i eliminacije dečjih, ranih i prinudnih brakova

Praxis održao konsultativni sastanak sa predstavnicima institucija u Požarevcu na temu prevencije i eliminacije dečjih, ranih i prinudnih brakova

Praxis održao opštinski sastanak usmeren na prevenciju i eliminaciju dečjih, ranih i prinudnih brakova

**Work with Roma parents.** During five two-day interactive workshops<sup>2</sup> with 240 Roma parents on the importance of healthy development of children in early childhood, the respect of children's needs and wishes, the necessity of regular health care, sexual and reproductive health, the importance of timely and continuous education, Praxis was empowering Roma parents to resist child marriages and thus prevent their children from becoming the victims of child marriage. At workshops held in Novi Pazar, Kostolac and Leskovac, the parents had an opportunity to speak openly about the causes and consequences of child marriages, allowing us to jointly identify their occurrence in these communities and come up with the proposal of mechanisms that would contribute to the prevention and elimination of this harmful traditional practice.

**Work with representatives of relevant institutions.** Praxis held 13 meetings<sup>3</sup> with more than 250 representatives of relevant institutions in Novi Pazar, Pozarevac, Leskovac and Belgrade, with an aim to come up with policy proposals,

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2 For more information, see the announcements on Praxis' website:

Praxis Held Workshops on Prevention and Elimination of Child, Early and Forced Marriages  
Praxis Held Follow-up Workshops on Prevention and Elimination of Child, Early and Forced Marriages

3 For more information, see the announcements on Praxis' website:

Praxis Held Community Meetings on Prevention and Elimination of Child, Early and Forced Marriages

Praxis Held a Consultative Meeting with the Representatives of Institutions in Novi Pazar on the Prevention and Elimination of Child, Early and Forced Marriages

Praxis Held a Consultative Meeting with the Representatives of Institutions in Požarevac to Discuss the Prevention and Elimination of Child, Early and Forced Marriages

Praxis Held a Community Meeting Focused on the Prevention and Elimination of Child, Early and Forced Marriages

primere dobre prakse dođe do predloga politika koje bi vodile prevenciji i eliminaciji pojave dečjih brakova. U okviru toga, Praxis je održao četiri **konsultativna sastanka** sa više od 90 nastavnika, psihologa, pedagoga i pedagoških asistentata u četiri osnovne škole u Srbiji sa ciljem da se kroz razmatranje pravnog i političkog okvira koji regulišu oblast dečjih brakova i diskusiju o nadležnostima obrazovno-vaspitnih ustanova, kao i o obavezi škole da odmah reaguje podnošenjem prijave nadležnom organu ako se kod učenika primete znaci nasilja, zlostavljanja ili zanemarivanja, pokrene tema dečjih brakova.

**Rad sa školskom decom.** Praxis je održao 24 radionice sa više od 300 dečaka i devojčica starijih razreda u četiri osnovne škole u Srbiji<sup>5</sup>. Tom prilikom obrađene su **teme**: osipanje dece iz obrazovnog sistema, bračne uloge i potreba da se zaustave dečji brakovi<sup>6</sup>. Cilj radionica bio je da se deca upoznaju sa pojavom dečjeg braka, da im se predoče svi štetni efekti ove pojave i da se osnaže da joj se odupru tako što će nastaviti školovanje. Radionice su održane u četiri kruga, po metodu potpune participacije dece kroz interaktivni pristup zadatim temama o kojima su se deca potom izražavala kroz crtež. Neki od dečjih poruka i crteža našli su se na razglednicama koje su poslate predstavnicima

4 OŠ „Jovan Cvijić“ u Kostolcu, OŠ „Boško Palkovljević Pinki“ u Batajnici, OŠ „Sutjeska“ u Zemunu i OŠ „Aleksandar Stojanović - Leso“ u Novom Pazaru.

5 Ibid

6 Za više informacija, videti saopštenja na sajtu Praxisa:

Praxis održao radionice sa školskom decom na temu dečjih, ranih i prinudnih brakova

through an interactive approach to the topic and examples of good practice, which would lead to the prevention and elimination of child marriages. Praxis held four **consultative meetings** with more than 90 teachers, psychologists, pedagogues and pedagogical assistants in four primary schools<sup>4</sup> in Serbia with an aim to raise the topic of child marriage through discussing the legal and political frameworks regulating the field of child marriages, the competences of educational institutions and the obligation of schools to respond promptly with reporting to the competent authority any signs of violence, abuse or neglect in pupils.

**Work with school children.** Praxis held 24 workshops with more than 300 boys and girls of 5th -8th grades in four primary schools<sup>5</sup> in Serbia. On that occasion, the following **topics** were discussed: school dropout, marital roles and need to stop child marriages<sup>6</sup>. The purpose of the workshops was to inform the children about the phenomenon of child marriage and its harmful effects and to empower them to resist it by continuing their education. The workshops were held in four rounds, applying the method of full participation of children through an interactive approach to the given topics about which the children expressed their views through drawings. Some of their messages

4 OŠ „Jovan Cvijić“ u Kostolcu, OŠ „Boško Palkovljević Pinki“ u Batajnici, OŠ „Sutjeska“ u Zemunu i OŠ „Aleksandar Stojanović - Leso“ u Novom Pazaru.

5 Ibid

6 For more information, see the announcements on Praxis' website:

Praxis Held Workshops for School Children on the Topic of Child, Early and Forced Marriages

relevantnih institucija na **Svetski dan deteta**, 20. novembra. Glavni moto radionica bio je da se deca **pitaju** i da se njihovo mišljenje **čuje**, ali i da se kroz razgovor edukuju i osnaže da se odupru lošim izborima i nastave školovanje. U temu dečjih brakova, deca su uvođena postepeno, kroz razgovor o uzrocima i posledicama ranog osipanja iz obrazovnog sistema.

**Podizanje svesti i javno zagovaranje.** Tokom poslednje četiri godine, Praxis je, putem saopštenja, društvenih mreža i učestvovanjem u televizijskim priložima, redovno izveštavao javnost o svojim aktivnostima, nalazima i zaključcima u oblasti prevencije i eliminacije dečjih brakova. O glavnim izazovima u ovoj oblasti, Praxis je kontinuirano skretao pažnju relevantnim akterima na raznim javnim događajima koje je organizovao ili na kojima je učestvovao u zemlji i u inostranstvu. U 2016. godini, Praxis je sproveo **informativno-edukativnu kampanju** „**Reci NE – ZATO što sam DETE**“ i objavio **izveštaj** „**Dečji, rani i prinudni brakovi nisu privatna stvar porodice**“, sa ciljem da istakne štetnost pojave dečjih brakova i predstavi svoje aktivnosti usmerene na prevenciju i eliminaciju te pojave. U decembru 2017. godine, Praxis je održao **konferenciju** „**STOP dečjim brakovima i apatridiji**“, na kojoj su izloženi glavni izazovi u oblasti prevencije i eliminacije dečjih brakova i apatridije, kao i pojedini dečji radovi nastali tokom radioničarskog rada sa decom školskog uzrasta. Tom prilikom, predstavljena je **brošura** „**STOP dečjim brakovima**“ koja sumira iskustva Praxisa stečena tokom rada na prevenciji i eliminaciji dečjih brakova, daje preporuke za dalji rad i prikazuje neke od dečjih radova.

and drawings were printed on the postcards sent to the representatives of relevant institutions on the occasion of the **World Children's Day** in 2017. The main idea was to **ask** children and **hear** their opinion, and to educate them through discussion and empower them to resist bad choices and continue their education. The children were gradually introduced into the topic of child marriage, through discussion of the causes and consequences of early dropout from the education system.

**Awareness-raising and advocacy.** Over the past four years, Praxis has been regularly informing the public about its activities, findings and conclusions in the field of prevention and elimination of child marriages through announcements, posts on social media and media coverage. It has been continuously drawing the attention of relevant actors to the main challenges in the field of prevention and elimination of child marriages at various public events in the country and abroad. In 2016, Praxis conducted the **informative and educational campaign** “**Say NO – BECAUSE I am a CHILD**” and published the **report** “**Child, Early and Forced Marriages are Not a Private Family Matter**”, with an aim to stress the harmfulness of child, early and forced marriages and present the activities of Praxis aimed at preventing and eliminating this phenomenon. In December 2017, Praxis held a **conference** “**STOP to Child Marriages and Statelessness**” in order to present the main challenges in the field of prevention and elimination of child marriages and statelessness, as well as some of children's drawings on the topic of prevention and elimination of child marriages.

Izaberi obrazovanje, reci „NE“ dečjem braku naziv je ciklusa kratkih video-priloga koji su objavljivani na društvenim mrežama tokom avgusta i septembra 2018. godine, a prikazuju razmišljanja dece o dečjim brakovima i uskopovanim temama – obrazovanju i bračnim obavezama. Pored toga, Praxis je redovno pozivao nadležne institucije da stanu na put ovoj štetnoj pojavi i uvrste ovo pitanje na dnevni red, kao jedno od prioriternih u svom radu. Zagovarajući za pronalaženje sistemskih rešenja za prevenciju i eliminaciju dečjih brakova, Praxis se obraćao i međunarodnim telima i institucijama EU u vidu podnošenja alternativnih izveštaja i priloga. U saradnji sa SKRUG, ISI, ENS i ERRC, Praxis je podneo alternativni izveštaj Komitetu za ukidanje rasne diskriminacije UN-a u kom je ukazao i na izostanak adekvatnog odgovora na probleme dečjih brakova. Takođe, alternativni izveštaji Praxisa koji su podneti u saradnji sa Koalicijom za monitoring prava deteta, ERRC-om, ENS-om i ISI-jem razmatrani su od strane Komiteta za prava deteta UN-a, koji je u februaru 2017. doneo zaključna zapažanja. U priložima koje je dostavio za izveštaj Evropske komisije o napretku Srbije u 2017. i 2018. godini, Praxis se takođe osvrnuo na posledice dečjih brakova i ukazao na potrebu da se izmeni Porodični zakon RS kako bi se otklonila mogućnost stupanja u rani brak sa navršenih 16 godina. Praxis je ukazao na problem dečjih brakova i na sastanku sa Grupom eksperata za suzbijanje trgovine ljudima (GRETA) pri Saveću Evrope. U julu 2018. godine, Praxis je podneo izveštaj o sprovođenju Konvencije o eliminisanju svih oblika diskriminacije žena, kada je takođe upozorio na problem dečjih brakova koji u Srbiji uglavnom pogađa romsku populaciju.

On that occasion, the **brochure “STOP to Child Marriages”**, which summarises the experiences acquired by Praxis while working on the prevention and elimination of child marriages, gives recommendations for further work and presents some of the children’s drawings, was presented. **“Choose Education, Say “NO” to Child Marriage”** is the name of the cycle of short videos posted on social media during August and September 2018, which present children’s views on child marriages and related issues – education and marital obligations. In addition, Praxis regularly called on competent institutions to put an end to this detrimental phenomenon and place this issue on their agenda of priorities. Advocating for a systemic solution for prevention and elimination of child marriages, Praxis addressed also the international bodies and EU institutions by submitting alternative reports and written contributions. In cooperation with SKRUG, ISI, ENS and ERRC, Praxis submitted a **shadow report** to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination pointing to the lack of an adequate response to the problem of child marriages. Also, the alternative reports submitted by Praxis in cooperation with the **Coalition for Monitoring Child Rights in Serbia, ERRC, ENS and ISI** were considered by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child which issued **concluding observations** in February 2017. In **written contributions** submitted to the European Commission’s Progress Report on Serbia for 2017 and 2018, Praxis also referred to the consequences of child marriages and the need to amend the Family Law in a way to remove the possibility of concluding a marriage at the age of 16. Praxis also pointed at the problem of child marriages at

Na molbu Ministarstva za rad, zapošljavanje, boračka i socijalna pitanja, Praxis je krajem 2018. godine dostavio prilog za izradu Instrukcije za postupanje centara za socijalni rad u slučaju pojave dečjeg braka. Preko ovog ministarstva, Praxis je uputio predlog za brisanje stava 2 u članu 23 Porodičnog zakona, koji predviđa mogućnost sklapanja braka maloletnom licu koje je navršilo 16. godinu života, a dostiglo je telesnu i duševnu zrelost potrebnu za vršenje prava i dužnosti u braku, kada sud to dozvoli iz opravdanih razloga. U trenutnoj nacrtanoj verziji Porodičnog zakona, ovaj stav je obrisan u skladu sa Praxisovim predlogom.

the **meeting** with the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (**GRETA**) set up by the Council of Europe. In July 2018, Praxis submitted the **alternative report** concerning the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women pointing out that the problem of child marriages in Serbia affects mainly Roma population. At the end of 2018, Praxis submitted its contribution to the development of the Instruction for acting of social welfare centres in relation to child marriages, upon the plea of the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy. Praxis submitted a motion through this Ministry for the deletion of the Article 23, Paragraph 2 of the Family Law, which envisages a possibility for a minor who has attained the age of 16 and has reached physical and mental maturity necessary for exercising the rights and duties in marriage to conclude a marriage (Article 23, paragraph 2). This paragraph has been deleted in the current draft of the Family Law, pursuant to Praxis' motion.

ДАН ДЕВОЈЧИЦЕ У БРАКУ

14 година  
девојчица  
има!!!



ГУБИТАК  
СВОГ

ДЕТИЊСТВА!



## ZAKLJUČCI I ZAPAŽANJA

Fenomen dečjih brakova u Srbiji se i dalje gotovo isključivo posmatra kao deo romske kulture i tradicije. To je ujedno i glavni kamen spoticanja kada govorimo o prevenciji i eliminaciji dečjih brakova. Nesagledavanje dečjih brakova izvan konteksta tradicije koja traje vekovima i u koju se kao takvu ne treba mešati predstavlja ozbiljnu prepreku koju je neophodno što pre otkloniti. Da bismo pristupili rešavanju problema dečjih brakova, najpre je neophodno da ih sagledamo kao grubo kršenje prava deteta, posebno devojčica, kao zanemarivanje i/ili zlostavljanje, kao oduzimanje prava na detinjstvo, obrazovanje, pravilan i potpun razvoj i slobodu izbora. Edukativne radionice i savetodavni sastanci koje Praxis sprovodi poslednjih godina pokazali su se kao korisni u sagledavanju dečjih brakova iz ugla deteta, roditelja, institucija i ustanova, kako kroz prizmu zdravstvene zaštite i prava na obrazovanje, tako i iz ugla obavezujućih protokola. Kroz diskusiju sa učesnicima radionica i sastanaka, problem dečjih brakova postao je vidljiviji, mediji zainteresovaniji da prate tu temu, a profesionalci podstaknuti da razmišljaju o mogućim rešenjima ovog problema.

## CONCLUSIONS AND REMARKS

The phenomenon of child marriages in Serbia is still considered only as a part of Roma culture and tradition. That is also the main stumbling stone to the prevention and elimination of child marriages. Not observing child marriages outside the context of *tradition lasting for centuries which should not be interfered with* is a serious obstacle which needs to be removed. In order to address the problem of child marriages, it is first necessary to consider them as a gross violation of the rights of the child, particularly girls, as neglect and/or abuse, as the deprivation of the right to childhood, education, proper and complete development and freedom of choice. Educational workshops and counselling meetings conducted by Praxis over the past few years have proven to be useful in considering child marriages from the perspective of children, parents and institutions, both through the prism of health care and the right to education, and from the angle of binding protocols. Through discussions with participants of the workshops and meetings, the problem of child marriages has become more visible, the media more interested in covering the topic, and professionals encouraged to think about possible solutions to this problem.

## ŠTA KAŽU PREDSTAVNICI ROMSKE POPULACIJE?

Romi i Romkinje gotovo su jednoglasni u tome da su vodeći uzroci pojave dečjih brakova siromaštvo, nizak obrazovni status romskih porodica koje žive u romskim naseljima, visoka stopa nezaposlenosti Romkinja i Roma i patrijarhalna kulturna tradicija. Oni posebno ističu kult nevinosti, navodeći da se čuvanjem nevinosti pre braka čuva obraz svojih roditelja. Takođe navode da nedostatak podrške romskoj deci u obrazovnom sistemu u vidu mesečnih karata za prevoz, besplatnih udžbenika i stipendija za srednjoškolsko obrazovanje predstavlja jedan od mogućih uzroka pojave dečjih brakova. Iako ima onih koji smatraju da su dečji brakovi deo romske kulture i tradicije i da ova štetna tradicionalna praksa nikada neće prestati, većina Romkinja ne želi da njihove ćerke dožive iste sudbine i ostanu bez mogućnosti da se školuju i postanu ekonomski nezavisne. Romi i Romkinje smatraju da su radionice koje je Praxis organizovao sa romskim roditeljima itekako važne i korisne, ali i da je podjednako važno dosledno sprovoditi zakon i kažnjavati roditelje koji „prodaju“ svoju decu.

## ŠTA KAŽU PREDSTAVNICI INSTITUCIJA I USTANOVA?

Iako prilično svesni ozbiljnosti ovog problema, profesionalci su i dalje nedovoljno osetljivi na probleme romske populacije i još uvek su prisutni obrasci postupanja vođeni predrasudama, čime se ovaj problem i dalje posmatra kroz prizmu kulturne tradicije. Pored toga, na osnovu razgovora

## WHAT DO ROMA REPRESENTATIVES SAY?

Roma men and Roma women are almost unanimous that poverty, low educational status of Roma families living in Roma settlements, high unemployment rate of Roma and patriarchal cultural tradition are the leading causes of child marriages. They particularly emphasize the cult of virginity, stating that by preserving their virginity the girls save the face of their parents. They also say that the lack of support to Roma children in the education system by monthly passes, free textbooks and scholarships for secondary education is one of possible causes of child marriages. Even though some Roma think that child marriages are a part of Roma culture and tradition and that this harmful traditional practice will never end, most of the Roma women do not want their daughters experience the same fate and be left without a possibility to attend school and become economically independent. Roma men and women find the workshops with Roma parents organized by Praxis very important and useful, along with the consistent implementation of the law and punishing of parents who “sell” their children.

## WHAT DO REPRESENTATIVES OF INSTITUTIONS SAY?

Though quite aware of the seriousness of this problem, the professionals are still insufficiently sensitized to the problems of Roma population and continue to be governed by prejudices, and thus this problems is still viewed through the prism of cultural tradition. In addition, discussions with



sa profesionalcima izvodi se zaključak da nedovoljna i nekoordinisana saradnja nadležnih institucija i ustanova, odnosno prebacivanje odgovornosti sa jedne institucije i ustanove na drugu, predstavlja jednu od glavnih prepreka u rešavanju ovog problema.

*Predstavnici centara za socijalni rad*, iako svesni da dečji brak predstavlja zanemarivanje i zlostavljanje deteta, ipak izražavaju sumnju da bi bavljenje problemom dečjih brakova dovelo do mešanja u tradiciju romske zajednice, zanemarujući tako činjenicu da su dečji brakovi pre svega ozbiljno kršenje prava devojčica. Takođe ističu da je neophodno uspostaviti sporazume o međusektorskoj saradnji, kao i dosledno primenjivati postojeće protokole o postupanju u slučaju zlostavljanja i/ili zanemarivanja deteta. Kao jednu od glavnih prepreka oni ističu odsustvo podrške od strane relevantnog ministarstva, kao i neuvažavanje od strane suda i tužilaštva.

*Predstavnici škola* ističu da je loša saradnja sa roditeljima glavna prepreka u rešavanju problema dečjeg braka. Kao poseban problem ističu nedovoljno efikasno i blagovremeno reagovanje nadležnih institucija na pojavu dečjih brakova, prvenstveno centara za socijalni rad. Pored toga navode da je sistem obrazovanja u Srbiji regulisan tako da se svakom detetu omogući prolaznost u prva četiri razreda osnovne škole bez obzira na redovnost pohađanja nastave. Tako se dešava da deca gotovo i ne dolaze u školu, već se samo pojave pred kraj četvrtog razreda, nakon čega kreću u peti i zbog toga što ne mogu da prate nastavu, često

professionals showed that insufficient and uncoordinated cooperation among competent institutions, i.e. transferring the responsibilities from one institution to another, is one of the main obstacles in solving this problem.

*Representatives of social welfare centres*, though aware that a child marriage is neglect and abuse of a child, still doubt that addressing this problem would result in interfering in the tradition of the Roma community, ignoring thus the fact that child marriages are primarily a serious violation of the rights of girls. They also point out that it is necessary to sign agreements on inter-sectoral cooperation, as well as to consistently apply the existing protocols on how to act in case of abuse and/or neglect of a child. They point out that the lack of support by the relevant ministry, as well as the lack of respect by the court and the prosecution, is one of the main obstacles.

*School representatives* state that one of the main obstacles in solving the problem of child marriages is poor cooperation with parents. The lack of efficient and timely response by the competent institutions to the cases of child, early and forced marriages, primarily by social welfare centres, is emphasised as a special problem. They stress that the education system in Serbia was regulated in a way that every child is allowed to complete the first four grades of primary school, regardless of the regularity of attendance. Thus, it happens that some children almost never attend classes, but only appear towards the end of the fourth grade, after which they pass to the fifth grade, and because they are unable to follow the

napuštaju dalje školovanje, i kako navode nastavnici „čeka se da se udaju“. Ipak, osim na urušen sistem, oni ukazuju i na nedovoljnu informisanost i zainteresovanost, kao i sklonost predrasudama.

*Predstavnici zdravstva* negiraju da je žensko telo sa 15 godina nespremno za reprodukciju i navode da se na ovom uzrasnom dobu devojčice smatraju ženama, a ne devojčicama, što se u velikoj meri razlikuje od stavova domaće i međunarodne stručne javnosti. Neki od njih smatraju da romski roditelji ne „prodaju“ svoju decu, stavljajući znak jednakosti između miraza i novca koji se daje roditeljima romskih devojčica. Ipak, ima i onih koji misle da je ova tradicionalna praksa veoma štetna za zdravlje devojčica i trude se da kroz svoj rad u savetovalištim za mlade edukuju i dečake i devojčice.

*Predstavnici policije* tvrde da su vrlo ažurni po pitanju reagovanja u slučaju pojave dečjeg braka, posebno u kontekstu trgovine ljudima, mada navode da se u praksi retko susreću sa prijavama dečjih brakova. Posebnu zainteresovanost za problem dečjih brakova pokazali su predstavnici policijskih uprava u Leskovcu i Požarevcu.

*Predstavnici tužilaštva*, mada u najmanjem broju prisutni na sastancima, navode da ih najviše interesuje „dokle smeju da zadiru u romsku tradiciju, a odakle smeju da rade svoj posao“.

classes they often abandon further schooling. In such cases, the teachers knew that marriage was often the next step. In addition to the major deficiencies in the system, the school education staff members are insufficiently informed and interested, and they are prone to prejudice.

*Representatives of health institutions* deny that a female body at 15 years of age is unprepared for reproduction stating that girls are considered as women at this age, which is largely contrary to the views of national and international experts. Some of them believe that Roma parents do not “sell” their children, putting a sign of equality between dowries and money given to parents of Roma girls. However, there are those who think that this traditional practice is very harmful to the health of the girls and they are trying to educate boys and girls through their work in youth counselling centres.

*Representatives of police* claim that they timely react in case of a child marriage, particularly in relation to human trafficking. However, they state that reporting child marriages rarely occur in practice. Special interest in addressing the problem of child marriages was expressed by representatives of Police Departments in Leskovac and Pozarevac.

*Representatives of prosecution*, though present at meetings in the smallest number, state that they are largely interested in “the extent to which they may interfere with Roma tradition, so as to know when they can do their job”.

## ŠTA KAŽU DECA?

Kao glavni razlog dečjeg braka, deca navode siromaštvo primarnih porodica. „Roditelji su ih naterali, roditelji su je prodali, morala je da se uda jer su njeni roditelji tako rekli“ predstavljaju neke od odgovora na pitanje zašto se pojedine devojčice udaju sa 13, 14 ili 15 godina. Deca nisu govorila u kontekstu kulturnih obrazaca i tradicionalne prakse. Ona prepoznaju dva pojavna oblika dečjeg braka - brak kao prinudu nametnutu od strane roditelja i brak kao proizvod samovolje tinejdžera „udala se zato što je tako htela, pobešla je od roditelja“. Devojčice dečji brak dovode u vezu sa obavezama, kućnim poslovima, svekrvom, stresom, novom porodicom, ograničenjem slobode kretanja, nelagodnošću, uskraćenim pravom glasa, obavezom rađanja dece, osećanjem pripadanja drugome. One smatraju da im dečji brak oduzima detinjstvo, slobodu, pravo na školovanje, nevinost, obrazovanje, vreme za sebe, vreme za igranje i druženje sa drugaricama, ali i svoje ja, snove, maštu i bezbrižnost.

## WHAT DO CHILDREN SAY?

Children say that poverty of primary families is the main cause of child marriages. “Their parents made them do it, they sold them, she had to get married because her parents said so” are some of answers to why some girls get married at 13, 14 or 15 years of age. Children did not talk in the context of cultural patterns and traditional practice. They recognize two forms of a child marriage - a marriage imposed by parents and marriage as an act of teenagers’ self-will - “she got married because she wanted, she ran away from her parents”. Girls associate child marriage with obligations, housework, limitation of the freedom of movement, uneasiness, deprivation of the right to vote, obligation of childbirth, feeling of belonging to someone else. They think that child marriages deprives them of childhood, freedom, right to schooling, virginity, education, time for themselves, time for playing and socializing with their friends, but also of their own self, dreams, imagination and carelessness.

## ШТА ПОБИЈА?

- дете
- баците
- искусно манипулрање
- злословљање са сироте  
туркесбисе родителба
- самоћу
- гителете и сиротите куте
- брису о детеци
- карте
- Надзор
- сирас
- лаг
- облаетте у сироте крине..  
кривете дивари у одету са  
дете

## ШТА ГУБИ?

- контакти са породицом
- слобоу
- самозагае
- изласак из куте
- самозагае у родителба
- веру у родителба
- лоудаг ирота родителба
- детелсита
- сречу
- неис облаетте

## PREPORUKE

Podizanje svesti, stalne edukacije i savetovanje samo su jedan segment u prevenciji dečjih brakova. Ipak, oni predstavljaju prvi i osnovni korak, jer rešavanje problema dečjih brakova prvenstveno zahteva prihvatanje činjenice da su dečji brakovi grubo kršenje prava deteta. U skladu sa tim, neophodno je da se država aktivno uključi u rešavanje ovog problema kako ova štetna tradicionalna praksa ne bi više bila izgovor za nepoštovanje domaćih i međunarodnih zakona, a pre svega, za osujećivanje velikog broja devojčica da dostignu svoj pun razvojni kapacitet.

Adekvatna zaštita dece, posebno devojčica, od dečjeg braka kao grubog kršenja prava deteta, zanemarivanja, a često i zlostavljanja, podrazumeva potrebu za uspostavljanjem efikasne, operativne, organizovane i koordinisane međusektorske saradnje, odnosno potrebu za aktivnostima iz spektra delovanja svih relevantnih institucija i ustanova iz sistema obrazovanja, socijalne i zdravstvene zaštite, policije i pravosuđa. Ove institucije i ustanove imaju obavezu komunikacije i reagovanja u skladu sa razvijenim protokolima za zaštitu dece od nasilja, odnosno zlostavljanja i zanemarivanja, pa samim tim i obavezu da reaguju u slučaju dečjeg braka, jer dečji brak predstavlja jedan od oblika nasilja nad decom, odnosno rodno zasnovano nasilje nad devojčicama.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Raising awareness, continuous educations and counselling are just one segment in the prevention of child marriages. However, they are the very first step because solving the problem of child marriages primarily requires accepting the fact that they are a gross violation of the rights of children. Therefore, the state has to get actively involved in solving this problem as this harmful traditional practice would no longer be an excuse for disregarding the national and international laws, but particularly for thwarting a large number of girls to reach their full development capacity.

An adequate protection of children, particularly girls, from a child marriage as a gross violation of the rights of a child, neglect and often from abuse, implies the need for establishing the efficient, operational, organized and coordinated inter-sectoral cooperation. i.e. the need for acting of all relevant institutions (schools, social welfare centres, health care and prosecution institutions. These institutions are obliged to communicate with each other and react in accordance with developed protocols for the protection of children from violence, abuse and neglect, and consequently are obliged to react in case of a child marriage, because it is one form of violence against children, i.e. gender based violence against girls. Roma associations and civil society or-

Takođe, važnu ulogu u prevenciji i eliminaciji dečjih brakova imaju i romska udruženja i organizacije civilnog društva koje se bave zaštitom prava deteta.

Dosadašnje iskustvo pokazalo je da su glavne kočnice pri reagovanju u slučaju dečjeg braka posledica neprepoznavanja ove pojave kao društvenog problema. Izostaje adekvatna reakcija nadležnih institucija prevashodno zbog toga što se ovaj fenomen posmatra gotovo isključivo kao deo tradicije u koju ne treba ili *nam je glupo* da se mešamo.

## PREPORUKE CENTRIMA ZA SOCIJALNI RAD I ŠKOLAMA

Nereagovanje škola i centara za socijalni rad predstavlja veliku prepreku u borbi protiv dečjih brakova, jer u okviru svojih ovlašćenja i nadležnosti jedino oni imaju redovan kontakt i sa decom i sa roditeljima, tako da mogu reagovati i preventivno i interventno. Shodno tome, a imajući u vidu činjenicu da bi škole i centri za socijalni rad mogli da odigraju veliku ulogu u borbi protiv dečjih brakova, Praxis predlaže da škole i centri za socijalni rad unaprede svoju saradnju i deluju proaktivno na polju prevencije i eliminacije dečjih brakova. Pored toga, škole i centri za socijalni rad trebalo bi da sprovedu preventivne mere u okviru svojih redovnih aktivnosti u skladu sa Porodičnim zakonom, pozitivnim zakonskim rešenjima iz oblasti obrazovanja i protokolima koji ih na to obavezuju - [Opštim protokolom za zaštitu dece od zlostavljanja i zanemarivanja](#) i

ganizations active in the protection of children's rights also have an important role in the prevention and elimination of child marriages.

Recent experience showed that not recognizing this phenomenon as a social problem is the main impediment in responding to it. An adequate response of competent institutions is missing primarily because this phenomenon is considered almost exclusively as a part of the tradition that we should not or *feel uneasy* to interfere with.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRES AND SCHOOLS

The lack of response by schools and social welfare centres is a huge obstacle in combating child marriages, since only they have a regular contact with children and their parents, as part of their authorisations and competences, and can thus prevent and intervene in child marriages. Given that schools and social welfare centres could have a major role in combating child marriages, Praxis recommends that they improve their cooperation and act proactively in the field of prevention and elimination of child marriages. In addition, schools and social welfare centres should apply preventive measures within their regular activities in accordance with the Family Law and positive legal solutions in the field of education and binding protocols - [General Protocol for the Protection of Children from Abuse and Neglect](#) and

Posebnim protokolom za zaštitu dece i učenika od nasilja, zlostavljanja i zanemarivanja u obrazovno-vaspitnim ustanovama. Tu se prvenstveno misli na sprovođenje aktivnosti usmerenih na osnaživanje i motivisanje roditelja, kao i dece, posebno devojčica, uz prikaz kratkih motivacionih filmova, održavanje radionica usmerenih na podizanje svesti o štetnosti dečjeg braka i dr. Pored toga, imajući u vidu činjenicu da je rano osipanje dece iz obrazovnog sistema istovremeno i uzrok i posledica dečjeg braka, od ključnog je značaja efikasna saradnja centara za socijalni rad sa školama, kroz jačanje socijalne inkluzije dece iz depriviranih sredina i porodica, kako bi se deca u riziku zadržala u sistemu obrazovanja (npr. zajedno sa školom praviti plan podrške deci u riziku kako bi se zadržala u sistemu obrazovanja i na taj način izbegao dečji brak). Pored mera prevencije, neophodno je sprovesti i mere intervencije. Škole predstavljaju prvu kontrolnu tačku i stoga je veoma važno da one reaguju na vreme. Ukoliko se kod učenika primete znaci nasilja, zlostavljanja ili zanemarivanja, škole bi morale odmah da reaguju podnošenjem prijave centru za socijalni rad i policiji. Centar za socijalni rad dužan je da reaguje u skladu sa svojim nadležnostima, i vrlo je važno da centar u saradnji sa drugim institucijama i ustanovama kroz organizovanje konsultativnog sastanka ili konferencije slučaja najpre izvrši procenu stanja, rizika i potreba deteta, a potom i napravi plan usluga i mera podrške i zaštite. Centar tada ima koordinatorsku ulogu i dalje redovno prati sprovođenje i efikasnost preduzetih mera. Na primer, ukoliko se maloletna devojčica „udala“, tj. otišla u drugu porodicu, postavlja se najpre pitanje odgovornosti njenih

### Special Protocol for the Protection of Children and Students from Violence, Abuse and Neglect in Educational Institutions.

This primarily refers to conducting activities aimed at empowering and motivating parents and children, particularly girls, by presenting short motivational films, conducting awareness raising workshops, etc. In addition, given that early school dropout is the cause and the consequence of a child marriage at the same time, an efficient cooperation of social welfare centres with school is of key importance, through strengthening social inclusion of children from deprived communities and families in order to keep the children at risk in the education system (e.g. together with schools create support plans for children at risk in order to keep them in education system and avoid a child marriage in that way). In addition to preventive measures, it is necessary to apply intervention measures. Schools are the first checkpoint and therefore their timely reaction is extremely important. They should react immediately upon noticing any sign of violence, abuse or neglect of children by notifying social welfare centre and police. A social welfare centre is obliged to react in accordance with its competences and it is very important that in cooperation with other institutions through an organization of a consultative meeting a social welfare centre make an assessment of the current state, risks and needs of a child, and then create a plan of support and protection measures and services. Social welfare centre then has a coordinating role and regularly monitors and implementation and efficiency of proposed measures. For instance, if a minor girl "got married", i.e. moved to another family, it is primarily the responsibility of her parents - why a

roditelja – zašto maloletna devojčica ne živi sa svojim roditeljima, odnosno starateljima. Takođe, u tom slučaju se dovode u pitanje i kompetencije roditelja ili staratelja jer je ovo veoma jasan vid zanemarivanja deteta. S druge strane, ukoliko se ustanovi da roditelji ne podržavaju takvu odluku devojčice, potrebno je raditi sa devojčicom i roditeljima. Konkretno, centar za socijalni rad u tom slučaju dodeljuje devojčici privremenu starateljsku zaštitu, kao vid kontrole i podrške devojčici koja napusti primarnu porodicu. Dešava se da devojčice u novoj porodici dožive maltretiranje i zlostavljanje, ili se jednostavno pokaju zbog svoje nedovoljno promišljene odluke. Stoga, privremena starateljska zaštita koja, u skladu sa zakonom, obezbeđuje privremenu zaštitu ličnosti, prava i interesa deteta, pruža devojčicama i sigurnost i izlaz iz situacije, imajući u vidu to da se one u svakom trenutku mogu obratiti svom privremenom staratelju. Centar, sa svoje strane, treba da prati devojčicu i situaciju u novoj porodici, i reaguje u slučaju potrebe, što bi bilo prelazno rešenje dok se ne omogući izmeštanje deteta iz te sredine u drugo bezbedno okruženje, odnosno povratak u primarnu porodicu koja će razumeti počinjenu grešku.

## PREPORUKE POLICIJI

Glavna i osnovna preporuka jeste da se poštuje *Posebni protokol o postupanju policijskih službenika u zaštiti maloletnih lica od zlostavljanja i zanemarivanja* i u tom smislu reaguje na svaku prijavu sumnje na dečji brak, uz neophodnu saradnju sa ostalim nadležnim institucijama.

minor girl does not live with her parents or guardians. Also, the competences of parents or guardians are questioned since this is a very clear form of child neglect. On the other hand, if it is established that parents do not support such decision of her daughter, it is necessary to work with the girl and her parents. Concretely, social welfare centre then establishes a temporary custody to the girl, as a form of control and protection to the girl who left her primary family. It happens that girls experience maltreatment and abuse in a new family, or they simply regret for their insufficiently informed decision. Therefore, temporary protective custody providing, in accordance with the law, temporary protection of the a child's personality, rights and interests, also provides girls with safety and an exit from the current situation, as they can address their temporary guardian at any time. Social welfare centre needs to follow the girl and the situation in the new family and react in case of a need, which would be a transitional solution until it is possible to remove the girl and place her into a safe environment, or return her to the primary family which will understand the mistake.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO POLICE

The main and the basic recommendation for police is to respect the *Special Protocol on the Conduct of Police Officers in Protection of Minors from Abuse and Neglect* and in that respect act upon any notification of suspicion of a child marriage, and cooperate with other competent institutions.



## PREPORUKE TUŽILAŠTVU

Glavna i osnovna preporuka jeste da se poštuje Krivični zakonik i *Posebni protokol o postupanju pravosudnih organa u zaštiti maloletnih lica od zlostavljanja i zanemarivanja*, i u tom smislu reaguje podnošenjem prijave u slučaju prinudnog braka i obljube nad maloletnim licem, u skladu sa zakonom, uz neophodnu saradnju sa ostalim nadležnim institucijama.

## PREPORUKE MEDIJIMA

Povećati broj medijskih priloga o štetnim posledicama dečjih brakova, kako bi se ovaj fenomen konačno sagledao kao problem koji zahteva angažman čitavog društva. Izbegavati emitovanje televizijskih priloga u kojima se promovišu pojedine uspešne „bračne“ priče, u kojima su deca glavni akteri, kao što je to npr. bio slučaj u emisiji *Život priča*.

## PREPORUKE DRŽAVI

Imajući u vidu činjenicu da je Srbija ratifikovala brojne međunarodne konvencije koje se odnose na prava deteta i prava žena, glavna preporuka bila bi da se te konvencije dosledno primenjuju. Tu se pre svega misli na Konvenciju o pravima deteta, Konvenciju o eliminisanju svih oblika diskriminacije nad ženama (CEDAW) i Konvenciju Saveta Evrope o sprečavanju i borbi protiv nasilja nad ženama i nasilja

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO PROSECUTION

The main and the basic recommendation for prosecution is to respect the Criminal Code and *Special Protocol of the Conduct of Judicial Authorities in Protection of Minors from Abuse and Neglect* and in that respect react in accordance with the law by filing charges for a forced marriage and a sexual intercourse with a minor, and cooperate with other competent institutions.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO MEDIA

Increase the number of media coverage of harmful effects of child marriages for this phenomenon to be finally considered as a problem that requires the engagement of whole society. Avoid broadcasting TV shows promoting successful “marital” stories with children as the main actors, such as the story presented in the TV show “*Zivot prica*”.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE

Given that Serbia has ratified numerous international conventions related to the rights of children and women, the main recommendation would be to apply them consistently. Those are primarily the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention of the Elimination of All Form of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against

u porodici (Istanbulska konvencija). U vezi s tim, najpre je neophodno obezbediti zakonsku definiciju pojma „dete“ u skladu sa članom 1 Konvencije o pravima deteta. U tom cilju, Praxis podržava najavljeno donošenje Zakona o pravima deteta i dečjem ombudsmanu, kojim bi se ovo pitanje regulisalo i utvrdio zakonski okvir za ostvarivanje najboljeg interesa deteta. Time bi se izašlo u susret i predlogu koji je Praxis ranije uputio, a odnosi se na izmenu Porodičnog zakona na način da se uklone svi izuzeci koji dozvoljavaju stupanje u rani brak sa navršениh 16 godina. Jedna od teškoća u rešavanju problema dečjih brakova jeste i nepostojanje evidencija o slučajevima dečjeg braka, pa se tako predlaže obezbeđivanje sistematskog prikupljanja podataka i sistem evidentiranja podataka o dečjim brakovima u relevantnim državnim institucijama. Na kraju, podjednako je važno i da država organizuje edukativne treninge za zaposlene u nadležnim institucijama (centar za socijalni rad, policija, tužilaštvo, škole, zdravstvene ustanove) u cilju veće senzibilizacije i otklanjanja predrasuda pri postupanju u slučajevima dečjih brakova. Takođe je važno da se u lokalne akcione planove (za mlade, rodnu ravnopravnost, socijalnu inkluziju Roma, itd.) uključe aktivnosti na prevenciji i eliminaciji dečjih brakova i da se osigura njihovo dosledno sprovođenje u praksi.

Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention). In that regard, it is first necessary to ensure a legal definition of the term “child” in accordance with the Article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Therefore, Praxis supports the announced enforcement of the Law on the Rights of the Child and Ombudsman for Children, which would regulate this issue and establish legal framework for achieving the best interest of the child. In that way, Praxis’ proposal for the amendment of the Family Law in a way to remove all exceptions allowing a marriage to a person who attained the age of 16 would be supported. One of difficulties in solving the problem of child marriages is the lack of records on the cases of child marriages, so Praxis proposes to ensure systematic collection of data and the system of recording data on cases of child marriages in relevant state institutions. Finally, it is equally important that the state organizes educational trainings for employees in competent institutions (social welfare centre, police, prosecution, schools, health institutions) aimed at their greater sensibilization and removal of prejudices in acting upon child marriages). It is also important to include the activities on prevention and elimination of child marriages in local actions plans (for youth, gender equality, social inclusion of Roma, etc.) and ensure their consistent implementation in practice.

5. Зато што мораш да дајеш одговоре  
који тиш за тебе

СТОП

Зато што обавља

4. Зато што не можеш  
да се одлучиш  
о свој  
жети

Јер тиш изгубити  
своје пријатеље

ДЕЧЈИМ

6. Зато што нећеш бити писмен  
јер не учиш у школи

БРАКОВИМА

1. Зато што треба унапред  
унапред

2. Јер не можеш да унапред

7. Јер онда не си корабна да  
размишљаш о браку

4. Писмени