To tackle the problem, the European Union has given advice that:

- reminds countries about the promises they have made to promote and protect children’s rights. e.g., all children have the right to be educated and get health care if they need it.
- And it explains what they should do about child poverty.
Countries should remember their children's rights promises when making decisions about spending money for children.
THE RECOMMENDATION INCLUDES 3 SETS OF PROMISES...

When children don’t have the proper essentials to live they are often not as healthy and don’t usually do as well in school as other children.

1 CHILD IN 4 IS AT RISK OF POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION
INVOLVE CHILDREN IN THESE DECISIONS
Governments should work hard to make sure that children and their families get the support that they need...

**SO...**

Parents should get enough money to meet the families’ needs.

Families should have childcare they can afford and that suits them.
PLAN FOR THE FUTURE
Parents and guardians should have a good balance between work and family.

For example, parents should get enough time off work to spend with their children.
MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS WORKING TOGETHER AND CO-OPERATING
Governments should work hard to make sure that children and their families get the support that they need...

All children should benefit equally from health services (doctors, nurses, hospitals, dentists, medicine)

Children should be helped to learn and develop from an early age.

Children should have a safe place to live and have their needs met if they cannot stay with their families. For example, they might need to go to foster care.
MAKE DECISIONS BASED ON GOOD INFORMATION
The cost of after-school clubs should not be so high that children can't afford to take part. Children should have a say when decisions are made. For example, a decision to build a new play park or change the location of a school.
Ask for money and support from the European Union if they need help to keep these promises.
WHY DOES THIS MATTER TO YOU?

It is important for you to know the promises your government has made for children.

If you think your government isn’t keeping its promises, you might want to write to your local politician to remind them and ask them to work harder on this.
This is the European Recommendation “Investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage” launched in 2013.

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