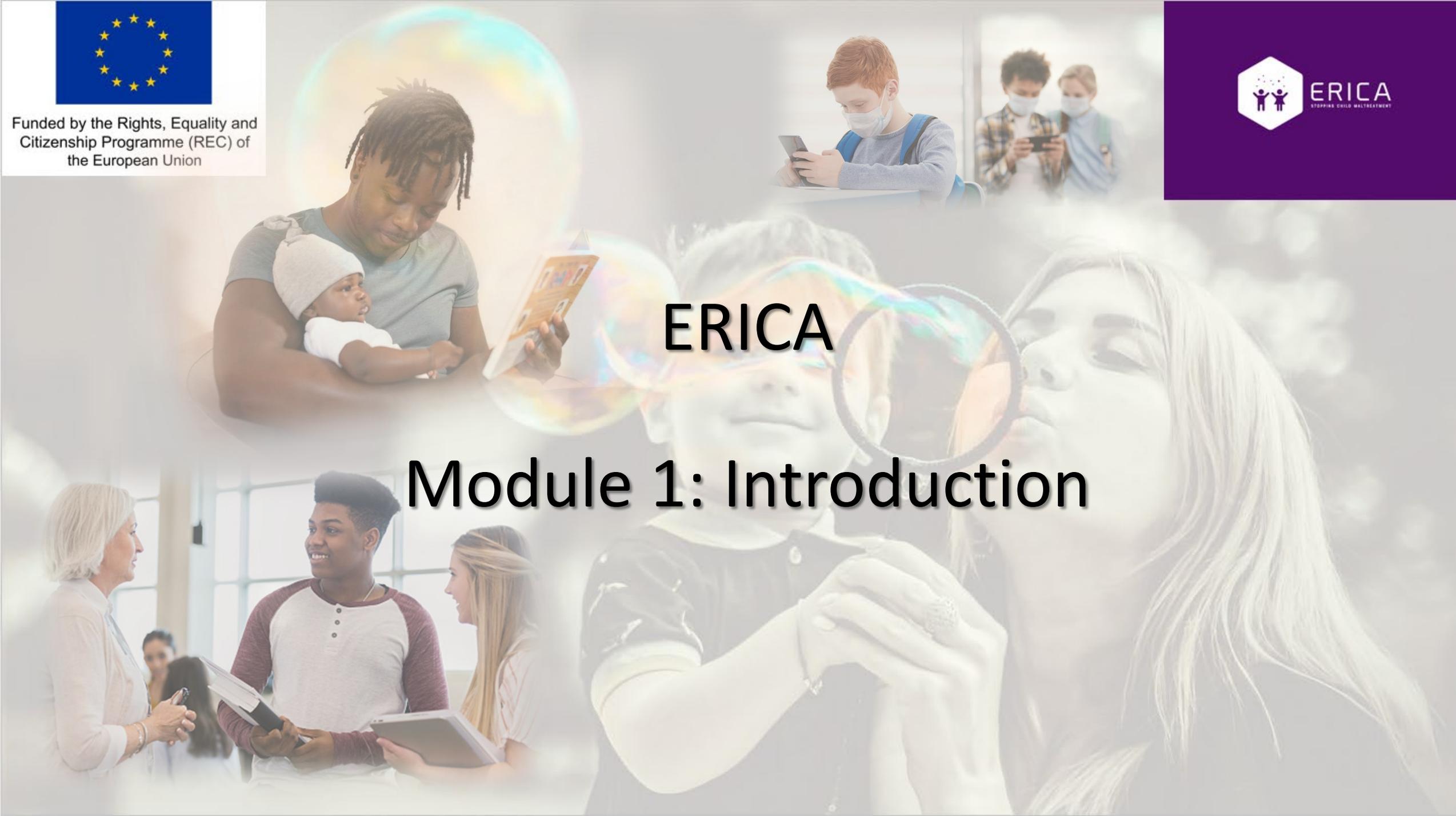




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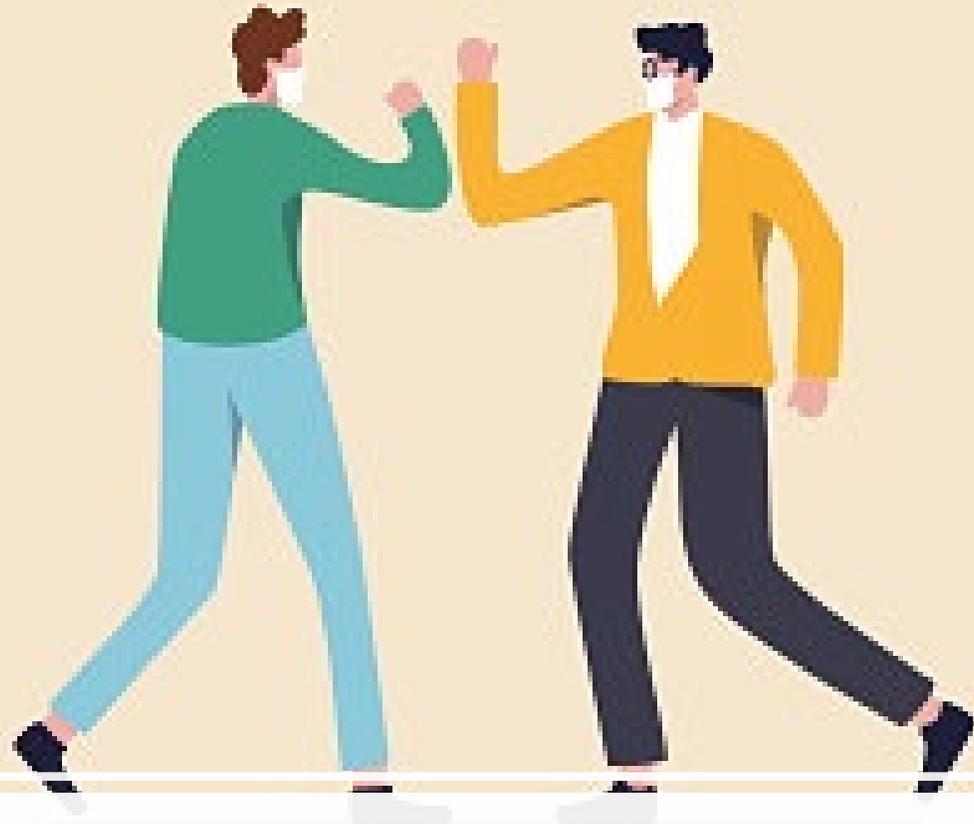


ERICA

# Module 1: Introduction



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Let's say hello to each other!



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# ERICA

## Stopping Child Maltreatment through a Pan-European Multi-Professional Training Programme:

### Early Child Protection Work with Families at Risk





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# The ERICA Project: A Brief Overview

- Financed by the European Commission
- Developing a European Training programme on preventing child maltreatment in the family across seven countries
- Targeting frontline non-specialist professionals who work with children
- Around 50 professionals in each country have been part of constructing the programme



# The programme

- Eight modules:

Module 1	Introducing the ERICA project
Module 2	Understanding the consequences of maltreatment on child development
Module 3	Recognising early signs of maltreatment within the family
Module 4	Understanding risk factors for child maltreatment
Module 5	Engaging with tools for risk assessment
Module 6	Improving skills for identifying and intervening in maltreatment situations
Module 7	Understanding and strengthening protective factors
Module 8	Evaluation



# Housekeeping

## Online training:

- Breaks
- Questions, chats, discussion

## In person training:

- Breaks
- Bathrooms
- Fire alarms

- Please be respectful and mindful of others when speaking and listen without judgement: we are all here to learn from one another
- Please refrain from using your phones throughout the training
- Sensitive issues: what to do if you need to take some breathing space during the training, or to talk to someone after the meeting



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# Ethical considerations

- We are all concerned when it comes to child maltreatment
- We have all been children and many of us are parents
- This is a safe space to share experiences



# Important contact information

- If you suspect child neglect or maltreatment:
  - 999 in an emergency
  - The police on 101 if you think a crime has been committed
  - Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 (to report anonymously)
  - Social work England 0808 1962274
- For help and advice:
  - ParentLine on 0800 028 2233
  - Victim Support 0808 16 89 111; chat  
<https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/help-and-support/get-help/support-near-you/live-chat>



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# Module One

## Aims and Overview:

- Provide a working definition of child maltreatment, along with key terms
- Highlight the importance of lived experience for understanding maltreatment
- Outline the structure of the training



# Child maltreatment affects us all

- We have all been children and many of us have children.
- International studies show that nearly 3 in 4 children aged 2-4 years regularly suffer physical punishment and/or psychological violence at the hands of parents and caregivers, and 1 in 5 women and 1 in 13 men report having been sexually abused as a child (WHO) [1]





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# Individual accounts

- Understanding *lived experience* is an essential part of tackling child maltreatment
- Let's listen to a few stories



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# What did you hear?

- What are your thoughts on the testimonies you have just seen?
- What surprised or challenged you?
- What is child maltreatment?



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# WHO definition of Child Maltreatment

*"Child maltreatment is the abuse and neglect that occurs to children under 18 years of age. It includes all types of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect, negligence and commercial or other exploitation, which results in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power." [1]*

Children may be subjected to more than one type of maltreatment in their childhood. [2]



**World Health  
Organization**



# ERICA project focus and aims

- Maltreatment within the family has been widely reported throughout EU countries and across the world [3]
- The focus of the ERICA project is *detection and management of child maltreatment within the family*
- **Family** includes not only the parents, caregivers and siblings, but also the extended family and any other relatives
- The key aim of ERICA is to build knowledge and expertise to help professionals intervene as early as possible with children and young people aged 0 to 17



# Maltreatment definition in ERICA

- ERICA focuses on maltreatment *within the family* including all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse.
- This includes not only physical or psychological abuse but also broader considerations such as where:
  - *the child does not have enough to eat, has meals low in nutrition, or cannot sleep*
  - *things are left around the house in a hazardous way, creating a dangerous environment*
  - *young adults are not allowed to express their sexuality and are punished for it*



# Maltreatment definition in ERICA

- ERICA does not address maltreatment that children and young people may experience beyond the family
- However, we are mindful that maltreatment can happen anywhere, such as at school or on the way to school, on holidays, during other activities outside school (sports activities, religious activities, cultural activities), or in childcare institutions, such as children's care homes
- It can include sexual abuse or assault outside of the family, bullying, discrimination based on race, sex, class or disability/differences



# ERICA modules: aims and learning outcomes

## Module 1: Introducing the ERICA project

- Outline the purpose of the ERICA project and its intended audience.
- Provide a working definition of child maltreatment, along with key terms.
- Highlight the importance of lived experience for understanding maltreatment.
- Outline the structure of the training.

## Module 2: Understanding consequences of maltreatment on child development

- Understand theories of infant and child development.
- Explore how different kinds of maltreatment and neglect can affect child development.

## Module 3: Recognising early signs of maltreatment within the family

- Increase knowledge of signs of maltreatment.
- Develop the ability to identify signs of maltreatment and neglect.
- Understand how forms of maltreatment can intersect with one another.



# ERICA modules: aims and learning outcomes

<b>Module 4: Understanding risk factors for child maltreatment</b>	<b>Module 5: Engaging with tools for risk assessment</b>	<b>Module 6: Improving skills in identifying and responding to suspected maltreatment</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adopt a whole family approach.</li><li>• Understand the different kinds of risk factors relating to children, parents and families.</li><li>• Understand how risk factors can cluster together and accumulate.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduce common risk assessment tools and checklists for different forms of maltreatment and for children of different ages.</li><li>• Develop competency in using different risk assessment tools.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduce intervention techniques for different situations and for children of different ages.</li><li>• Learn to constructively engage and support families.</li><li>• Learn intervention techniques to provide support at key stages of children's lives.</li></ul>



# ERICA modules: aims and learning outcomes

## Module 7: Understanding and building protective factors

- Become familiar with the role of protective factors in preventing and mitigating child maltreatment.
- Understand how protective factors work across different scales and domains.
- Develop techniques for building protective factors as professionals.



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# Any Questions?



# References and additional resources

1. WHO Child Maltreatment: <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/child-maltreatment>
2. WHO (2018) European status report on preventing child maltreatment: [https://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0017/381140/wh12-ecm-rep-eng.pdf?ua](https://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/381140/wh12-ecm-rep-eng.pdf?ua)
3. UNICEF (June 2005), Violence Against Children in Europe: a preliminary review of research
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