

REPORTING ON MISSING CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

This document was written as a result of a complaint that was received and led to a number of meetings with the National Registry of Missing Minors, which reports to the National Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.

1. Before broadcasting images and information about children or adolescents, apart from relatives or others, it is advisable to resort to competent public institutions to check whether the case is under investigation and/or in what context the person got lost or left home, since these issues then take place in scenarios of domestic violence.

The National Registry of Information on Missing Minors, local organizations that report to the local government, the intervening court and/or the Advisor on Minors may provide information.

2. Not knowing about the underlying family conflict when reporting on the issue may re-victimize the child or adolescent, affecting their right to privacy. It may even result in the reproduction of the conditions that caused that child or adolescent to leave home or get lost.