



Société Européenne De Neurologie Pédiatrique

www.senp-neuropediatrie.org

MANIFESTO OF THE EUROPEAN PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGICAL SOCIETY

(Adopted at its general assembly in March 22, 2019 in PARIS, France)

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As part of its 47th congress, held in Paris in March 2019, the SENP (Société Européenne de Neurologie Pédiatrique), the most ancient scientific society of pediatric neurology, recalls that neurodevelopment is a continuous phenomenon that goes from the prenatal period beyond the age of 18.

The SENP underscores the environment's crucial role on neurodevelopment, especially nutrition and stress conditions.

Unaccompanied children are certainly an at-risk population, as they face traumatic events, consequences of war in their country of origin, their often-dangerous journeys of exile and the difficulties they encounter when they arrive in Europe, too.

"In support of host countries, States and relevant stakeholders will contribute resources and expertise for policies and programs that take into account vulnerability and specific protection needs of girls and boys, children with disabilities, adolescents, unaccompanied and separated children" is what the Global Compact on Refugees of December 2018 foresees.

The SENP is involved in the care of vulnerable children particularly when they present mental or motor deficits or disorders of the nervous system.

As such, the SENP is dedicated to share its expertise, particularly in countries most affected by the arrival of children among refugees and migrants, to protect their well-being and to provide them with access to the care they need, working for better mental and physical health conditions.

The SENP considers it a moral and ethical duty to take a stand on the situation of unaccompanied children whenever its expertise is necessary.

Hence, the SENP warns the political authorities of European countries about the psychological and physical suffering of these children and the imperative need to evaluate it and to respond to it.