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## ✓ School: Kairos-Save the Children, “it is urgent to adopt a policy against mistreatment and abuse of minors”

**TRENDS** Marvin ✓ Trend ⌚ a day ago 📄 REPORT

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It is urgent that, even in Italian schools, a policy is adopted to combat the abuse of minors. This is the appeal that emerged from the conference organized this morning in Rome by the Kairos cooperative to present the “Child Safeguarding Policy”, the code of conduct recognized at European level to protect children and adolescents from abuse and violence by adults. According to the latest report by the Criminal Analysis Service of the Police, the number of crimes committed against minors in Italy has decreased, but violence against children has increased, also perpetrated in schools. Crimes against minors decreased from 19,431 in the first half of 2021 to 17,475 in the first half of 2022, with a decrease of 10%, while the number of crimes of aggravated sexual violence committed in educational institutions in the same periods decreased respectively from 28 to 43, an increase of 54%.

During the conference, held at the Liceo Cavour in Rome, it was announced that the Kairos cooperative, which collaborates with Save the Children, has recently adopted the “Child Safeguarding Policy” for the 46 school campuses it manages in various Italian regions with a total about 2,000 subscribers. “This code of conduct, which will be binding on all our staff, will provide us with the tools to activate an effective system to protect children and adolescents from any type of abuse or exploitation,” said Alessandro Capponi, president of Kairos. “We are honored to be among the very first school facilities in Rome and in Italy to adopt this policy”. “The construction of a policy that intervenes to protect the interests of minors placed in training contexts, whether they are school or out-of-school, is a relevant topic of great interest for the development of good practices and procedures suitable for preventing and dealing with any uncomfortable situation of a child or adolescent”, observed Claudia Sabatano, head teacher of the Cavour.

“Too often – concluded Valentina Di Grazia, Safer Communities program coordinator of Save the Children Italy – the news reports us cases of abuse and mistreatment of minors consumed in places that should be the safest for them”. Hence the hope that “the action initiated by Kairos can also become an example for other realities in the educational and school sector and for all the realities that work with and for minors”.