**WHAT CHILDREN SAY**

“My brothers and sisters are still very small and all the time we have to look after them, they are my dolls, I play with them and without this we have no toys at home.”

Elena, age 10 years – village of Banya, Bulgaria

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**CARITAS ACTS ON THE GROUND TO ASSIST FAMILIES FACING POVERTY AND PROPOSES POLICY CHANGES**

The EU and its Member states should cooperate in a genuine partnership with civil society in the preparation, planning, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of child poverty-related programs and initiatives.

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**THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDS**

“Promote close cooperation and regular dialogue between public authorities at all levels, social partners, local communities and civil society organisation.”