As pointed out in its answer to written questions E-003810/2018 and P-004624/2018, the Commission is aware of cases concerning EU citizens involved in proceedings before Norwegian authorities, where children have been deprived of parental care.

In cases where the right to family life or the rights of the children have been allegedly violated by the Norwegian child welfare services, it is for Norway, including its judicial authorities, to ensure that fundamental rights are effectively respected and protected in accordance with its constitution, national legislation and international human rights obligations. Parents can seek redress at the national level through the competent national authorities, through an ombudsman¹ or through the courts, and at the European Court of Human Rights once they have exhausted domestic remedies. EU citizens in Norway also have the possibility to seek assistance from the diplomatic representation of their home country.

Norway has ratified the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child. The standards of the Convention guide child protection interventions, where authorities are required to act in the best interests of the child. As a treaty body, the Committee on the Rights of the Child may, under certain conditions, consider individual complaints or communications from individuals².

With regard to cross-border issues, Norway ratified in 2016 the Hague Convention on Child Protection to which all EU Member States are Contracting Parties³. Guidelines on how to process child welfare cases have been issued by Norwegian authorities, following several cases involving foreign nationals including from EU Member States⁴.

¹ https://barneombudet.no/english/about-the-ombudsman/
² https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/TBPetitions/Pages/HRTBPetitions.aspx#inquiries