

European Network of Masters in Children's Rights

CRnews 9

Children's Rights Newsletter
September 2008

European Network of Masters in Children's Rights
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Dear Network Members and Network Interested,

Since four years ENMCR has been promoting interdisciplinary academic exchange on children's rights, while being in constant direct exchange with practitioners on all levels fighting for the rights of children. As all networks ENMCR lives of individual's dedication and support by governmental and non-governmental organisations. Our online information service, the monthly CRnews you are reading and our website (www.enmcr.net) have been produced with the support of Save the Children, Sweden.

You are welcome to send us information you would wish to distribute through our information service. Please use info@enmcr.net for all feedback, questions, comments or information. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Rebecca Budde (Editor)

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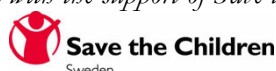
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CRnews is produced with the support of Save the Children, Sweden



General News Internal

News from members, associated members and Networks of which ENMCR is a member

Eurochild conference: "Including Children: a child rights approach to child well-being"

Date: 5-7 November 2008 Location: Budapest

Eurochild is holding its fifth Annual Conference under the title "Including Children: a child rights approach to child well-being". It is being co-organised with Eurochild's member organisation Family, Child & Youth Association in Hungary.

The conference will gather high level representatives from member states and the European Commission, as well as government officials, NGOs and children, to discuss the EU social inclusion process and its impact on national and regional policies to combat child poverty and exclusion.

Thematic workshops will explore implications for member states in 3 policy areas:

- Early years education & care
- Family & parenting support
- Education and life-long learning

For more information, the programme and registration form, please visit:

<http://www.eurochild.org/?id=137#832>

Looking for facilitators! If you have expertise in the areas covered by the workshops of Thursday 6th November send us your application! Deadline for submission of applications is 13 September.

General News External

International Symposium – Childhood and Society- Identity processes in phases of societal change

Date: 23. - 25. October 2008, Location: Festspielhaus Bregenz, Austria

The international symposium (in German) will look at crises and chances for the identity formation of young people in times of societal change. The symposium will consist of 20 speakers from 4 continents and 11 disciplines and will be a coming together of great human experiences in the name of the old hope that the scale of human experiences is balanced towards luck, to give children the present and the future. Among the speakers are: Klaus Hurrelmann (Sociologist/ Germany), Victor Igreja (Anthropology / Mozambique); Yassaman Montazami (Psychoanalyst / Iran, France); Sheila Melzak (Psychotherapy, Community Work / GB, Israel); Jesper Juul (Pedagogy, Theology / Denmark); Lothar Krappmann (Child Rights/Germany)

Programme and registration at: www.weltderkinder.at and www.werkstatt-west.at

Youth Empowerment and HIV/Aids prevention/control-the way forward

Date: 20-22 November 2008; Location: International Conference Center London and

Date: 27-29 November 2008; Location: Downtown Conference Center New York City

The combined international conference is organized by The Tony Blair Faith Foundation in partnership with the United States Youth Council (USYC).

The conference will bring together leading figures in various sectors from across the world to discuss the several ways of empowering the youths to succeed and how the society can protect the youths as its most valuable asset. This Conference will create an opportunity for participants to learn more about the impact of youth empowerment in combating the scourge of HIV/AIDS. Delegates will receive professional updates from experts internationally about the various ways of preventing and treating HIV/AIDS epidemic as a serious health problem. The Conference will also provide an opportunity for participants to share insights and experiences and to network with other colleagues. It is also

an opportunity to get direct access to loans and grants from participating donors and sponsors. The opening address will be given by Mr. Bill Clinton. Keynote Speakers include: Mr. Tony Blair, Professor Sir Michael Marmot: chairman of WHO Commission, Scottish minister of Health: Andy Kerr. Proposed Agenda: *Youth empowerment * HIV and Aids prevention and treatment * Child development* Employment * Priority Public Health issues * Child Abuse * Social exclusion * Women and Gender equality * Women Empowerment *Health Improvement * Globalization and Health * Peace and Security. All plenaries and selected breakout sessions will have Interpretations in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French. For more Information and Registration details/forms, please contact the Local Organizing Committee using the conference contact information given below. Include your direct phone number in your correspondence.

Contact Person: Rev. Charles Williams; Email: tonyblairfaithfoundation.uk@live.com

The Tony Blair Faith Foundation; P O Box 60519; London W2 7JU; United Kingdom. Tel/fax +44-702-407-7282 ,+44-702-405-3702.

Lecture Series: Child Rights and School (German)

Dates: every other Wednesdays from 6-8pm, starting: **26 November 2008; Location:** Grundschulwerkstatt of the Humboldt-University Berlin, (Geschwister-Scholl-Strasse)

If children have rights, then they also have the right to organisation and structure of school and classes that abide to these rights. This is the core thesis of the lecture series. This thesis becomes necessary, as in the area of primary schools, the subject of children's rights has almost exclusively been a subject dealt with in German or social studies classes. But where is the right of every child to participate in all matters affecting him or her? Which primary school involves children in choosing which learning materials are used (to name but one example of rights from the UNCRC). The lecture series aims at weighing opportunities and chances to understand children's rights not only as subject in school but as organisational and didactical principles in schools. Amongst the lecturers are: Claudia Lohrenscheit (Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte); Waltraut Kerber-Ganse (International Federation of Social Work / Committee on the Rights of the Child; Manfred Liebel (European Network of Masters in Children's Rights, FU Berlin) Timo Reinfank, André Koch (Amadeu Antonio Stiftung Berlin) For more information, please contact: Dr. Claudia Lohrenscheit; Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte; Zimmerstr. 26/27; 10969 Berlin; Tel.: (+49) 30-259359-0; Fax: (+49) 30-259-359-59; www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de

20th Anniversary of Instituto Generación (Peru)

The Instituto Generación, an organisation for and of children living in the streets, is looking back at 20 years of social action with the most neglected children in the city of Lima, Peru. After its first 20 years, Generación finds itself full of positive energy, which is nourished by the hopes of the children and young people who are striving for a life in dignity. The institutional experience has been one of fighting for and meeting basic needs, of struggling to live the catalogue of rights that are in place for the children and by this recuperate the dignity which in many cases has suffered from poverty and maltreatment. Generación also looks back on 20 years of struggle against state intervention and aggression which derived mainly from false accusations, especially in the media, which create a great fear and doubt about children and young people living in the streets. According to international human rights conventions the state is obligated to guarantee the social and juridical protection also to children living in the streets. Generación has fought and keeps fighting for the fulfilment of these obligations basing its main objective on Paulo Freyre's statement that "History is something that can be made and remade by ourselves." For more Information on Generación visit e.g.:

<http://www.sabinevess.nl/kiddo2.html> or contact Mrs. Lucy Borja directly at: blborja@yahoo.com

Survey: opinions on child-friendliness in Germany

The majority of German citizens believes Germany to be a non-child-friendly country. The findings of a survey run by the institute FORSA revealed that 40% of respondents believe Germany to be child-friendly, whereas 56% voted with "no". However there are major differences between East and West Germany. Round about 65% of East Germans complain about child unfriendliness compared to 56%

in Western Germany. Even greater disparities are revealed when looking at the age structure of respondents: 56% of the 18-29 year olds believe Germany to be child friendly, whereas the ratio is nearly the other way around in respondents aged 30-44 years old. In this age group, 60% experience Germany as being child unfriendly.

46 Members of German Parliament demand rights to vote for children

The title sounds better than it is. Even though members of parliament from all political parties stand behind this demand, they are demanding a right to vote for children which is practiced by discretion of their parents. Even though the initiative is a first start to meet the demand of many children and in particular youth who are interested in politics for them to have a voice, the mechanism strived for, to have the parents vote for their children, cannot be the end solution. Children and young people may disagree with their parents' opinions, they may feel yet excluded by not being able to vote themselves and the opportunity for parents to have an extra vote for every child may also create wrong incentives.

„Free of fear and distress?“ Children's Rights between Claim and Reality - A seminar of the Academy Frankenwarte in cooperation with amnesty international (German)

Date : 26-28 September 2008; Location: Würzburg, Germany

The CRC is the most rapidly signed and ratified international human rights convention ever. However what looked like an obligation to the fulfilment of the rights of the child has revealed itself to be a semi-truth only. Still millions of children suffer from severe child rights violations and only few of these are known to the world public.

Amnesty international has worked increasingly on the issue of child rights violations since 1999 and the seminar aims at introducing the work done. First, the history, meaning and contents of the UNCRC will be imparted, the work of the UN Committee on Children's Rights will be discussed. In discussions an overview will also be given of other instruments for the protection of children.

Thereafter the seminar will deal with three topics that are focus themes in ai's work: 1. Armed conflicts; 2. The right to education and 3. Human Rights violations in the juvenile justice systems.

Registration: Akademie Frankenwarte z.Hd. Frau Momper, Postfach 5580, 97005 Würzburg, Tel.: 0931-804 64-0 (Frau Momper -333); Fax: 0931 8046 444; E-Mail: thea.momper@frankenwarte.de

International declaration of blind and partially sighted children

In June 2008, the First International Congress for Blind and Partially Sighted Children took place in Spain. The participating children set up a declaration after having evaluated their current situation. In the declaration several recommendations for the improvement of their situations and their quality of life are made. Firstly the declaration reinforces that children who are blind or partially sighted have the same rights as any other child, whereas an emphasis is put on those rights which are particularly prone to be violated in respect to blind or partially sighted children. Above all, non-discrimination is demanded as well as access to special provisions. The children also request that the governments and organizations representing their rights allocate funds for organizing events for the benefit of the children in their respective countries and they recommend that there should be at least one teacher in every school with the necessary capabilities to provide an equal education opportunity for the child. To read about the congress and the full declaration text, visit:

<http://www.worldblindunion.org/en/pr-170608.html>

P u b l i c a t i o n s

ENOC: Concerned over EU Return Directive

The European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) is deeply concerned about the recent agreement reached by the European Parliament and the Council of E.U. on the 'Return' Directive (June 18, 2008) and calls on national governments to transpose it by respecting fully and without any exceptions the rights of children and the safeguards for their full enjoyment by foreign minors, espe-

cially those unaccompanied. The Directive provides grounds for the violation of children's rights, despite including vague clauses for respect of fundamental rights, special treatment of vulnerable groups and due consideration to the best interests of the child.

Those clauses right next to provisions allowing detention and expulsion of unaccompanied minors seem to be rather wishful and do not guarantee the prevention of children's rights violations.

The grouping children under the vague and general title of 'vulnerable persons' (art.3), which is also true for other categories, inevitably leads to downgrade the child's condition and absolute right to protection. Further information:

- [Read the Resolution](#)
- [UN Experts concerned about proposed EU Return Directive](#) (22 July 2008)
- [Criticism of Proposed Directive, Save the Children](#) (2 July 2008)
- [Anger and dismay at new EU Immigration Policy](#) (7 July 2008)
- [Mercosur condemns EU migrant law](#) (2 July 2008)
- [Information page about the EU and child rights](#)

For more information on ENOC's statement, contact: European Network of Ombudsmen for Children (ENOC); Chair of ENOC - Xavier Bonal; Email: xavier.bonal@sindic.cat; Office of the Catalan Ombudsman

Human Rights in the Administration of Justice: A manual on human rights for judges, prosecutors and lawyers (update)

This is an "addendum" or update to the original manual, produced in 2003.

Find the original here: <http://www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=18148&flag=report>

The update includes a large section on the rights of the child in the administration of justice.

For more information, contact: UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights OHCHR-UNOG; 8-14 Avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva 10; Tel: + 41-22 917-9000; Fax: + 41-22 917-9016; Website: www.unhchr.ch

The Convention on the Rights of the Child and Quality Education

This concept paper, aims to de-mystify the relationship between child rights and quality education, showing how CRC articles link to education and thus revealing rights-based and holistic dimensions of quality education, based on the right to education, in education and through education.

The paper is intended to provide a framework for developing quality education programmes translating the CRC into policies and practices that are inclusive of and responsive to diversity and is meant as a source of stimulation and discussion and has as its intended audience policy makers and practitioners including teacher educators as well as national and international organisations.

To order a hard copy, write to: Karna Maharjan (karnam@sca.savethechildren.se, Regional Technical Programme Communication Officer) with a cc to Savita Malla (savitam@sca.savethechildren.se, Regional Programme Communication Officer). The publication is free of cost. Save the Children ask that you kindly pay for postage. For more information, contact:

Save the Children Sweden, Regional Office for South and Central Asia; Sanepa Road, Lalitpur, GPO Box: 5850 Kathmandu; Tel: + 977 1 5531928 / 5531929 / 5523336; Fax: +977 1 5527266

Email: rosca@sca.savethechildren.se; Website: <http://sca.savethechildren.se>

UPR: Child rights extracts from the reports of the Working Groups

Compilation of extracts featuring child-rights issues from all the reports of the Working Groups on the Universal Periodic Review. There are extracts from the 'Summary of the State under Review', the 'Interactive Dialogue and Responses by the State under Review' and the 'Conclusions and/or Recommendations' for each country. You can download the whole document [here](#). Further information

[Child rights extracts from the submissions to the first and second sessions](#)

News from CRIN

BRAZIL: World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents

Date: **25 to 28 November 2008**, Location: **Rio de Janeiro**

The Government of Brazil, ECPAT International, UNICEF and the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child are preparing for the World Congress III to be held in Rio de Janeiro from 25-28 November 2008. Participation of governments, civil society, UN, private sector and other key stakeholders from all regions of the world is expected. The World Congress III is considered as an important next step in the continuing effort for realisation of children's rights which started with the mobilisation for the First World Congress coinciding closely with the CRC, followed by the renewed commitment of governments in Yokohama in 2001 at the occasion of the Second World Congress. The World Congress 2008 is an important opportunity to renew global commitment to combating sexual exploitation of children and to galvanise international will and support for the concrete action required. The Congress helps to maintain the global focus on the specific problem of sexual exploitation of children, allowing stakeholders to analyse, refine, re-tool and recommit to both action agendas for the elimination of CSEC.

Five major themes have been selected to be discussed at the world congress: 1. Forms of Commercial Sexual Exploitation and its New Scenarios. 2. Legal Frameworks and Responsibility. 3. Integrated Inter-Sectoral Policies. 4. Initiatives of Social Responsibility. 5. Strategies for International Cooperation. For more information, visit the Congress website: <http://www.iiicongressomundial.com/index2.php>

EUROPE: Migrant children and education: a challenge for EU education systems

A Green Paper adopted by the [European Commission](#) opens the debate on how education policies may better address the challenges posed by immigration and internal EU mobility flows. The presence of significant numbers of migrant children has substantial implications for European education systems. Key issues are how to prevent the creation of segregated school settings; how to accommodate the increased diversity of mother tongues and cultural perspectives and build intercultural skills; how to adapt teaching skills and build bridges with migrant families and communities.

The Green Paper undertakes a brief review of policies and approaches that may foster educational success for migrant pupils. It indicates that those systems which strongly prioritise equity in education are also the most effective in integrating migrant pupils. Among the policy measures which seem particularly useful to address the issue are pre-school education, language learning, additional educational support such as mentoring and tutoring, intercultural education as well as partnerships with families and communities. The Green Paper aims to foster an exchange of views on how to address these challenges at all levels, and also to inquire how the EU might in future support Member States in formulating their education policies in this area. Interested parties are invited to make their views known about the policy challenge, policy responses, and the possible role of the European Union in supporting Member States, **before 31 December 2008**. The European Commission will analyse the results of this consultation and publish its conclusions in early 2009.

For more information, contact: European Union (EU) Website: www.consilium.europa.eu

UNITED STATES: San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment

Location: **San Diego** Date: **26 to 30 January 2009**

The Chadwick Center for Children and Families, Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego present the 23rd Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment. The conference is directed to a multidisciplinary audience from the fields of medicine, mental health, interviewing, child welfare, advocacy, law, investigations, education, family support, administration, public policy and research. The conference will feature over 200 experts from around the globe providing the latest research, practical experience, and skill building workshops on evidence-based practices. Workshop programs focus on research and evidence-based practice, ensuring quality practice and programmes. Others include, offenders, cultural issues, the Internet and child sexual exploitation.

For more information, contact:

Chadwick Center for Children and Families, 3020 Children's Way MC 5017

San Diego, CA 92123, Tel: + 1 858 966 8572; Fax: + 1 858 966 8018

Email: sdconference@chsd.org, Website: www.ChadwickCenter.org

Job Postings

EMPLOYMENT: ActionAid

Consultant, International Training on Education Rights (15 days in Sept/ Oct 2008)

ActionAid's International education team is seeking a consultant to draft a training of trainers' module for the use of the activist guide on education rights. For more information, and Terms of Reference,

email: Victorine Kemonou Djitrinou: Victorine.djitrinou@actionaid.org

Peter Hyll-Larsen: Peter.hyll-larsen@actionaid.org

Deadline: **2 September 2008**

Funding / Prizes / Research Opportunities

Childhood, Transition and Social Justice Initiative- Funded Research Studentships (2)

Linked to current research into the marginalisation and exclusion of children and young people in Northern Ireland two University research studentships are offered within the Childhood, Transition and Social Justice Initiative. Research proposals are invited from applicants who hold a relevant Masters degree, qualitative research experience and a demonstrable commitment to critical theories of childhood and children's rights. The studentships are fully funded and resourced for three years.

Date of Commencement: October 2008 or as soon thereafter. **Applications to be submitted by Friday 5 September.**

For further details, including the format of proposals, please contact:

Judith Cardwell, Postgraduate Secretary, School of Law, 28 University Square, Belfast BT7 1NN.

Email: j.cardwell@qub.ac.uk

Childhood, Transition and Social Justice- Postgraduate Research Studentships, Queen's University, Belfast

Childhood, Transition and Social Justice is an exciting new initiative exploring the lives of children and young people in Northern Ireland. It is directed by Professor Phil Scraton and a Research Fellow will be appointed. Within this initiative two full-time, three-year postgraduate bursaries are to be awarded linked directly to already established and ongoing research: *Understanding the Lives of Children and Young People in the Context of Conflict and Marginalisation* (see below for further details). Proposals are invited on any topic relevant to this work. They should have a Northern Ireland focus, demonstrate a clear understanding of critical analysis and a commitment to qualitative methodology. They should anticipate how the research will make a distinct contribution to knowledge and understanding of the rights of children and young people.

Proposals should be no more than five pages and include the following:

- Working title
- Brief description of the proposed project establishing why it is significant and its intended contribution to knowledge.
- Brief review of the theoretical literature relevant to the proposed project including critical theories of childhood and children's rights.
- Research question/s to be addressed by the research
- Proposed methodology including qualitative research methods to be used

- Brief bibliography
- Two academic referees

Details of the ongoing project, *Understanding the Lives of Children and Young People in the Context of Conflict and Marginalisation*, to which the studentships are linked, are available [here](#) and applications will be assessed with regard to their relevance to the development of this work.

The studentships will commence in October or as soon thereafter.

Proposals, accompanied by a CV, should be sent or delivered in hard copy to: Judith Cardwell, Post-graduate Administrator, School of Law, Queen's University, 28 University Square, Belfast BT7 1NN by **4pm on Friday 5 September 2008**.

Call for proposals for German-Mexican Cooperation visits

Based on the agreement between the German Research Community (DFG) and the Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnologia (CONACYT) researchers can apply for funding for cooperation visits. The applications are to be submitted both to the DFG and CONACYT according to the set out guidelines. In Germany, all researchers can apply who fulfil the criteria set out by the DFG. The Mexican partner must be named in the DFG application and the added value of the cooperation need be clearly shown.

Deadline for submission of applications: 26. September 2008. Further information:

http://www.dfg.de/aktuelles_presse/information_fuer_die_wissenschaft/ausschreibungen_mit_internationalem_bezug/info_wissenschaft_52_08.html

EU-Competition: „Children's right to protection“

The youth competition „Children's right to protection“ was launched on July 31. All children and young people in Europe between 10 and 18 years are called upon to design poster on the theme. The aim of the competition is that the young European citizens reach a better understanding of this right, in order to be fit for fighting for its defence. Further information can be found on: www.eurojeune.eu

Future Prize –open for submissions

The Institute for Future Studies and Technology Assessment not for profit company in Berlin bi-annually publishes calls for tenders for the 'future prize'. This year the prize focuses on the future of children. The call for tender is open for projects, initiative or concepts for children. Projects with and of children are of course also very welcome. The prize is funded with 3.000 Euro. Further information: www.izt.de/zukunftspreis_2008

Upcoming Dates

8-10 September: "Building a Europe for and with Children - Towards a Strategy for 2009-2011", Stockholm

15 September: Deadline ESF conferences 2010

15 September: Deadline applications to MCR in Sion

17 September - 16 December: Course monitoring Children's Rights

19 September: Day of General Discussion 2008 (Children's Rights to education in emergencies (Geneva, Committee on the Rights of the Child)

19 September: Swansea Conference

19-22 September : The Social Capital Foundation – Malta Conference

24-25 September: Educational Dilemmas in Culturally Diversified Societies (Conference in Warsaw)

24-26 September: Getting it Right for Every Child : Childhood, Citizenship and Children's Services, Glasgow

26-28 September: "Free of fear and distress?" Children's Rights between Claim and Reality- seminar, Würzburg, Germany

29 September – 1 October: IFCW World Forum 2008 "Early Intervention and Prevention", Cardiff, Wales, UK (co-hosted by Children in Wales).

30 September: EURONET General Assembly Day of Discussion
1-2 October: 8th Forum on perspectives of European Youth Policy, Berlin Germany
1-3 October: Intl. Conference: Ending Violence against Children in Juvenile Justice systems, Brussels
2 October: Eurochild Members' Exchange Seminar on "Child and Youth Participation", Cardiff, Wales, UK.
9 October: Next steering group meeting for the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child
9-12 October: Active citizenship: Democratic practices in education Budapest, Hungary
12- 19 October: COMPASITO Training Course, Budapest (CoE)
23 October: Deadline submission ESF Research Networking Programmes (RNP)
23. - 25. October: International Symposium – Childhood and Society- Identity processes in phases of societal change Bregenz, Austria
3-5 November: Child in the City 2008: Rotterdam, The Netherlands
5-7 November: Eurochild annual conference (Budapest)
14 November: Germany: Child friendly (Deutschland: kindergerecht?), Berlin
17-18 November: final colloquium of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue
19 November: World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse
19 November: Deadline submission Applications ERC starting grants for social sciences
20 November: Demonstration: Equal Rights for all. Potsdam, Germany
20-22 November : Conference: Youth Empowerment and HIV/Aids prevention/control-the way forward in London and 27-29 November 2008 in New York City
starting: 26 November : Lecture Series: Child Rights and School (German) every other Wednesdays from 6-8pm, 2008; Location: Grundschulwerkstatt of the Humboldt-University Berlin, (Geschwister-Scholl-Strasse)
January 2009: Child Poverty and Disparities: Public Policies for Social Justice, Cairo
26- 30 January 2009: San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment