Dear ENMCR network members and network interested,

We hope you all have had a lovely Easter holiday. In this newsletter you can learn about the celebration of the International Day for Street Children and the KADOGO Exhibition.

If you have any suggestions, comments and / or ideas for improving the newsletter you can use our email address: info@enmcr.net

Sincerely,
Rita Nunes (Editor)

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General News Internal

Bringing Children's Rights into Domestic Law

Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland (ENMR member) has been commissioned by UNICEF UK to carry out a research study entitled *Bringing children's rights into domestic law: international best practice.* The purpose of the study is to examine legislative examples of the incorporation of the UNCRC in countries beyond the United Kingdom in order to compile evidence of the most effective, practical and impactful ways of embedding children’s rights into domestic law, and the impact of such moves on law, policy and outcomes for children and young people. The first stage of the study consists of desk research on 12 countries to help identify positive examples of CRC implementation and associated legal reform. The purpose of each country case study is to provide an overall picture of that country’s legal and cultural context, legal reform as it pertains to the CRC, and the impact of such developments. The 12 countries are: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Spain, and Sweden. These country case studies will be used to develop recommendations on which five countries warrant more indepth examination and will inform the remainder of the project. To help ensure that the case studies are an accurate reflection of practice therein, the research team welcomes feedback on the initial drafts of the completed case studies. To obtain a copy of the appropriate country case study or for more information, please contact Dr Bronagh Byrne at b.byrne@qub.ac.uk.

Talking about Human and Children’s Rights

Talking about *Human and Children’s Rights* is a lecture series organised by Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa (ENMR Member) in cooperation with other actors and institutions. The lectures series aims to contribute to the promotion, dissemination and discussion of topics in the area of Human Rights and Children's Rights. The next lecture will be held on May 15, 2012 in cooperation with Amnesty International Portugal. The topic of the lecture is the Right to Education. Further information: http://www.eselix.ipl.pt/Eselx/Detalhe%20do%20evento/tabid/192/default.aspx?id=309

Learning through play or playing to learn?

*Learning through play or playing to learn?* Seminar will be held on May 15, 2012 at the Institute of Education (ENMCR member). This seminar considers the agency and intentions that children bring to their playful learning in early years educational settings. Play has long been recognised as an important pathway and experience for supporting young children’s learning and development; however, despite this, it is also subject, in both positive and negative ways to policy directives and policy fashion. Furthermore, the relationships between play and learning in early years educational settings and the links with playful pedagogies are more recent arenas of study. Within this broader contextualisation of play, the seminar considers whether the status of play is affected by its depiction as a natural pathway for learning when in fact, it may well be an innate drive, springing from a strong biological urge, that is as crucial to survival and thriving for the young child as is learning to move and learning to communicate. For further information please contact Guy Robert-Holmes: g.robert-holmes@ioe.ac.uk

Summer Program: International Human Rights Law Summer Studies 2012

This year the Summer Program will take place at Mykolas Romeris University (ENMR member) from 16 to 24 of July, 2012. Students will familiarize themselves with the concept of human rights and its implementation on the international and national level. The course introduces major human rights systems, instruments and mechanisms and focuses on main topics in the field of civil and political rights. Students will consider contemporary challenges and future prospects through lectures, highly interactive seminars, case studies, and group discussions, completed by the moot court exercise. Further information: http://www.mruni.eu/en/summer_schoools/1/overview/

Child Rights and Business General Comment

Gamze Erdem Türkelli, Arne Vandenbogaerde and Wouter Vandenhoute (University of Antwerp-ENMCR member) submitted a contribution to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, in preparation of its Child Rights and Business General Comment. They call in particular for more attention to the human rights obligations of transnational corporations’ home states, as well as of businesses themselves.

KADOGO: Child Soldier Exhibition

From 18 to 27 of April 2012, an exhibition of paintings and drawings by and on former child soldiers was hosted at the University of Antwerp in cooperation with VIC children’s right ngo (http://www.vicngo.be/). In this exhibition the life situation of (former) child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is portrayed. Local artists were invited to contribute with paintings, drawings, stories and images. The topics of the exhibition were explained by Prof. Dr. Wouter Vandenhoute of the UNICEF Chair in Children’s and Yannick Weyns, human rights observer for the UN in Congo. Yannick Weyns who did fieldwork in East-Congo and was afterwards recruited by the UN for human rights monitoring in DRC was awarded the Province of Antwerp Development Prize and the Prize of the Dutch Society for International Affairs.

© Transport of wounded: Sapata
Child Soldiers: Yemen

The number of children being recruited as soldiers in Yemen has risen significantly during the recent wave of violence sweeping the country. Thousands of children have been recruited in 2011 by the regime’s army, the defected first armoured division, armed pro- and anti-regime tribes. The Ministry of Defence in late 2011 called for the investigation of child recruitment cases. It also stressed the referral of persons convicted of child recruitment to the courts, and for the demobilisation of children.

International Day for Street Children

The first International Day for Street Children was launched on April 12 by the Consortium for Street Children (CSC). The International Day aimed to give street children a voice and the same opportunities as all children as outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: the right to protection, participation, provision and prevention from harm. Street children are those who sleep and/or work on the streets, or spend a significant amount of time on the streets. They are some of the most vulnerable and marginalised children in the world, falling through the gaps of state policy and practice. Street children are often invisible and unable to voice their opinions and concerns to those who could make a real difference to their lives. The CSC joined celebrations across the globe: by street children in Morocco, Uganda, Ethiopia, Guatemala and India; school children in the UK; students in Ireland; the Consortium for Street Children and its 60 members in over 130 countries; Aviva in the 28 countries in which it operates; and politicians in Tanzania and the UK.

NGO campaign: Pakistan

A group of non-governmental organisations has launched a week-long campaign to press for the passage of new laws and implementation of existing ones to control violence against children. The advocacy groups organised a press conference and said that children, who constitute more than one-third of the population, do not have adequate protection under the law. So far this year, 90 children have been killed, 68 kidnapped and 200 molested across the country, according to data collected by Society for Protection of Rights of Children (SPARC). The Children Protection Authority Bill, which the Sindh Assembly passed in May, was supposed to be a precursor to further legislation to deal with street children, forced labour and child beggars, but no further developments have taken place so far.

Children on Trial: Egypt

Egypt’s military courts have investigated or tried at least 43 children over the past year. Some have remained in detention for up to a year, and at least six of the youths alleged that army or security officers had physically abused them. Children have been prosecuted through Egypt’s adult criminal justice and state security courts, rather than before juvenile justice courts as required by Egyptian and international law. Children prosecuted in military courts have not had access to lawyers, and often to their families, until after military authorities have investigated and sentenced them. Since coming to power in February 2011, the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) has referred over 12,000 civilians for prosecution by military courts before military judges, though these courts fail to meet minimum due process standards.

Children’s Rights Days: Haiti

Music and games marked a special day for children in Jérémie, Haiti, as advocates and local children gathered to recognize and celebrate children’s rights. A group of young artists recently launched a series of children’s rights days in marginalized neighbourhoods of south-western Haiti. The first of these days called attention to children who are forced to work as domestic servants. The artists want to increase awareness of children’s rights here, saying they recognize children as the key to the country’s future.

Reform measures for juvenile offenders: Spain

According to the Juvenile Justice Report, last year in Cordoba, 1,590 judicial measures were imposed on young offenders; 9.6% more (140) than in 2010, when there was just 1,450. This report was prepared by the Andalusian Government, responsible for implementing the reform measures adopted by the courts relating to minors.

Orphanages in Russia

Despite improvements in the material conditions of orphanages in Russia, activists say that the current system is not designed around children’s needs or best interests, and promotes institutionalisation rather than deinstitutionalisation, especially when it comes to children with disabilities or special needs.

The Next Click

The European NGO Alliance for Child Safety Online (eNACSO) will launch the The Next Click: eNACSO's Agenda for Action. The launch will take place on Wednesday May 30, 2012 in Brussels. The Agenda for Action contains recommendations to government, industry and other relevant parties on creating a safer online environment for children. The launch will be followed up by a roundtable discussion on Citizenship in a Digital Era. For more information on eNACSO, please visit www.enasco.eu
Funding / Prizes / Research Opportunities

Call for papers: Children and War: Past and Present

All research proposals which focus on a topic and theme related to Children and War are welcome, ranging from the experience of war, flight, displacement and resettlement, to relief, rehabilitation and reintegration work, gender issues, persecution, trafficking, sexual violence, trauma and amnesia, the trans-generational impact of persecution, individual and collective memory, educational issues, films and documentaries, artistic and literary approaches, remembrance and memorials, and questions of theory and methodology. Specific conference themes anticipated are:
- Children as victims, witnesses and participants in armed conflict;
- Holocaust, genocide and forced labour
- Deportation and displacement, refugees and asylum seekers
- War crimes, trials and human rights

Please send an abstract of 200-250 words, together with biographical background information of 50-100 words by July 31, 2012 to: J.D.Steinert@wl.ac.uk. All proposals are subject to a review process. Successful candidates will be informed in October 2012 and will be asked to send in their papers by the end of April 2013 for distribution among conference participants on a CD. The organizers intend to publish a selection of conference papers. Further information: http://www.wl.ac.uk/default.aspx?page=21825

Call for Abstracts: Breaking the Mould: Humanitarian Aid and Empowering Local Communities

Societies are facing increasing levels of risk and uncertainty in disaster situations. This makes delivering humanitarian aid in disaster situations a complicated and controversial subject.

Whilst there are numerous examples of good practice that relief workers can point to, there are also countless instances of exploitative and/or inappropriate interventions that those receiving aid have to contend with. This conference asks whether it is time for a paradigm shift in the manner in which aid is delivered and who can be legitimately involved in such work. Those wishing to present should send abstracts of no more than 300 words to Pamela McKenney at pamela.mckenney@durham.ac.uk by May 4, 2012.

Further information: http://www.dur.ac.uk/conference.booking/details?id=106

Call for papers: 13th National Conference on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention

The 13th National Conference on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention will be held in New Orleans at the Convention Center. The conference features an outstanding faculty to share the latest knowledge and skills in child abuse prevention, intervention and treatment. Please submit:
- At least three learning objectives for each presentation submitted.
- Workshop description to be used for Program Guide, not to exceed 40 words.
- Separate resumes and biographical information on each presenter identified (including experience training, especially at national/regional levels).
- Whether or not this workshop topic has been presented to other audiences, especially at national/regional levels.

Applications must be completed and returned by May 11, 2012.

For more information about this conference, please contact Marilyn Grundy at mgrundy@nationalacac.org

Call for papers: Literacy, Culture and Language Education

The Department of Literacy, Culture and Language Education at Indiana University solicits submissions for publication in the Working Papers in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education (WPLCLE). Graduate students, post docs and faculty are strongly encouraged to submit their papers. Submissions dealing with the following areas of research are welcome:
- Assessment and evaluation
- Multilingual and multicultural education
- Bilingual education
- Early literacy

All submissions must be in APA format (American Psychological Association, 6th Edition) and must be between 7,000 and 9,000 words in total length (including the bibliography). Book Reviews of recent publications in these areas are also welcome. They should not exceed 2,500 words including the bibliography. The general submission guidelines are available at: http://education.indiana.edu/SubmissionGuidelines/tabid/14192/Default.aspx

Questions concerning submission can be directed to the Editorial Manager Jaehan Park at wpicle@indiana.edu. The submission deadline is May 30, 2012. For more information: http://education.indiana.edu/Home/tabid/13967/Default.aspx

Vacancy: Global Partnership Coordinator

Girls Not Brides is seeking an experienced, energetic and committed Global Partnership Coordinator to lead a small team in supporting and coordinating the Partnership’s global drive towards a world without child marriage.

The Global Partnership Coordinator will lead a London-based secretariat of five people in their work with Girls Not Brides members to accelerate efforts to reduce and ultimately end child marriage. The ideal candidate will have experience with taking an overlooked global or policy issue to higher visibility and generating results-oriented action. Please send a concise CV and one page cover letter demonstrating how you meet the criteria for this position to Jobs@GirlsNotBrides.org. Closing date for applications: May 17, 2012.

Publications

Re-Member: Rehabilitation, Reintegration and Reconciliation of War-Affected Children
This book edited by Ilse Derluyn, Cindy Mels, Stephan Parmentier and Wouter Vandenhole brings together for the first time a wide range of leading scholars from three disciplinary perspectives (children’s rights, psychosocial studies and transitional justice). It aims at enhancing a multidisciplinary and comprehensive approach to the rehabilitation, reintegration and reconciliation processes of children and adolescents affected by armed conflict. The 22 chapters are specifically written for this volume and deal with theoretical perspectives, empirical findings and country reports. The book also contains prefaces from two distinguished academics and policy makers in the field of international children’s rights. It is of interest to academics, to policy makers, to practitioners, to non-governmental organisations, to the media, and to every citizen interested.

This book was launched in February 2012 at a policy meeting with European and Belgian policy-makers and practitioners, chaired by Ms R. Coomaraswamy, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict. ISBN: 978-9-40000-027-8

The Convention on the Rights of the Child: Repertoires of NGO Participation

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is often presented as the treaty that allows most strongly for non-governmental organisation (NGO) participation. Moreover, NGOs were actively involved in the drafting of the CRC itself, as well as of its three Optional Protocols (OPs). The CRC therefore makes a good case study of the role NGOs can play in the drafting and monitoring of human rights treaties, and may prove useful in current debates on United Nations treaty body reform more generally. In order to assess NGO participation and impact, the concepts of repertoires of NGO participation and frame alignment are used. It is tentatively concluded that 60–70% of NGO concerns tend to be taken up in the CRC Committee’s Concluding Observations. While these findings may seem to confirm that NGOs do have substantial impact on the reporting process, they need to be interpreted with utmost caution especially because we do not possess insight into whether and to what extent the Committee would have taken up these issues at any rate. This paper is co-authored by Erdem Türkelli and Wouter Vandenhole. doi: 10.1093/hrln/ngr045

Global Child Poverty & Well-Being: Measurement, concepts, policy and action

This book edited by Alberto Minujin and Shaline Nandy brings together theoretical, methodological and policy-relevant contributions from leading researchers on international child poverty with the aim of changing policy, action and research. The book examines how child poverty and well-being are conceptualized, defined, and measured and presents regional and national studies of child poverty from around the world. Global Child Poverty and Well-Being is an urgent call to arms for researchers and policymakers to confront one of the world’s great ongoing tragedies. ISBN: 9781847424822

Progress in Child Well-Being: Building on what works

Progress in Child Well-Being: Building on what works analyses the improvements to children’s lives during the past two decades in five sectors: health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, and child protection. It includes case studies of countries that have made strong progress in improving children’s well-being: a clear demonstration that when the right steps and approaches are taken, development works. However, the world as a whole is not on track to meet most of the child-related MDGs. The report makes a compelling case for greater investment in child-sensitive development, and highlights the key role of official development assistance. The authors set out the factors that drive change and the key steps to achieving progress in children’s well-being, and point to the areas where more needs to be done. Available online: http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/docs/Progress%20In%20Child%20Well-being%20Low%20Res.pdf

A Recovery for All: Rethinking Socio-Economic Policies for Children and Poor Households

The world’s financial and economic crisis has taken a toll on children and poor households. High food and commodity prices, unemployment and austerity measures have aggravated persistent inequalities and contributed to a substantial rise in hunger and social tensions. Now, more than ever, investments for the world’s poor are needed to recover lost ground in pursuit of development objectives. People everywhere are demanding change. This book describes the social impacts of the crisis, policy responses to date and United Nations alternative proposals for A Recovery for All. Available online: http://www.unicef.org/socialpolicy/files/A_Recovery_for_All_FINAL_10_April.pdf

Child Poverty and Inequality: New Perspectives

Upcoming Dates

MAY 2012
10/05 to 11/05: Using Digital Media in Research with Children and Young People, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
10/05 to 11/05: The child in the world of the book and media, Lodz, Poland.
15/05: Learning through play or playing to learn?, Institute of Education, UK.
15/05: Talking about Human and Children's Rights, Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa, Portugal
16/05: Workshop: Exploring Childhood Studies in the Global South: Africa in Focus, ICOSS, Sheffield, UK.
17/05 to 19/05: AFTA Conference-Theme: Family Resilience, San Francisco, USA.
26/05 to 27/05: C & K 2012 Early Childhood Conference - Children's Right to Childhood, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Australia.
30/05: The Next Click, Brussels, Belgium

JUNE 2012
06/06 to 08/06: 14th International Conference of Finland Futures Research Centre and Finland Futures Academy, University of Turku, Finland.
15/06: 21st century tools for teaching and learning, Institute of Education, University of London, UK.
16/06: The rights of children with disabilities: the duty to protect, respect, promote and fulfil, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
26/06 to 29/06: Representing Young People: Voice, Image, Practice, Power, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.
27/06 to 29/06: International Conference: A Child's World - Working Together for a Better Future, Aberystwyth University, Penglais Campus, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK.

JULY 2012
05/07: Theories, frameworks and concepts Workshop, University of Bristol, UK.
09/07 to 11/07: 4th International Conference: Celebrating Childhood Diversity, University of Sheffield, UK.
16/07 to 24/07: Summer Program: International Human Rights Law Summer Studies 2012, Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania.
30/07 to 24/08: International course “Human Rights for Development” (HR4DEV), University of Antwerp, Belgium.

AUGUST 2012
01/08 to 03/08: Breaking the Mould. Humanitarian Aid and Empowering Local Communities, Durham, UK.

SEPTEMBER 2012
04/09 to 07/09: 12th International EUSARF Conference, Glasgow, Scotland.
05/09 to 07/09: Children, Young People and Adults: Extending the Conversation, University of Central Lancashire, UK.
13/09 to 14/09: Twenty-first Century Childhood and Youth: Interdisciplinary Debates and Challenges. Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge, UK.
26/09 to 29/09: Families in a Changing Europe: Challenges, Conflict and Intervention,

Dear Kythe, Sapata and CEFADES (centre de formation et d’animation pour un développement solidaire) thanks for your wonderful drawings! They were part of the exhibition Kadogo hosted at the University of Antwerp from April 18 to 27, 2012 in cooperation with VIC children’s right ngo (http://www.vicngo.be/)
Upcoming Dates & ENMCR

DEAR NETWORK MEMBERS,

Please send us your agendas for the coming months as well as publications, funding and prizes or any other topic so we can include them in our newsletter (info@enmr.net).

NEXT MONTH’S NEWSLETTER:
• Early childhood care
• Child Well-Being

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SEPTMBER 2012

OCTOBER 2012
15/10 to 19/10: 5th World Congress on Children’s and Adolescents’ Rights, San Juan, Argentine.

NOVEMBER 2012
05/11 to 07/ 11: Criminality or Social Exclusion? Justice for Children in a Divided World, London, UK.
26/11 to 30/11: IUAES 2012 Inter-congress – Children and Youth in a Changing World, Bhubaneswar, India.

DECEMBER 2012
12/12 to 14/12: Child and Teen Consumption 2012: “Food Consumption, Communication, Life Styles and Fashion”. 5th International Conference on Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Child and Teen Consumption. IULM University, Milan, Italy.

How to join ENMCR

It is possible to join ENMCR as a member at any time. The European Network of Masters in Children’s Rights was established with the support of Save the Children Sweden (SCS). SCS has also been actively supporting and fostering the Latin American Network of Masters in Children’s Rights, which currently comprises nine universities in eight Latin American countries.

Why is it worthwhile joining our network?

We have been cooperating as a network for more than six years and have longstanding experience of loosely cooperating - you will work with children’s rights experts from all over Europe (and Latin America).
You will get an insight into children’s rights from a variety of perspectives and will be able to build on longstanding experience of the members.
We offer a joint European Master in Children’s Rights at leading universities in Europe - you will have access to knowledge on how to build up and offer a joint European Master study programme and will have access to training.
We organize conferences and workshops on children’s rights themes in Europe and in the world; you will have the chance to meet other children’s rights experts, activists, share ideas and thoughts and gain new perspectives.
You will receive copies of all materials published in the frame of ENMCR, such as the monthly electronic newsletter Children’s Rights news (CRnews), reports from projects, materials from conferences and workshops, etc.
To become a member of ENMCR, simply send us a letter of intent, in which you should name what you believe you or your institution can contribute to and gain from our network.
In addition, please include an outline of your child rights related programme and/or courses. It is important that you name a contact person at your institution for correspondence purposes.

Please send the letter to:
European Network of Masters in Children’s Rights (ENMCR)
c/o European Master in Childhood Studies and Children’s Rights
Freie Universität Berlin
Habelschwerder Allee 45
D- 14195 Berlin, Germany

Children’s Rights Newsletter April 2012