



CR news 14-11

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF MASTERS IN CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

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What's new

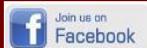
- Prof. Maria Roth: Chair of the UNCRC Policy Centre
- CREAN: Book Launch- Children and non-discrimination
- UN CRC: 25th Anniversary
- Frontiers of Children's Rights: Leiden Summer School on International Children's Rights

Don't miss the opportunity:

04/12/2014 to 05/12/2014

CREAN Conference: Children's Rights to Non-Discrimination.
Further information [here](#)

ENMCR Website:
You will find all the information about ENMCR [here](#)



This newsletter is supported by:



Save the Children
Sweden

ENMCR

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Dear ENMCR network members and network interested,
In this issue you will read about the Symposium in Memory of Judith Ennew, the VI. World Congress in Mexico and the Leiden Summer School. You will also read about the ENMCR members recent publications and about some of the outcomes of the CREAN Project. 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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Symposium in [Memory of Judith Ennew Gallery](#)



General News Internal

Prof. Maria Roth: Chair of the UNCRC Policy Centre

Professor Maria Roth, member of the Directive Committee of the ENMCR has been selected for holding the Chair of the UNCRC Policy Centre.

The Chair is designed for Universities' work towards the protection and

promotion of Children's Rights. The Chair act as an agent of knowledge on children's rights within the academic community through policy and practice, by teaching, conducting research and providing services to the community. Prof. Maria Roth is one of the founders of the Social Work department in Babes Bolyai University

in 1990. She has designed several researches in child abuse and works with a team of academics in the area of Child abuse and neglect in the family, parenting, and children's rights issues. We wish Prof. Maria Roth all the best continued success in your new role!



Rebecca Budde wrote this article about the Symposium in Memory of Judith Ennew. Thank you for your input!

International Symposium in Memory of Judith Ennew

The international symposium, which was held at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany on October 27 and 28, 2014 was organized by the [MA Childhood Studies and Children's Rights](#) (MACR) and the [European Network of Masters in Children's Rights](#) in cooperation with the [Institute for International Studies in Childhood and Youth at INA gGmbH](#), with the invaluable help of a group of very engaged MACR students.

The reason behind holding the symposium was that the British anthropologist Judith Ennew passed away unexpectedly and much too early about one year ago, in the fall of 2013. Her untiring work as researcher and promoter of children's rights was to be praised and the aim was to uphold her spirit also for future generations of children's rights scholars, advocates and researchers.

The symposium fulfilled this aim. Judith's work was remembered and praised by many (by far not all) of her friends and colleagues from all over the world she worked with closely during her lifetime. Presentations and discussions held were very personal and partly, due to the circumstance in which the symposium was held, also quite emotional. The organisers were delighted that amongst the approx. 100 participants of the event, about half were students and young researchers from different child rights studies in European countries.

Judith Ennew was active in many, if

not all continents of the world and has made important contributions to the understanding of the situation in particular of socially disadvantaged, excluded as well as marginalized children and the human rights practice towards them.

Her last major activity was as director of the Malaysia based NGO „Knowing Children“, where she showed and lived best practice on bringing together interdisciplinary, ethically legitimated research with practical commitment for children's rights.

After the very close friends of Judith and initiators of the symposium, Brian Milne, Antonella Invernizzi und Manfred Liebel opened the symposium, first, her most recent work at '[Knowing Children](#)' was presented- unfortunately the continued existence of the NGO is not secured. If you are interested in contributing to upholding the NGO and the good work, please contact Jasmin Lin at: admin@knowingchildren.org

After these introductory presentations, the director of the Instituto de Formación para Educadores de Jóvenes, Adolescentes y Niños Trabajadores de América Latina (IFEJANT), Alejandro Cussianovich, held a very touching speech on the concept of "unwritten rights" which Judith had introduced during her lifetime- the rights not legally guaranteed or written down. The speech evoked a lively discussion which was followed by a very clear presentation on ethical aspects in children's rights research by Sharon

Bessel (Australian National University).

In order to give young researchers a forum during the symposium, graduates of the MACR were invited to present and discuss their excellent MA theses. Furthermore themes such as sexual exploitation of children (Antonella Invernizzi), survival strategies of street children and orphans (Michael Bourdillon), as well as the international community viewing and dealing with children's and human rights separately and the difficulties with this (Nigel Cantwell) were discussed. The problem of finding and applying appropriate monitoring tools for the implementation of children's rights (Per Miljeteig) were also presented. You can view the complete program on the [Flyer](#).

At the moment the individually filmed and recorded interventions are in post production and some will be uploaded to the website of MACR in the coming weeks. If you would like to be informed about the release date you are welcome to send an e-mail to symposium2014@enmcr.net, we will gladly inform you.

We would like to thank our sponsors, without whom the realization of the symposium wouldn't have been possible: Oak Foundation, Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit; World Vision Deutschland e.V.; Ernst-Reuter-Gesellschaft der Freunde und Förderer der FU Berlin.

Rebecca Budde

General News Internal



Prof. Dr. Manfred Liebel, Member of the ENMCR Directive Committee wrote this article about the VI. World Congress on the Rights of children and Adolescents.

On the foreseeable failure of a World Congress on the Rights of Children and Adolescents

The VI. World Congress on the Rights of Children and Adolescents, that took place in the Mexican city of Puebla from 12.-14. November 2014 with mainly Latin American participants, was overshadowed by a wave of deadly crimes against young people, in which government bodies are also involved. As one of three main themes of the congress, "violence against children" was on the agenda, next to "migration" and "internet". However, who had thought that the congress would also address the grave violations of human and children's rights in the host country was to be disappointed. Even the recent case of a 13 year old boy, who was shot down by a police bullet close to Puebla four months prior to the congress, was a no-no.



The boy's mother who wanted to present her case to the organizers was expelled from the congress hall by order of the government of the federal state of Puebla. Some participants who had supported her in her endeavour had to depart earlier than planned as they saw themselves threatened by the "security bodies". It was hard to imagine that the congress' claim to be an independent scientific forum on theory and practice of children's rights was to be fulfilled in this environment. The main organiser, the civil society organisation „Mexican Network for Children's Rights (REDIM)", had in fact given itself "away" to the government of the federal state of Puebla, be it out of naïvety or carelessness, as the congress was financed mainly by the government. At the same time, the network had failed to develop a concept for the congress, which would have allowed a real exchange between children, young people and adults. Simultaneously to the main event, in which about 1000 adults participated, a separated so called children's congress took place in which about 100 children (mainly

from Mexico) engaged in superficial exercises on children's rights with moderators who weren't very qualified. In some of the panels at the main event, one child was permitted to sit at the table, however without even introducing him or her by name or really discussing with the child. In no instance at the congress was there any discussion with children, there were only discussions about children and their rights.

Only in the closing session, some children and young people had their say. It was surely no coincidence that they complained about not having been taken seriously during the congress. They also spoke about the case of the killed boy, which none of the adults had dared to mention before and took the government of Puebla to task. It is a pity that the congress was conceptualized in a way that children's rights were only dealt with paternalistically and that on top of that even allowed an authoritarian and corrupt government to misuse the event as propaganda show.

M. L.

CREAN: Book Launch- Children and non-discrimination



This interdisciplinary textbook edited by Dagmar Kutsar and Hanne Warming is the culmination of research conducted by the partners involved in the Children Rights Erasmus Academic Network (CREAN). With this manual, CREAN aims to promote understanding of Art 2 of the UN CRC and how it affects children's rights, to shed light on age discrimination against children in various life domains of the child, and to discuss the ways to non-discrimination and the value of equality. The reader is encouraged to question the normative stereotypes

of discrimination towards children, and to overcome a sole "becoming" perspective of children not being capable or able.

The book is organized in two parts: The first part concerns the "Legal approach to non-discrimination of a child"; the second part concerns the topic "Combating child discrimination"

All chapters in this book are supplied with questions or exercises for reflection that give an opportunity to look back to the material and allow for discussions from the students' own country perspectives.

This interdisciplinary textbook can be used as teaching material in advanced higher education and as an information source for researchers. It can also offer informational support to policy actors and other civil society agents.

ISBN: [978-9949-9538-8-2](https://www.isbn-international.org/product/978-9949-9538-8-2)

University Press of Estonia

Children and
non-discrimination
Interdisciplinary textbook

General News Internal



Simona Florescu, PhD candidate Leiden University wrote this article about the Summer School “Frontiers of Children’s Rights! Thank you very much for your input.

Frontiers of Children’s Rights: Leiden Summer School on International Children’s Rights

The second Leiden Summer School on International Children’s Rights took place between 6 to 10 July 2014. Students and professionals from all over the world came to Leiden to follow a comprehensive children’s rights program, which consisted of inspiring lectures by leading academics and professionals, interactive seminars and excursions. The Summer School on International Children’s Rights is an initiative of Prof. Ton Liefaard and Prof. Julia Sloth-Nielsen of the Child Law Department of Leiden University in close collaboration with the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies. Twenty-six eager students and professionals came to Leiden University to participate in the second edition of Leiden Summer School on International Children’s Rights. With participants from across the world – ranging from South Korea to Canada, from Cambodia to Lebanon and from the United States to the Netherlands – and with diverse academic backgrounds, the classroom truly reflected the international and multidisciplinary character of the

Summer School. The diversity amongst the participants resulted in lively and meaningful discussions on numerous topical children’s rights issues throughout the week.

The Summer School program consisted of interactive lectures and seminars on a wide variety of children’s rights themes. The program addressed specific themes such as children in alternative care and juvenile justice, but also broader themes such as the issue of monitoring children’s rights, the question of responsibility for compliance with children’s rights and the relevance of children’s rights in the context of international criminal law. Besides, there was particular attention to the issues of children’s rights and climate change, children’s rights and business principles and children in the virtual world.

Lectures were provided by internationally renowned experts and professionals, among whom Prof. Jaap Doek (former Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child), Prof. William Schabas (Professor of Human Rights Law and International Criminal Law at Leiden University) and Andrew Mawson (Chief of Child Protection at the UNICEF Office of Research-Innocenti

based in Florence, Italy). The entire program was supervised by Professor of Children’s Rights and UNICEF chair Ton Liefaard and recently appointed Professor of Children’s Rights in the Developing World Julia Sloth-Nielsen of the Child Law Department of Leiden University.

In addition to the lectures and seminars, several excursions were organized. During the week, the Summer School participants visited the Children’s Rights Home in Leiden, youth custodial institution ‘Teylingereind’ in Sassenheim and the International Criminal Court in The Hague. Despite the intensity of the program, the participants had the opportunity to relax after their hard work by means of a boat trip through the canals of Leiden and a farewell banquet at the beach in Scheveningen.

All in all, the second Leiden Summer School on Frontiers Children’s Rights has been a success. The combination of lectures by acknowledged speakers, meaningful excursions and highly motivated participants has made it a fruitful week. Let’s hope for an equally fruitful sequel next summer. Further information [here](#).

Simona Florescu

CREAN: Conference Children’s Right to Non-Discrimination

The 2nd CREAN Conference [Children’s Rights to Non-Discrimination](#) organised by Siauliai University and Mykolas Romeris University – will focus on the reasons why children’s rights are violated, states are called to take proactive measures where necessary to guarantee the principle of non-discrimination, including law and policy general principle of non-discrimination stated in Article 2 of the Convention on the Rights of the

Child. Taking into account that discrimination is one of the main reform, education, awareness-raising, and monitoring, among others. The conference will take place on December 4th and 5th at the Lithuanian Parliament and will count with remarkable Key Note Speakers. We look forward to meet all the participants in Vilnius!



General News External

UN CRC: 25th Anniversary

The Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 20 November 1989 and to date has been ratified by 194 countries, making it the most widely ratified international human rights treaty. Its adoption marked the first time that children were explicitly recognized as having specific rights.

As part of celebrations to mark the anniversary of the Convention's adoption at the UN, the General Assembly hold a meeting at UN Headquarters in New York on the promotion and protection of the rights of children. An interactive panel discussion on the theme of 25 Years of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: is the world a better place for children?, co-chaired by Queen Silvia of Sweden and Ms. Laura Vargas Carrillo of Mexico was also held.

Also a panel discussion on the "25th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: recalling its vision," organized by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, was held.

In addition, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) holed a musical celebration UN Headquarters. On that day the UNICEF #IMAGINE project was launched, a musical and technological initiative to highlight the challenges children face the world over.

Greece: Children with learning disabilities

Greece is one of three countries which continue to keep children with learning disabilities in cage beds in state care institutions, according to the Mental Disability Advocacy Center (MDAC). In a country where institutions for people with disabilities are severely underfunded and understaffed, those working in care homes do not consider the use of caged beds in an entirely negative light, with previous practices including tying children to beds by their arms and legs.

United Kingdom: Right to health

In October a High Court judge in the United Kingdom allowed a mother to end the life of her seriously ill 12-year-old daughter. The child was born

blind with hydrocephalus, meningitis and septicaemia, and could not walk, talk, eat or drink. This is the first time such an order has been granted in relation to a child not on life support and not suffering from a terminal illness.

Estonia: Access to Justice

The Convention on the Rights of the Child is binding in Estonia but is not often used by the courts. Children require representation to initiate court proceedings, however, a child over 15 years old has a right to be involved together with their representative. The representative is typically the child's parent, but the court can also appoint a guardian to represent the child. Children's ability to give evidence in court is very limited. Testimony is usually heard from the representative on behalf of the child and the court may refuse to hear evidence from a child under 14 years old. Complaints concerning children's rights may also be submitted to the Ombudsman for Children.

Funding / Prizes / Research Opportunities

Call for Manuscripts: Institutionalised Children: Explorations and Beyond (ICEB)

The journal Institutionalised Children: Explorations and Beyond (ICEB) evolved out of the need to expand our understanding of the developmental needs of such children and to offer a venue for professionals, policy makers and volunteers to share and exchange their ideas, their expertise and their knowledge. This journal will attempt to address limitations in the research, knowledge and counselling practices currently prevalent in working with institutionalised children.

Manuscripts can address research issues, issues of child care and policy, legal concerns related to child care and management issues, children's home care strategies and care-giver solutions, developing home monitoring systems, children with special needs such as disabilities, juvenile delinquency, or children diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. Manuscripts addressing issues related to 'good practice' are encouraged. The ICEB Editorial Board invites submissions of abstracts (five hundred words or less) on topics relating to research and exploration of work with institutionalised children. Abstracts must be original, without any prior

publication and must be submitted in English. The deadline for submission is the end of January 2015. Manuscripts not included in the next edition can still be published in the subsequent editions of the ICEB journal. Manuscripts must be submitted in MSWord (2003/2007) online on www.indianjournals.com. Queries regarding article submission can be sent at submission@indianjournals.com alternatively you can send by email to Monisha Akhtar: monisha_akhtar@hotmail.com or Kiran Modi: icebjournal@udayancare.org

Publications

Children and Borders



This edited collection brings together scholars whose work explores the entangled relationship between children and borders with richly-documented ethnographic studies from around the world. The book provides a penetrating account of how borders affect children's lives and how in turn children play a constitutive role in the social life of borders. Providing situated accounts which offer critical perspectives on children's engagements with borders, contributors explore both the institutional power of borders as well as children's ability to impact borders through their own activity and agency. They show how borders and the borderlands surrounding them are active zones of engagement where notions of identity, citizenship and belonging are negotiated in ways that empower or disempower children, offer them possibilities and hope or alternatively deprive them of both. With innovative cross-fertilization between Border Studies and Childhood Studies, this volume illustrates the value of bringing children and borders together. Edited by Spyros Spyrou and Miranda Christou.
ISBN: 9781137326300

Routledge International Handbook of Children's Rights Studies



In the years since the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, children's rights have assumed a central position in a wide variety of disciplines and policies. This handbook offers an engaging overview of the contemporary research landscape for those people involved in the theory and practice of children's rights. The volume edited by Wouter Vandenhoele, Ellen Desmet,

Didier Reynaert and Sara Lembrechts offers a multidisciplinary approach to children's rights to children's rights, as well as key thematic issues in children's rights at the intersection of global and local concerns.

The specially commissioned chapters have been written by renowned scholars and researchers and come together to provide a critical and invaluable guide to the challenges and dilemmas currently facing children's rights.

To Be Published March 30th 2015 by Routledge.

ISBN: 978-1-13-802370-3

The plight of Romanian social protection: addressing the vulnerabilities and well-being in Romanian Roma families



To adhere to the European Union, Romania was obliged to adopt the entire range of international human rights laws for children's rights, disability rights, women's rights, minority rights and non-discrimination. However, Romania's practice of human rights falls behind the letters of these laws, especially for populations exposed to intersectional vulnerabilities (e.g. being both Roma and child or woman). The introductory sections of this article (written by Maria Roth and Stefánia Toma) describe the cumulative vulnerabilities faced by the Roma, and discuss the main anti-discrimination policies and international treaties adopted in Romania in the context of recent EU developments, including the strategies for the Roma Decade. The main body of the article discusses the barriers to effectively addressing the rights of the Roma in Romania. Using available (yet scarce) ethnically segregated data, we draw attention to the multiple risks faced by Roma families in Romania confronted with traditionalism, poverty, violence, lack

of services and proper housing, and other risks.

DOI: 10.1080/13642987.2014.944813

'Killed by charity' – Towards Interdisciplinary children's rights studies



'Killed by charity' – Towards Interdisciplinary children's rights studies. Karl Hanson wrote this editorial for the November 2014 edition of the journal *Childhood*. In order to enhance critical reflections on children's rights legislation, practice and discourse, children's rights research should move away from the advocacy and policy orientations of the social movement in favour of children's rights. Interdisciplinary children's rights studies, Hanson argues, should therefore be conceptualized as a relatively autonomous academic field of interest.

DOI: 10.1177/0907568214547453

The editorial can be found here: <http://chd.sagepub.com/content/21/4/441>

Child Domestic Work in Nigeria. Conditions of Socialisation and Measures of Intervention

For the last two decades, child domestic work carried out in Nigeria as well as in other countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia, has been given increasing attention by international policy makers and scientists. Yet, the research mainly focuses on the living and working conditions of these children. Against the background of post-colonial theory the author (Ina Gankam Tambo) studies the effects of social modernisation in Nigeria.

ISBN: 978-3-8309-8141-1

Events and membership

DECEMBER 2014

- 03/12 to 04/12: Making deprivation of children's liberty a last resort - Towards evidence-based policies & alternatives, Brussels, Belgium.
- 04/12 to 05/12: CREAN Conference Children's Rights to non-discrimination, Vilnius, Lithuania.
- 08/12: Menschenrechte auf der Flucht, Berlin, Germany.
- 09/12 to 10/12: European Conference on the Best Interests of the Child, Brussels, Belgium.
- 16/12: Investing in Children Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage, Cardiff, UK.

JANUARY 2015

- 15/01: Interrogations of young suspects in the European Union, Maastricht, the Netherlands.
- 21/01: Better Late Than Never: 25th Anniversary of the UK Ratification of the UN CRC, Oxford UK.
- 22/01 to 23/01: Denialism and Human Rights, Maastricht, Netherlands.
- 26/01 to 30/01: World Congress on Juvenile Justice, Geneva, Switzerland.

HOW TO JOIN THE ENMCR NETWORK?

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@enmcr.net).



Save the Children, thank you for making this newsletter possible!



It is possible to join the European Network of Masters in Children's Rights as a member at any time. ENMCR was established in 2004 by five European Universities with the support of Save the Children Sweden (SCS). In the meantime 31 universities are members of ENMCR. ENMCR is collaborating with the Latin American Network of Masters in Children's Rights, which currently comprises nine universities in eight Latin American countries and is also supported by SCS. Furthermore, ENMCR is in contact with academic study programmes on children's rights in other parts of the world, e.g. in the MENA region.

Why is it worthwhile joining our network?

In becoming a member you will work with children's rights experts from all over Europe (and Latin America). We have been cooperating as a network for almost ten years and you will be able to build on the longstanding experience of our members. You will get an insight into children's rights from a variety of perspectives and disciplines. The member universities offer higher education in childhood studies and children's rights, at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels. Some members offer full study programmes in children's rights, others offer modules, seminars or intensive courses. You will have access to knowledge in establishing study programmes, as well as to teaching materials developed in the network. We have implemented several European Union funded projects on children's rights themes and organize conferences, workshops and short intensive programmes in the same field. You will have access to 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 name what you believe you and 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. Our members contribute to ENMCR's work with an annual membership fee of 300€ which covers the daily expenses of the network.

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
Habelschwerdter Allee 45
D- 14195 Berlin, Germany

