



European Network of Masters in Children's Rights

# CRnews 2

Children's Rights Newsletter

February 2008

European Network of Masters in Children's Rights  
c/o Internationale Akademie an der Freien Universität Berlin  
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## Dear Network Members and Network Interested,

Thank you for reading the second edition of CRnews in 2008. Applications for the European Master at the Freie Universität are now possible (see below), ENMCR has launched its new webpage!!!

For comments and feedback on our newsletter, suggestions for improvement, please write to

[info@enmcr.net](mailto:info@enmcr.net)

Sincerely,

Rebecca Budde (Editor)



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## General News Internal

### **New Webpage ENMCR:**

It was a long process, yet now we are proud to announce the launch of our new webpage. We have changed the layout and structure of the site to include more detailed information on the different projects ENMCR is implementing and has implemented, as well as a "members only" section, in which you will find internal network documents, such as protocols of meetings, course handbooks, etc. What will be really useful for future collaboration between ENMCR members, be it in teaching, development of curricula or common research projects are the member profiles that give information on each university/organisation's representative in ENMCR, with contact data, references and depiction of field of expertise.

We are setting up the new directory over the weekend, so that you will be able to access the new webpage through our old address: [www.enmcr.net](http://www.enmcr.net) starting on Monday.

If you are really curious already now, you can have a look at: [www.enmcr.net/cms](http://www.enmcr.net/cms).

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

#### **EMCR at the FU**

In order to be able to include students from outside Europe in The EMCR starting in Autumn 2008, the deadline for application has been pre-poned to **April 30**. Application forms are available on: [www.fu-berlin.de/emcr](http://www.fu-berlin.de/emcr).

Please note that the title of the joint European programme will be changed to "European Master in Childhood Studies and Children's Rights".

For further information on the MA in Berlin, please contact: Rebecca Budde: [r.budde@fu-berlin.de](mailto:r.budde@fu-berlin.de)

#### **International Interdisciplinary Course: Children's Rights in a Globalized World: From Principles to Practice**

Date: 8 to 19 September 2008, Location: Ghent-Antwerp (Belgium)

More than 18 years after the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and 60 years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is time to take stock of the achievements and challenges. In particular, as globalisation expands and deepens, challenges of poverty, environmental degradation, child labour and migration take on a new dimension. Globalisation and the dispersion of power also means that states are only one among many actors.

These developments challenge the concept of children's rights and ask for critical reflection on children's rights as a leverage for societal change. The reality of children's rights is much richer than a legal instrument and its implementation. In order to turn principles into practice, a multidisciplinary approach, which allows for multiple interpretations of children's rights, is needed. A critical reflection therefore strengthens rather than weakens children's rights.

The International Interdisciplinary Course wants to make an active contribution to the proliferation and promotion of the CRC and its underlying values and aims at critical reflection on children's rights.

#### **Contents**

After a multidisciplinary introduction to children's rights, with a particular focus on the CRC, implementation strategies and methodologies will be explored. Six broad themes will be addressed from a children's rights perspective: education, health, child protection, poverty, child labour and migration.

#### **Participants**

Participants are expected to actively engage in discussions. A collective and individual assignment are to be completed and presented during the course. Widely recognized experts from all over the world

will facilitate the lectures and workshops.

A maximum of 40 high-quality participants will be selected.

#### Applications

To be submitted online before **1 April 2008**. All applicants must upload a CV and explain in the on-line registration form their motivation (how do you think the course will help you in your daily work, what do you expect to gain from the course). All participants should also send two letters of recommendation to the course secretariat (to the attention of Ms. Amssoms).

Course Fee: 1.600 €

The fee covers accommodation for two weeks (from Sunday September 7th to Friday September 19th), breakfast and lunches on course days, tuition by experts in the field, participation in all sessions and the printed course material.

More information on [www.iccr.be](http://www.iccr.be) or [Kathleen.Vlieghe@UGent.be](mailto:Kathleen.Vlieghe@UGent.be)

## General News External

### Towards a EU Strategy on CR (Update)

#### Second European Forum on the Rights of The Child

**Date: March 4 Location: Brussels**

The DG Freedom, Security and Justice (DG JLS) is responsible for the organisation of the second European Forum on the Rights of the Child on 4 March in Brussels. It will focus on child poverty and social exclusion with a special focus on Roma children. But children and young people's participation has been put completely aside. Civil society has not been consulted either, and we understood there was little or no involvement of other DGs in the preparation of the Forum. Therefore, it is not clear at this stage who from the NGO community will be invited to participate. Ernesto Bianchi, head of the Citizenship and Fundamental Rights Unit in DG JLS, informed us that Patrick Trousson, who has been leading the unit on children's rights up to now, will soon be replaced and that two new members will be recruited for this team. He also plans to again hold meetings of the Steering Group -which up to now gathered only once- for the preparation of the upcoming Forums.

CRAG members have also met with members of the Cabinets of Margot Walström (communications and inter-institutional relations) and Franco Frattini (JLS), and delivered its positions on civil society representation at the Forum -still a living document- and on children's participation. The Guidelines submitted were developed by CRAG members who have longstanding experience of child participation. They suggest that all participation (of children and adults) has to be meaningful- taken into account. The second precondition to be fulfilled if children are to participate in future forums (the only platform -supposedly-made available to children to participate in European Policy Making) is that participation is safe for them.

Reference is made to basic standards for child participation published and used for the UN study on Violence against children. It is mentioned however, that these are minimum requirements and that the EU ought to take measures to at least comply with these but aim at a more inclusive approach. As civil society representation in the EU Forum on the Rights of the Child is more than doubtful- by the way information is given and spread amongst stakeholders (i.e. hardly at all), it is highly doubtful that the submitted guidelines on child participation be taken into account.

For the next forum, which is scheduled already for March 4, child participation as far as we know of is not foreseen.

If you are interested in the whole document submitted by CRAG, please contact: Rebecca Budde at [rbudde@ina-fu.org](mailto:rbudde@ina-fu.org)

### **Communication on Children in EU External Policies**

On 5 February the European Commission adopted a communication to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: „A Special Place for Children in EU External Action.“ The communication can be downloaded from: [http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail\\_dossier\\_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=196698](http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=196698)

Even though the outset of the communication emphasises as so often, the vulnerability of children as reason for the communication, (see page 3: „Children must be placed at the centre of the EU's external relations, development and humanitarian aid policies because of their vulnerability.“); reference is made on later pages to children's rights to participation and the importance of taking into account children's views and voices in all matters affecting them (see page 4: „In addition (.), the voices of children and adolescents are generally unheard or unheeded in discussions and debates on decisions that will affect their lives whether at family, community, local, national or international levels. This in-audibility is in breach of Art. 12 of the CRC.“)

The communication continues with depicting the framework for the promotion of CR, which it is tied into, namely: „ the EU's commitment to promoting human rights in general. Thus, the European Charter of Fundamental Rights contains an explicit acknowledgement of the rights of children (Article 24), including their right to such protection and care as is necessary for their well-being, their freedom of expression, the right for their views to be taken into consideration, and the obligation to consider the children's best interests in all actions relating to them.“ (p.5) The communication also makes reference to the recently adopted *EU Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child* (available at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/external\\_relations/human\\_rights/guidelines/04\\_child/rights\\_child\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/human_rights/guidelines/04_child/rights_child_en.pdf)

The initiative by the European Commission to emphasise the promotion and protection of CR in all external actions is obviously highly welcome. It remains to be seen what effect the communication will have on external policies. Reference of course is made to the communication Towards a Strategy on the Rights of the Child (2006), actions taken so far named in this communication have not been satisfactory. The replacement of the head of the Unit on CR, Patrick Trousson, has slowed down procedures and the difficulty of no clear responsibilities leaves action on CR fall behind in general agendas. However, if all stakeholders across Europe are aware of these starting points for CR in EU policies and work together towards their realization, also this new communication will in the long run be useful for children across the globe.

### **Workshop on Protection of Undocumented Children in their basic Social Rights**

**Date:** April 04, 2008; **Location:** Brussels

The workshop is organised by PICUM, the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants. The focus of the workshop will be the discrimination against undocumented children in their access of basic social rights, particularly education and housing. The workshop will provide an opportunity to investigate the specific needs and problems that undocumented children face in Europe when trying to access their basic social rights. The event will enable participants to share experiences of good practices regarding the provision of protection to undocumented children subjected to discrimination-based violence in the fields of housing and education. The draft program and registration form are available on PICUM's website ([www.picum.org](http://www.picum.org)).

### **Human Rights Tools (Update of webpage):**

The Human Rights Short Courses page of the platform human rights tools has been updated: <http://www.humanrightstools.org/shortcourses.htm>

It now features more than 60 short courses and summer schools spanning 2008 and 2009, from the general introductions to very specialized courses on indigenous peoples, discrimination, women's rights, and more.

### **Competition to select individual consultant (assessment of CR courses)**

UNICEF Georgia is announcing an open competition to select an individual consultant for a two-week mission to conduct an assessment of child rights courses, programmes in Georgia. The consul-

tancy envisages carrying out an assessment of child rights courses/programmes in selected institutes/universities in Georgia with the aim of initiating a course on child rights and convening a series of consultations with academia.

The deadline for receiving the proposals from the interested candidates – **17 March 2008**.

For further information, please, contact – Ms. Maya Kurtsikidze, Communication Officer, UNICEF Georgia, [mkurtsikidze@unicef.org](mailto:mkurtsikidze@unicef.org) Tel: (995 32) 25 11 30, 23 23 88

## Publications

### **Child rights in Europe: Convergence and divergence in judicial protection**

This recent publication (Dec.2007) in the Council of Europe series: Europeans and their rights gives a broad overview of legal instruments on Children's Rights from a Council of Europe perspective.

For more information and ordering:

[http://book.coe.int/sysmodules/RBS\\_page/admin/redirect.php?id=36%3C=EN%26produit\\_aliasid=2236](http://book.coe.int/sysmodules/RBS_page/admin/redirect.php?id=36%3C=EN%26produit_aliasid=2236)

### **Eliminating corporal punishment: a human rights imperative for Europe's children** (2nd edition) (21/01/2008)

Eliminating corporal punishment - A human rights imperative for Europe's children sheds light on the controversial issue of corporal punishment of children. It approaches this topic from four different angles: the legal and human rights obligation, as defined by regional and international conventions and agreements, to ban corporal punishment of children; the status of corporal punishment in European countries today; recent research results on its effects and prevalence, including how children see it; and the abolition of corporal punishment as a process, entailing changes in law, policies and public opinion. Physical punishment is an accepted form of child discipline in far too many countries, and challenging this widespread form of violence against children may be unpopular with both politicians and parents. Yet hitting children, even mildly, is a violation of children's basic human rights - the right not to be subjected to degrading treatment or punishment and the right to equal protection under the law. This work is for child and family professionals, government decision makers and a public motivated to learn more about this topic. For those already convinced, this book will add fuel to their convictions and provide substantiated arguments for abolition; for others, it is to be hoped that it will enable them to understand better the inherent legal and moral contradiction of disciplining children with violence.

### **COMPASITO - Manual on human rights education for children** (24/01/2008)

'Compasito' is a starting point for educators, teachers and trainers who are ready to deal with human rights education with children of 7-13 years.

The book familiarizes the reader with the key concepts of human rights and children's rights, and provides substantial theoretical background to 13 key human rights issues, such as democracy, citizenship, gender equality, environment, media, poverty, and violence.

The 42 practical activities serve to engage and motivate children to recognise human rights issues in their own environment. They help children to develop critical thinking, responsibility and a sense of justice, and help them learn how to take action to contribute to the betterment of their school or community. The manual also gives practical tips on how it can be used in various formal and non-formal educational settings.

## News from CRIN

### **NGOs: Reporting on Violence Against Children** [publication]

A thematic guide for non-governmental organisations reporting to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. The guidelines presented below are designed to help non-governmental organisations to include comprehensive information on the incidence of violence in their reports to the Committee.

NGOs have a unique role to play and they alone can give meaning to the data and statistics presented to the Committee. It is by making this information available that corrective measures can be identified that will move us towards our goal of ending violence.

Most NGOs working on issues related to child rights are familiar with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989 and which came into force on 2 September 1990. Since that time the NGO community has been actively participating in the monitoring of the Convention by providing reports and oral presentations to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, which meets in Geneva three times a year. These reports review, analyse and complement official State party reports, as well as present additional information to the Committee on how the Convention is being implemented in a given national setting.

A number of guidelines and implementation handbooks have been produced to provide detailed information on the Convention, its optional protocols, the role of the Committee, the obligations of States parties to the Convention and the part that can be played by the NGO community.

The review of NGO reports to the Committee concluded that the availability of NGO information on violence against children is uneven both geographically and thematically, and that there is a compelling need to improve the reporting function. Download the report here:

[http://www.crin.org/docs/NGO\\_Guidelines\\_reporting\\_VAC\\_to\\_CRC\\_2008.pdf](http://www.crin.org/docs/NGO_Guidelines_reporting_VAC_to_CRC_2008.pdf)

## News from Eurochild

### Ibero-American Network of Ombudspersons for Children created

The first Ibero-American network of ombudspersons for children was created at a meeting at the end of November in Lima, Peru. Eleven ombudspersons from Central and South American countries attended the meeting, as well as one representative from Spain. The meeting, which brought together regional ombudspersons for children for the first time, aimed to promote information sharing about their mandate and efforts to promote, protect and monitor child rights in their country; learn from the experience of the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC); and create an Ibero-American Network of ombudspersons for children. Other areas of cooperation will be to strengthen children's participation and the effective implementation of Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and to improve knowledge of how ombudspersons can work more closely with the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and the inter-American system of human rights. For more information, contact the Peruvian

Ombudsperson's office at: [prensa@defensoria.gob.pe](mailto:prensa@defensoria.gob.pe)

### Debate on EU child rights strategy by UK Parliament

On 18 December 2007 the UK Parliament's European Standing Committee debated the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child. The Minister for Higher Education and Lifelong Learning Bill Rammell stated that the UK government would certainly welcome a more joined-up approach to the policy area, but it would like to be able to put across its own views on where EU action does and does not add value. Although the Union does not have general competence to legislate on children's rights, there are areas in which legislative action may be justifiable under the treaties if there is an appropriate legal base. For full records from the meeting:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200607/cmgeneral/euro/061218/61218s01.htm>

### Study on indicators measuring children's rights in the EU

EURONET - the European Children's Network is involved in a "*Study on indicators measuring the implementation, protection, respect and promotion of children's rights in the European Union, mapping and assessment of available relevant data resources*". The tender for the study was awarded by the Fundamental Rights Agency to the University of Liverpool (Centre for the Study of the Child, the Family and the Law) in cooperation with the Ludwig Boltzmann Association - Institute of Human Rights in Austria. The Study on indicators was commissioned by the European Commission, DG Justice and Home Affairs, as part of the **Commission Communication towards an EU strategy on children's rights**. The study will start with an online consultation and a list of possible participants/experts for this consultation is currently being put together. The aim is to establish a network of about 40 experts that will be consulted on how to develop the EU indicators.

Euronet is asking for suggestions of experts on indicators and children's rights with an interest in

Europe. These could be experts (on certain types) of indicators working within your organisations or with whom you are cooperating. They would like to have their Name, Organisation, Country, Role/Position, e-mail. Please send this information to [info@eurochild.org](mailto:info@eurochild.org) by **Tuesday 26 February**

### **Shadow Report on the European Youth Pact by the European Youth Forum**

The European Youth Pact represents a key European instrument in order to achieve the elaboration of policies that answer complex needs of young people in the EU. It is a milestone in the amplification of youth policy at the EU level, even though it presents a number of limitations both in terms of content and context. However, if realised at the national level, it can give tangible results in terms of improving the living conditions of young people in the EU. The European Youth Forum is presenting this shadow report in order to present the perspective of youth organisations at the moment that the EU Member States report on their implementation of the Lisbon Strategy. The aim is also to make the YFJ findings public and visible while encouraging the EU Member States to do the same. The European Youth Forum hopes the EU Institutions and Member States will take into account the — sometimes critical — perspective put forward in this report by the YFJ and its Member Organisations, and address the indicated shortcomings and build on the good practices emphasised by some National Youth Councils.

The message of this shadow report is clear: more needs to be done in order to reach the ambitious objectives of the Lisbon Strategy in what concerns youth and especially the fulfilment of the commitments taken by the EU Member States in the European Youth Pact. Moreover, the YFJ analysis presented in the beginning of this report clearly shows that a number of instruments already exist at the level of the EU and can be put at the service of the implementation of the Pact. To that effect, what is most of all needed is political will.

For more information: [www.youthforum.org](http://www.youthforum.org)

### **Looking for project partners – Daphne III**

CONSOLIDA ([www.consolida.coop](http://www.consolida.coop)), the biggest consortium of social cooperatives of the Trentino region in Italy is currently seeking partnership from organisations based in other EU and candidate countries in order to present a project for funding to the European Commission, which aims at prevention and combating violence against children (0-18), young people and women and to protect victims and groups at risk. The proposed project wants to address the prevention of violence among young people of foreign origins living in the Trentino territory, through socio-educational interventions. They are seeking partners from other countries, interested in implementing similar actions in their regions and at exchanging experiences in the framework of a European project.

Should you be interested in partnership and in finding out more about the project proposal, please contact Ms. Cinzia Brentari at CONSOLIDA ([cinziabrentari@hotmail.com](mailto:cinziabrentari@hotmail.com)).

### **Job Postings**

#### **Research, Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator, Afghanistan**

War Child's Afghanistan Programme aims to promote child rights and improve psychosocial development opportunities for children through physical education, and play.

Objective of the post: The Research Coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing the research/assessment activities under the 'Protecting Urban Children at Risk in Kabul' (PUCRK) project. S/He will also set up the Monitoring & Evaluation System within WCH/Afghanistan including conducting baseline survey/s and will identify and monitor indicators to measure the impact of WCH's Afghanistan programme including the PUCRK Project.

URL: <http://www.warchild.nl/?paginaid=108&contentid=305>

#### **ECPAT - Information and communications officer (Bangkok, Thailand)**

ECPAT is a network of organisations and individuals working together to eliminate the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

ECPAT is seeking an information and communications officer to provide a comprehensive informa-

tion service to the global ECPAT International network and child rights community and to support ECPAT member groups to develop their information and resource services. To coordinate the operations of ECPAT International Information and Education Department (IED). To raise awareness and understanding about commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) by sharing information and promoting the work of ECPAT International and its network through liaisons with media and other agencies. More information can be found on the following link:

[http://www.ecpat.net/temp/ecpatx/ecpatx/Newsite//Get\\_involved/Vacancies/index2.asp](http://www.ecpat.net/temp/ecpatx/ecpatx/Newsite//Get_involved/Vacancies/index2.asp)

**The International Catholic Child Bureau (Bice) - Regional Delegate for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (Brussels, Belgium)**

Bice is an international NGO founded in France in 1948. It develops and implements projects promoting and protecting the dignity and the rights of the child in more than 25 countries. Bice is presently working in the CIS and wishes to develop its activities at the European level in particular via the setting-up of a network on the promotion and defence of the rights of the child in the new European Union (EU) Member States. Bice is therefore seeking for its Brussels Office, a Regional Delegate (M/F) full time for Europe and the CIS, with an emphasis on new EU Member States.

**Deadline: 7 March 2008**

For more information, and to apply, email: [audrey.harlaut@bice.org](mailto:audrey.harlaut@bice.org).

**SOS-Kinderdorf International:**

**Programme Development Manager and Programme Development Assistant (Uruguay)**

The Manager will be responsible for ensuring compliance with and implementing the family-based care model and supporting and evaluating the Federation's quality standards. Other responsibilities include: contributing to the development of strategies and international policies; managing internal and external learning and knowledge; designing and implementing information management systems to improve decision-making in programme services. The role will also involve developing the regional programme to create quality standards in family-based care for children.

To apply, send your CV to: [profesionales@manpower.com.uy](mailto:profesionales@manpower.com.uy). job code 812 at:

[http://www.manpower.com.uy/trabajo\\_opportunidades.asp](http://www.manpower.com.uy/trabajo_opportunidades.asp)

**Programme Development Assistant** (continental programme in Latin America and the Caribbean)

Responsibilities include: supporting the Programme Development Manager in monitoring and evaluation, research, advocacy and the development of SOS Kinderdorf's continental work. The successful candidate will also help implement the organisation's quality standards and create information management systems to improve family-based care programmes.

To apply, send your CV to: [profesionales@manpower.com.uy](mailto:profesionales@manpower.com.uy). job code 813 at:

[http://www.manpower.com.uy/trabajo\\_opportunidades.asp](http://www.manpower.com.uy/trabajo_opportunidades.asp)

## Funding

**Eurolecture: European guest lecture programme for innovation in teaching**

HEI teachers of German universities not older than 45 years of age who would like to invite a guest lecturer (also no older than 45) from another European country for a joint teaching project in a social sciences or humanities, art, architecture or music for one semester. The Eurolecture guest lecture is recognized and paid according to W2 professorships in Germany. In addition travel and mobility costs are covered, a fee for the inviting lecturer as well as a student assistant for the duration of the teaching project.

Deadline for application: **20 March 2008**

Further information: <http://www.toepfer-fvs.de/eurolecture08.html>

**New call for cooperation projects between EU and US HEIs**

The European Commission in cooperation with the US Department of Education has launched a new programme (ATLANTIS) on German-US HEI cooperation. In 2008, up to 8 transatlantic projects for

joint degrees as well as integrated curricula shall be funded, with a budget of up to 400.000€ per consortium. In addition 4 transatlantic mobility programmes for scientists and students shall be funded (total budget per project: up to 180.000€).

Deadline for application: **2 April 2008**

Further information: [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/extcoop/usa/call2008/index\\_en.htm](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/extcoop/usa/call2008/index_en.htm)

### **Calls for proposals**

[Lifelong Learning' Programme, sectoral programme LEONARDO DA VINCI](#) –

**Deadline: 14 March 2008**

[Lifelong Learning' Programme, TRANSVERSAL PROGRAMME](#) – **Deadline: 31 March 2008**

[OSI Roma Decade Matching Fund for 2008](#)

COMING SOON! Call for Proposals Daphne III Programme (whose objective is to prevent and combat violence against **children, young people** and women and to protect victims and groups at risk) was going to be published in mid-December, but to date has not come out. It will appear here: [http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/funding/daphne3/funding\\_daphne3\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/daphne3/funding_daphne3_en.htm)

### **Upcoming Dates**

**25 February:** Meeting of the Child Rights Action Group - CRAG

**26 February:** Deadline submission of information on CR indicators to EURONET

**3-4 March:** Conference on the participation in public life of young people with fewer opportunities, Brussels

**4 March:** 2<sup>nd</sup> European Forum on the Rights of the Child

**14 March:** Deadline submission of proposals under LLP/Leonardo/Socrates

**17 March:** Deadline for application: consultancy post with UNICEF Georgia on Development of CR courses

**20 March:** Deadline applications for Eurolecture

**31 March:** Deadline submission of proposals under LLP/Transversal Programme

**1 April:** Deadline application for Intl. Interdisciplinary Course on CR in Ghent-Antwerp

**2 April:** Deadline Submission of proposals HEI cooperation EU-US

**4 April:** Workshop on the Protection of undocumented children in their basic social rights (organised by PICUM), Brussels

**8-9 April:** CREDMOS meeting Belgrade

**30 April:** Deadline application European Master in Children's Rights at the FU Berlin ([www.fu-berlin.de/emcr](http://www.fu-berlin.de/emcr))

**28-29 May:** International Conference organised by the ICYRNet "Child and Youth Research in the 21st Century: A Critical Appraisal", Nicosia, Cyprus

**11-13 June:** "Better Future for Children Today" FICE 2008 Congress – 60 years of international co-operation for children in care, Helsinki, Finland.

**16-18 June:** ESF- Exploratory Workshop on Children's Participation in Public Decision making (Berlin); info: [rbudde@ina-fu.org](mailto:rbudde@ina-fu.org)

**30 June - 4 July:** 33rd global conference of the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), Tours, France.

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

**2 October:** Eurochild Members' Exchange Seminar on "Child and Youth Participation", Cardiff, Wales, UK.