



European Network of Masters in Children's Rights

CRnews 11

Children's Rights Newsletter
November 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,

We are happy to present you the 11th edition of our electronic information service CRnews. You are welcome to send us information you would wish to distribute in this newsletter. Please use info@enmcr.net. For all feedback, questions, comments or information. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Rebecca Budde (Editor)

In this Newsletter you will read:

General News

Internal: News from Members and Networks of which ENMCR is a member

- International Conference "Localizing Children's Rights" (IUKB)
- 'Listening to Children: Research and Consultation' Intensive Training course (University of Edinburgh)
- Commission to prioritise child and youth health inequalities (Eurochild)
- Key Message on Eurochild
- „Deutschland: kindergerecht?!“ Open Forum NC Germany

External

- Application for NGO Representatives in the EU Forum on Children's Rights online
- Children and the European Union: Legal, Research and Political Perspectives
- More German students abroad
- Congress: „Protect, promote, include- for a child gerechtes Germany“
- Looking for Expert in Child Budgeting for presentation and training in Macedonia
- MEPs back programme for safer Internet for children
- Democratic Education in a New Europe –Challenges for Parents and Families (Conference)
- Fingerprinting of Roma population in Italy- including children
- Large numbers of unaccompanied minors arrive in Lampedusa
- EU report: "Parents face shortage of childcare services"
- Public Consultation on the future of EU Youth Policy
- UN human rights body once again condemns treatment of children in the UK
- CRAE (Child Rights Alliance for England) annual conference
- Too sexy too soon? Media and the sexualisation of childhood (Lecture)

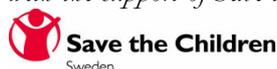
Publications

- Los Ninos Como Actores en los Procesos Migratorios- Implicaciones para los proyectos de cooperación:
- Study on unaccompanied minors
- Young pupils and parents without papers

Job Postings

Upcoming Dates

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General News Internal

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

International Conference "Localizing Children's Rights"

Date: 15 November 2008 Location: IUKB/ University of Fribourg Switzerland

The Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch (IUKB) and the University of Fribourg Switzerland are organising an International Conference "Localizing Children's Rights" on Saturday 15 November 2008.

The conference aims to contrast ideas and concepts as well as to facilitate an exchange of information between researchers, professionals and students working in the interdisciplinary children's rights field.

A particular emphasis will be given to how children's rights are contextualised and localised in a variety of legal and social arenas pertaining to children's rights. Ms Hina Jilani (Advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan and Special Representative of the Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders from 2000 until April 2008) will deliver a key note address on 'Localizing Children's Rights'.

During the working group sessions, graduate students that participated in the Master of Advanced Studies in Children's Rights will debate about the complexity of localizing children's rights via the discussion of their research findings. Working group themes

The conference will take place at the University of Fribourg (Pérolles II), located in the city of Fribourg in Switzerland (Hotel and travel information available via www.fribourgtourisme.ch).

Persons interested in attending the conference are required to register on beforehand by e-mail.

Participation in the conference is free. Please note that the conference organisers will not be able to provide assistance with visa, travel or accommodation arrangements.

Brochure on website ([link](#))

Enclosed you find a brochure with further details on the conference programme. We would appreciate if you can circulate this information to persons who are interested in participating in the conference.

With kind regards, Sarah Bruchez Programme Secretary; Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch (IUKB) Children's Rights Unit / MCR; P.O. Box 4176 * CH - 1950 Sion; Tel. +41 (0)27 205 73 00 * Fax +41 (0)27 205 73 01; E-mail mcr@iukb.ch * Website www.iukb.ch

'Listening to Children: Research and Consultation' Intensive Training course

Dates: 10 weeks starting 19th January 2009; Location: University of Edinburgh

Now enrolling for Spring 2009

'Listening to Children: Research and Consultation' is a ten-week training course designed for those who work with children and young people and want to improve their skills of research and consultation. Run by the Centre for Research on Families and Relationships (CRFR - www.cfr.ac.uk), it involves a combination of online learning and classroom sessions based at the University of Edinburgh.

Bookings are now being taken for Spring 2009. Practical details are as follows:

- 10 weeks from 19th January 2009
- classroom sessions will take place on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th February and Thursday 5th and Friday 6th March (9.30am - 4.30pm) at The University of Edinburgh
- internet access is required
- aimed at those with a grounding in social research
- cost £750 (£850 if you wish to study for credit)
- full details and sample learning materials available at www.cfr.ac.uk/cpd/listeningtochildren/

Comments from previous participants include:

'A super course with excellent tutors and teachers. Outstanding feature was the rich source of materials it provided'

'Really rich and confidence-raising course. Good materials, varied methods, practical skills, stimulating and able to be

incorporated into busy schedule'

For any further information, please contact: k.dunne@ed.ac.uk

Kathryn Dunne; Centre for Research on Families and Relationships The University of Edinburgh; 23 Buccleuch Place; Edinburgh; EH8 9LN; Tel: 0131 651 1917; Fax: 0131 651 1833; Office hours: Mon-Thurs 9.00-3.00 Co-Covenor: Kay Tisdall

Enrollment open for the next edition of the Experto en Políticas Sociales de Infancia (Madrid)

The director, Jesus Leal Maldonado and the pedagogic coordinator of the 6 month expert course in children's social policies have informed us that the inscription period of the course is now open. The course is organised in weekend blocks and will last from February-July 2009.

Interested persons can access the course flyer via www.enmcr.net or directly at the course's website: www.ucm.es/info/polinfan. For any further information, please contact the secretariat of the course at: expertoinfancia@cps.ucm.es

Commission to prioritise child and youth health inequalities (conference planned July 09)

Under the leadership of Commissioner Vassiliou from Cyprus, the Directorate General for Health and Consumers is giving priority to improving the health of children and young people. A meeting on Monday brought together key stakeholders to help plan a conference in July 2009 that will focus on youth health – a framework for action. The event will have two strands – cross-cutting themes such as social inclusion and health inequalities, as well as tackling specific issues such as nutrition and obesity, alcohol and tobacco use. The event expects to attract some 200 participants, including member state government representatives, NGOs, academics, and children and young people themselves (aged 15-25). Eurochild is part of this stakeholder group and will participate in future consultations about the form of this event. If you wish to be involved, please contact: secretarygeneral@eurochild.org.

Eurochild Key Message on EU Initiative on Poverty and Social Exclusion:

Eurochild¹ welcomes the initiative of the French presidency to focus the 7th Round Table on Poverty and Social Exclusion on the active inclusion of people furthest from the labour market.

The fight against child poverty is and must remain a key priority of the EU. Some 19% of children (19 million children) are still living below the poverty threshold compared to an average of 16% for the total population. In almost half of the EU countries, the risk of poverty for children is above 20%, ranging from 9-10 % in Nordic countries to 27% in Lithuania and 29% in Poland¹. Children who grow up in poverty and social exclusion are more likely to be poor as adults. Investing in children to break the poverty cycle is the most sustainable route towards social and economic progress. The EU has committed itself to “rapidly and significantly reduce child poverty”². It is critical that the EU does not lose sight of this goal.

A child's best interest is best served by the ability to grow up in a positive family environment. Creating the right conditions for positive parenting³ means ensuring access to appropriate material, psychological, social and cultural resources. It also means taking steps to remove barriers to positive parenting, promoting policies to improve the reconciliation of family and working life and raising awareness of the value of positive parenting, to parents, children and the state. For parents – particularly lone parents - encouraging a return to the labour market without ensuring access to vital services – like affordable childcare, transport, housing, health and education may be detrimental to their children's best interest and development. Moreover, for work to be a real route out of poverty, it must offer a decent wage and skills progression. Precarious, insecure or temporary employment is not conducive to providing a positive family environment. The labour market cannot and should not be the only route to social inclusion. Indeed the trend towards greater conditionality of benefits and services can add enormous stress to families already struggling to provide the necessary resources to their children. It is impossible to secure the child's best interest without looking holistically at parental leave, labour market policies, family and early years' services, and the formal education system. Active inclusion policies are central to this debate.

We call on the EU and Member States to ensure that the active inclusion strategy reinforces efforts to put children's interest at the heart of policy making. The future of the EU depends on it.

Contact: Patricia Hoyos policy@eurochild.org

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/pr/712/712471/712471en.pdf

„Deutschland: kindergerecht?!“ - Germany: suitable for children?! (Open forum)

Date: 14 November 2008; Location: Berlin Organiser: National Coalition Germany

The forum (in German) will consider and discuss the interim results of the Ministry for Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth on the National Action Plan „For a Germany suitable for children 2005-2010” as well as the implementation of the UNCRC. Registration is possible until October 31. Please contact the organiser at: info@national-coalition.de.

General News External

European Strategy on Children's Rights

Application for NGO Representatives in the EU Forum on Children's Rights Online

The application is NOW OPEN on the European Commission website !

The European Forum on the Rights of the Child is a permanent group chaired by the European Commission aiming to promote children's rights in EU internal and external action. In order to ensure effective representation of civil society at the Forum, civil society organisations have launched a call for interest. The European Forum came together the first time in Berlin, in July 2007, pretty much exactly 1 year after the EU communication “Towards a Strategy on Children's Rights” was published. Since then the Forum has had a stony path to go, with civil society pressing to become more involved. Topics that have been discussed at the European Forum are: sexual exploitation and trafficking in children as well as the situation of Roma children in the EU. Further information can be found on: http://www.eurochildnetwork.org/euronet/policies_activities/policy.asp?PolicyID=1018 (Euronet) and http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/fsj/children/forum/fsj_children_forum_en.htm (EU Commission).

If your organisation wishes to apply for one of the 10 permanent seats for civil society, you can submit your application up to 14th of November 2008 using the link below:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ouRBVtBrRHNXLig7zo7BwA_3d_3d

EURONET will be also applying as a Network. Wishing you all good luck and keep us posted.

The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled to take place in Brussels Berlaymont building on **9 December**. On the same date children participating in the JLS Youth Poster Competition 2008 - "Children's right to protection" will be present in Brussels and the working group on Children's Rights took this opportunity to link the two events.

Children and the European Union: Legal, Research and Political Perspectives

Date: 20-22nd April 2009, Location: University of Liverpool

The Centre for the Study of the Child, the Family and the Law at the Liverpool Law School is delighted to announce that it will host a three-day international conference on children and the EU in April 2009. This will be the first event of its kind to bring together international, EU and domestic policy-makers, NGOs, practitioners, academics and young people in a joint endeavour to critically discuss the EU's emerging children's rights agenda.

The conference flyer is attached and further details, including registration information and a draft conference programme, are available on our website: www.liv.ac.uk/law/cscfl/children

For further information contact: Ms Lucie Barnes, EUChild@liv.ac.uk EU Child Project, University of Liverpool, +44(0)1517942303, www.liv.ac.uk/law/cscfl

More German students abroad

Over the past years, the number of German students has increased continuously. In 1996 there were only 26 of 1.0000 students abroad, it were 46 of 1.000 in 2006. The federal statistics office reported in September that in 2006, there were 83.000 German students enrolled at university abroad. The most

popular countries are: The Netherlands, Austria, UK and France. The number of foreign students at German universities has also increased continuously up from 100.033 in 1996/97 to 188.436 in 2006/07. The free brochure „Deutsche Studierende im Ausland – Statistischer Überblick 1996-2006“ with further information can be ordered on the statistics office website: www.destatis.de

Congress: „Protect, promote, include- for a Germany suitable for children“

Date: December 4, 2008. Location: Berlin

The Congress: „Schützen, fördern, beteiligen – Für ein kindergerechtes Deutschland“, aims at taking first stock of the National Action Plan for a child friendly(just) Germany 2005-2010 and to give impulses as to how to go on. The basis will be the recently published progress report. The congress is directed to representatives of organisations, associations, projects and initiatives and actors on all political levels. The programme of the congress is available at: www.kindergerechtes-deutschland.de you can contact the service Büro of the initiatives “for a child Germany calling: +49-(0)221-160 82 13.

Looking for Expert in Child Budgeting for presentation and training in Macedonia

The Project office of the Ludwig Boltzman Institute of Human Rights in Skopje, Macedonia, is currently looking for experts on Child Budgeting. The expert is needed in the next month to give training in and best practice examples of child budgeting. Further beneficial experience would include previous work on Child Budgeting in countries in a similar political and economic setting, ideally in the region, as well as familiarity with poverty reduction strategies and their focus on Child Budgeting in the framework of EU Accession or within the EU. Given the short timeframe and also budget considerations, they would be looking for experts living in Europe. Please contact: Christine Sommer: Christine.Sommer@univie.ac.at Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Menschenrechte (BIM); Freyung 6 (Schottenhof) 1. Hof, Stiege 2, 2. Stock; A 1010 Wien; Tel: +43 1 4277 27437; Fax: +43 1 4277 27429

MEPs back programme for safer Internet for children

Children and teenagers are keen internet users - 12 to 15-year-olds spend at least three hours a day on screen - but are not always aware of the dangers: not just sites showing child pornography or violence but also the risk of bullying or grooming. MEPs adopted a report on a proposal to ensure better protection for children against these dangers where it backed the latest "Safer Internet" programme for 2009 -2013 whose budget is some €55 million. The programme will combat illegal content, promote a safer online environment, raise public awareness and establish a "knowledge base" for research purposes.

Democratic Education in a New Europe –Challenges for Parents and Families (Conference)

Date: 02-03 March 2009; Location: Berlin; Host: [Association for new Education \(Arbeitskreis Neue Erziehung e.V. - ANE\)](http://www.arbeitskreis-neue-erziehung.de)

The 21st century is changing the democratic co-existence, shared standards and the values for the European civil society. European societies continue to develop based on new ethnic, political, religious and cultural diversity in Europe. In this changing Europe, values and notions, which yesterday were still regarded as certain and irrefutable, are constantly the subject of debate. In addition, the globalized economy requires high mobility from many families as well as the readiness to continually readjust to this constant change. What challenges do parents and families face? What kind of support do they need so that democratic co-existence will be successful? What do children and youth need to develop active democratic basic attitudes? Do we need a European initiative for democratic education in the family and society? The conference is supposed to offer a forum to discuss approaches to early democratic education in families and experiences about their feasibility as well as to exchange already existing strategies and models from various countries and to learn from one another.

Here you will find the [conference announcement](#), the [conference programme](#) and the [call for papers](#) in PDF format to download. We would appreciate it, if you would display the information about this conference and forward it within your network. (source: e-mail posting)

Fingerprinting of Roma population in Italy- including children

The EU Commission has permitted the Italian plan to fingerprint Roma living on Italian territory. The experts in Brussels state that the controversial measure is not discriminating or against EU standards. A speaker of the Commission said on 4 September to journalists that the proposed initiative is purely a measure to identify persons "who cannot be identified by any other measure". Further information: <http://euobserver.com/22/2669>

Large numbers of unaccompanied minors arrive in Lampedusa

The Italian section of Save the Children has voiced concern about the large numbers of unaccompanied minors who arrived on the Island of Lampedusa in mid August. Of all migrants who have arrived over the past 3 months more than 775 were children, of which 82% were unaccompanied. The majority of children come from former Italian colonies, such as Eritrea and Somalia, yet also Nigeria.

EU report: "Parents face shortage of childcare services"

The Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities directorate of the European Commission published its report on childcare on 3 October. The report finds that childcare services in EU countries are failing to respond to the needs of parents, despite some progress made since the Barcelona targets were set in 2002. The EU continues to monitor progress towards the Barcelona objectives, providing support through good-quality comparable statistics, and making specific recommendations to certain Member States where necessary. The Commission intends to set up exchange opportunities to promote national experiences relating to childcare facilities, and encourage research into working conditions in the pre-school childcare sector. [Read more on the report.](#)

Public Consultation on the future of EU Youth Policy

The European Commission has launched a [public consultation on the future of youth policy](#), which runs until 25 November 2008. The aim is to evaluate what has been achieved since 2000 and propose new objectives for the next decade as well as proposals for actions both at European and national levels. The consultation is not composed of open questions but is an [online questionnaire](#) with already selected proposals, which makes it more difficult to add free comments or develop issues that are not already in the questionnaire.

UN human rights body once again condemns treatment of children in the UK

A highly critical report published on Friday, 3 October by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has slammed the UK Government as failing to meet international standards on the treatment of children. In a number of vital areas - from juvenile justice to the rights of disabled children, protection of young asylum seekers to the right of children to privacy - the Government is failing to meet its obligations under international law. The UN Committee urges the Government, as a matter of priority, to prohibit corporal punishment in the family.

e-mail message from Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE) www.crae.org.uk

Who's afraid of children's rights? Transforming the lives and status of children and young people in England. CRAE (Child Rights Alliance for England) annual conference

Date: 20 November 2008 ; Location: London

Speakers include Kamel Filali, Vice-chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green, Children's Commissioner for England, Karon Monaghan QC, Matrix Chambers and Baroness Vivien Stern CBE, member of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights.

For more details contact Sue Marris at smarris@crae.org.uk

Too sexy too soon? Media and the sexualisation of childhoodn (Lecture)

Date: Thursday 6 November 2008 5:00 – 6:30pm; Location: London

In 2008, during the Australian Senate's Inquiry into the Sexualisation of Children in the Media, a Sydney gallery featuring the work of artist Bill Henson was raided, due to allegations of 'child pornography'. The public debate that followed underlined the complexity of an issue that brings together con-

cerns around representation; commercial media; sexual identity formation; gender; coercion and consent; and the meaning of childhood. This paper explores the framing of the sexualisation debate by Australian lobbyists, commentators and policy-makers. Kath Albury is a post-doctoral fellow at the Journalism and Media Research Centre at the University of New South Wales. Her research focuses on sexuality in media and popular culture, with a particular emphasis on sexual ethics and sexual health. In 2008, she and Centre Director Professor Catharine Lumby were invited witnesses at the Australian Senate's Inquiry into the Sexualisation of Children in the Media.

Publications

Los Niños Como Actores en los Procesos Migratorios- Implicaciones para los proyectos de cooperación: (Lourdes Gaitán et al-2008) (Children as actors in migration processes)

The publication is the outcome of a joint research project between the University Complutense in Madrid and the University of Quito in Ecuador. The project was realized with the assistance of the University Complutense's call for project in development cooperation. The project lasted 9 months and had as an objective to make children's voices heard with respect to their experiences and their active involvement in processes of migration. Children in Madrid as well as in Quito were interviewed, children who migrated with their parents to Spain, who remained in Quito or who at first remained in Quito to the join their parents or one of their parents in Madrid.

For further information on the project or to order a copy of the book, please contact the author at: expertoinfancia@cps.ucm.es

Study on unaccompanied minors

The French Ombudsman for Children has published a study on the conference „Unaccompanied minors on the way to harmonisation in the best interest of the child“ which took place on June 20,2008. Further information:

http://doc.cerium.ca/serv1/actes_colloque_Mineurs_etrangers_isoles_juin_08_versini.pdf

„Young pupils and parents without papers: Regularization, how to use it,” third edition, Education Without Borders Network (RESF), June 2008.

This guide aims to assist those who do not know what to do when they realize that one of their pupils or fellow pupils of own children and their parents are in danger of being deported out of the country because of lack of proper documentation. Further information:

http://www.gisti.org/IMG/pdf/hc_guide-resf-3.pdf

„Independent Child Migration: Introducing Children's Perspectives”, Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation & Poverty, Briefing N°11 August 2008.

The study of the research centre demonstrates the important work having been done since 2003, by the centres for child migration in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Bangladesh and India. During the research the centre encounters a great gap between the experience of children and the representation thereof. In order to counteract this gap they have highlighted children's perspectives in their work, as well as a better understanding of their difficulties concerning their status as migrants:

http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/briefing_papers/BP11.pdf

IREWOC Newsletter

The IREWOC foundation invites you to visit their website www.irewoc.nl where you can find their latest newsletter and publications from the research project “The Worst Forms of Child Labour in Latin America”. Please, distribute this link to others who may be interested in our work.

e-mailed by: Sonja Zweegers IREWOC Foundation

COMPASITO - Manual on human rights education for children (2008)

Living among other people, in their families and communities, children become aware from a very early age of questions related to justice, and they search for the meaning of the world. By fostering an understanding of human rights, shaping opinion and developing attitudes, human rights education strongly supports this natural interest and learning process. This is what human rights education is about and this is what 'Compasito – manual on human rights education for children' is for. '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. You can order the COMPASITO at the Council of Europe publishing website:

http://book.coe.int/sysmodules/RBS_page/admin/redirect.php?id=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2258

Newsletter from Amici dei Bambini

Ai.Bi. - Amici dei Bambini association is a movement of families acting since 1986 in Italy and in 24 world sites to promote the family upbringing of abandoned children. *To give a family to every abandoned child* and guarantee his right to be a son: this is the *mission* animating Amici dei Bambini's activities: international cooperation, promotion of fostering as well as national and international adoption, thematic researches and studies. In this context we have the pleasure to send to you- together with a presentation of our association- our latest newsletter concerning ongoing European project "*Life after institutional care*" focused on care-leavers, a social category at high risk of social exclusion.

e-mailed by: Filippo Agostino. Further information: www.amicideibambini.it

News from CRIN

Resolution adopted on the UN Guidelines for conditions of alternative care for children

[The resolution](#) was sponsored by Brazil, which emphasised the relevant provisions in the CRC and re-affirmed its commitment to the principles of the [UDHR](#). Brazil welcomed a further engagement by the international community in the preparation of guidelines on alternative care.

Bangladesh and Indonesia appreciated the emphasis placed on such a significant issue and provided support for the appropriateness of the guidelines. Both States raised their concern, however, that the drafting process of the guidelines had to be more inclusive, transparent and intergovernmental in the future. The resolution was adopted by consensus. For more information, contact: International Service for Human Rights; Rue de Varembe 1, P.O. Box 16, CH-1211 Geneva; Tel: + 41 22 733 51 23; Fax: + 41 22 733 08 26; Email: gte@ishr-sidh.ch; Website: www.ishr.ch

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

Ms Najat M'jid Maala, the [Special Rapporteur](#) on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, [presented her first report](#). She highlighted the methodology that will guide her work, explaining that it builds on the analysis of her predecessors, the work of the [Committee on the Rights of the Child](#), the [UN Study on Violence against Children](#) and her dialogues with non-governmental organisations, UN agencies, treaty bodies, and other special procedures mandate holders. She emphasised the importance of the participation of child victims in carrying out her mandate. She declared

that in accordance with the CRC and Resolution 2001/51 of the Commission of Human Rights, she would integrate a gender and HIV and AIDS dimension into her work.

Ms Maala insisted on the importance of integrating a transnational, international and national dimension in her mandate, as well as the need to consider socio-economic, cultural and environmental factors that may contribute to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. She proceeded to present the three thematic studies she will undertake, namely child pornography, the sale of children's organs, and the sale of children for the purpose of adoption.

Due to the limited time available, only few States took part in the interactive dialogue. Chile, on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC), reaffirmed its commitment to the CRC and recommended that cultural factors be examined closely in relation to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. A number of States emphasised their domestic efforts at preventing the sale of children. Pakistan (on behalf of the OIC) asked for the Special Rapporteur's views on areas of bilateral and multilateral cooperation to prevent sex tourism and child pornography.

[Source: International Service for Human Rights] **Further information** [Read the report](#)

For more information, contact: Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; 8-14 Avenue de la Paix, CH 1211 Geneva 10; Tel: + 41 22 917 9000; Fax: + 41 22 917 9022; Website: www.ohchr.org/english/issues/children/rapporteur/index.htm

Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for children and armed conflict, also [presented her report](#) to the Council.

Ms Coomaraswamy declared that armed conflict generally has increased in intensity, resulting in a growing sense of despair and an immeasurable toll on life. She listed the achievements in the protection of children in armed conflict. She expressed concern about the 'terrorist problem' facing many States, which has led to the mobilisation of children and even their recruitment for suicide bombings. She spoke of sexual violence, making particular reference to the sexual violence against boys, a practice that has become prominent in Afghanistan. Other concerns included military detention of children without an adequate judicial process, human trafficking, the drug trade, the arms struggle, mineral exploitation, conditions in camps for internally displaced persons, the recruitment of children in these camps, and impunity. She urged the Council to deal with the accountability of non-State actors.

Ms Coomaraswamy introduced her intention to work closely with Special Advisors to the Secretary-General and present a report to the General Assembly in January 2009. She concluded that children are especially vulnerable and deserve enhanced protection, and that violators of their rights should be held accountable. [Source: International Service for Human Rights]

Further information: [Read the report](#) For more information, contact:

Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict; United Nations, Room S-3161 H, New York, NY 10017, USA ; Email: gerardl@un.org ; Website: www.un.org/children/conflict

Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery

Ms Gulnara Shahinian, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, also presented her first report. She stressed that slavery is a problem that impacts both genders and all age groups. She felt it is almost 'unbelievable' in this day and age that slavery still persists. She presented three main areas on which she intends to focus: forced labour, domestic labour, and child labour. Ms Shahinian stressed that cooperation is key to effective development of strategies to combat slavery at national, regional and international levels, in conjunction with raising awareness and enhancing knowledge of the modern forms of slavery. She also recommended stronger political will from governments to enforce laws, and to develop rehabilitation programmes for victims of modern day slavery. [Source: International Service for Human Rights]

Director of EURONET

Deadline for applications : 17th November 2008

The European Children's Network (EURONET) is seeking a Director to lead and strengthen the network, building on its position as one of the principal children's rights NGOs at European level. EURONET is a non-governmental membership network promoting the rights of the child, as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant human rights treaties. Made up of European and national children's rights NGOs, EURONET's core aim is to ensure children's rights are taken into account across all European legislation, policies and programmes which have an impact on children.

The Director will be a proactive, committed professional with experience of successfully developing and implementing political and organisational strategies. With an excellent understanding of how to influence the European Union institutions and decision-making processes, she or he will also have the skills to guarantee the sound organisational and financial management of the network. The ability to bring together sound policy understanding of children's rights with an effective communications approach is essential. The ideal candidate will have significant experience of working in a political role towards the EU institutions, as well as of handling EU funding. Diplomacy and an ability to build consensus is essential, as are the skills to negotiate and persuade around what can be sensitive policy issues. An understanding of the NGO sector is a must.

If you think you may have the skills and experience we are looking for, please visit www.europeanchildrensnetwork.eu to download an application pack.

Funding / Prizes / Research Opportunities

More in this section in the next newsletter

Upcoming Dates

31 October: Deadline submission poster ideas competition Child right to protection (Youth, EU)

3-5 November: Child in the City 2008: Rotterdam, The Netherlands

5-7 November: Eurochild annual conference (Budapest)

16 November 2008: Deadline submission abstracts conference on Child Poverty Egypt

10-24 November: e-discussion on Child Rights

Open until 25 November: Consultation on Youth policy

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)

6-9 December: Seminar: Children and Young People in Care: What do YOUth think?

19-20 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