



European Network of Masters on Children's Rights

# CRnews 10

Children's Rights Newsletter  
July 2006

CR Coordination, Jean-Monnet-Haus  
Bundesallee 22. D-10717 Berlin

[info@enmcr.net](mailto:info@enmcr.net)/[www.enmcr.net](http://www.enmcr.net)/Fon:+49-(0)30-88412-191

## Dear Network Members and Network Interested,

The Fifa World Cup has ended, yet you can still join the virtual stadium of the control arms campaign (see CRnews 9\_06). Near the end of the world cup, on July 4, the European Commission has published its long awaited communication "Towards an EU strategy on the Rights of the Child", on which you will read amongst other topics, in this edition of CRnews.

ENMCR is preparing a stakeholder workshop in the frame of its Curriculum Development project to take place in Amsterdam on September 28. More detailed information on the event is provided below. For comments and feedback on our newsletter, and/or our forum suggestions for improvement, or news you would like to have included please write to [info@enmcr.net](mailto:info@enmcr.net)

Sincerely,

Rebecca Budde  
Günter Chodzinski  
Editors



## In this Newsletter you will read:

- **General News**

- **Internal**

- Stakeholder Workshop: Towards a professional academic qualification on CR
  - News from members and associated members
  - Postgraduate Programme in Children's Rights

- **External**

- Communication from the Commission: *Towards an EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child*
  - Arriving at the Electronic Frontier
  - Human Development Trends 2005
  - Science Policies Meet Reality: Gender, Women and Youth in Science in Central and Eastern Europe
  - Call for Young web-visionaries for a European Media workshop
  - Initiative Shout for Your Right is expanding, Call for Scouts
  - Networking Resource Child- and Youth Participation
  - The German Child Assistance Works calls for application for the "Goldene Göre"
  - Call for European Commissioner for Children's Rights

- **Info from CRIN Newsletters**

- **Job Opportunities**
- **Funding**
- **Upcoming Dates**

## General News Internal

### **Stakeholder Workshop: Towards a professional academic qualification on Children's Rights**

*-an opportunity for networking, discussion and contributing to the design of a new European Master programme-*

ENMCR is preparing a participative workshop for stakeholders in the planned curriculum for a joint European Masters on Children's Rights (to be launched in a pilot phase in autumn 2007) which will take place at the University of Amsterdam on September 28, 2006. Based on surveys which were sent out to relevant stakeholders, such as regional, national and international organisations and public agencies and students in the past months, the workshop aims at including stakeholders views, perspectives and needs in the design of the curriculum. At the same time the workshop is an opportunity for the participants to meet and network with other relevant stakeholders in the field of children's rights.

The program of the workshop consists of a short presentation of the project ENMCR-CD ([www.enmcr.net/cd](http://www.enmcr.net/cd)), a preliminary evaluation of the returned surveys, input by relevant stakeholders from international NGOs, the European Commission, youth and academia and four working groups in which the significance and practical implementation of the voiced needs and perspectives will be discussed.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop, please contact either Jacobijn Olthoff, University of Amsterdam, CM. Kan Instituut, Nieuwe Prinsengracht 130, 1018 VZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Fax: +31(0)20 525 4051, E-mail: [jolthoff@fmg.uva.nl](mailto:jolthoff@fmg.uva.nl) or Rebecca Budde, Freie Universität Berlin, ENMCR-CD Projekt, Habelschwerdter Allee 45, 14195 Berlin, Germany, Tel: +49-30-838-53968, Fax: +49-30-838-54656, E-mail: [rbudde@ina-fu.org](mailto:rbudde@ina-fu.org) for further information.

If you would like to give us your opinion, but are unable to attend the workshop, you are invited to fill in the above mentioned survey (one for organisations and public agencies and one for students), which you can access through our webpage: [www.enmcr.net](http://www.enmcr.net) or by following this link:

### **News from members and associated members:**

#### **Postgraduate Programme in Children's Rights**

Date: 12 February 2007 – 2008, Location: Sion, Switzerland

The Master of Advanced Studies in Children's Rights (MCR) is a part-time two-year postgraduate programme in children's rights, which is jointly organised by the Law School and the Institute for family research and counselling at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland) and the Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch (IUKB), associated with the International Institute on children's rights (IDE), both in Sion, Switzerland.

The programme is designed for professionals who work with children's rights issues, these may include: lawyers, psychologists, sociologists, judges, social workers, government officials, staff from non-governmental organisations, academics and journalists.

The programme takes place over a two-year period and requires participants to attend four week-long residential Modules per year. In addition to the residential Modules and the completion of exercises and examinations based on the required course reading materials, students are also expected to devise an individual training programme which consists of a segment of practical experience (internship) in an organisation other than their workplace, the preparation of an observation report on their own workplace and the completion of a Master's thesis. Each residential module has a specific theme: (1) Children's rights in context, (2) International legal instruments on children's rights, (3) The general principles of the CRC, (4) Child labour, (5) Violence against children, (6) Juvenile justice, (7) Child protection and (8) Implementation and monitoring strategies.

Deadline for applications: **15 September 2006**

For more information, contact: Sarah Bruchez, P.O. Box 4176, CHF-1950 Sion, Switzerland, Tel: +41 27 205 73 00; Fax: +41 27 205 73 01, Email: [mcr@iukb.ch](mailto:mcr@iukb.ch), Website: <http://www.iukb.ch/mcr>

## General News External

### **Communication from the Commission: *Towards an EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child***

The Directorate General Freedom, Security and Justice published the communication: *Towards an EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child* on July 4, 2006, it was passed on to the European Parliament the next day for reviewing. The communication is a sign that children's rights are increasingly climbing up on the agenda of the EU and, if all good intentions voiced in the communication lead to practical actions, a not insignificant further step towards an improvement of children's situation within the EU and without will have been made. Measures the EU is aiming at taking in the next years are:

- To attribute one telephone number within the EU for child helplines (end 2006)
- To support the banking sector and cc companies to combat the use of cc when purchasing sexual images of children on the internet (2006)
- To launch an Action Plan on Children in Development cooperation (2007)
- To promote a clustering of actions on child poverty in the EU (2007)

These measures shall be accompanied by e.g. assessments of the impact of existing EU actions affecting children's rights, consultations with relevant stakeholders in order to identify future actions, as well as data collection on the children's rights situation. From 2007 onwards the EU aims at mainstreaming children's rights when drafting EC actions that may affect children, and the claim is to involve children in the decision-making process and to design a communication strategy on children's rights (both also from 2007 onwards).

The communication has been welcomed by the head of the European Parliament Child Rights Alliance, Lissy Gröner (MdEP), as important step to meet the objective of making children's rights a reality.

It will prove in some time, whether the communication will lead to a broad EU strategy on children's rights and whether the strategy will hold what it is due to promise. This scepticism towards the significance of the communication is grounded in the experience of there being very many very good communications and working papers by the EU, which have in effect unfortunately very little practical relevance. Therefore it is necessary to help and support the initiative with all means, so that it does not end as another great intention without much real effect.

You can download the communication from the homepage of DG Freedom, Security and Justice by following this link: [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2006/com2006\\_0367en01.pdf](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2006/com2006_0367en01.pdf)

### **Arriving at the Electronic Frontier**

Achieving universal primary education in countries jumpstarts secondary education. However, many regions find themselves without the resources needed to meet this demand. A UNESCO program using Open and Distance Learning (ODL) systems is giving secondary school students access to the world of learning. Pilot sites in Asia, Africa and Latin America are demonstrating the effectiveness of ODL via e-Learning as an important educational tool for meeting this challenge.

In Ecuador, a partnership between UNESCO Quito, the United Virtual IberoAmerican Foundation and the Program of the Working Boy resulted in the [IberoAmerican Online High School](#).

After a year, the school already boasts 132 students aged 15-45, including 61 women. Enrollment will expand to 400 by the end of 2006, thanks in part to scholarships provided by UNESCO and the Ministry of Social welfare. Students pursue high school degrees at a network of "Infocenters" in one of four areas: science, computer science, cultural and social promotion and, beginning in October 2006, cultural tourism and sustainable development.

In Kazakhstan and Namibia, UNESCO ODL projects are building productive partnerships between governments, educational resources and NGOs. Specifically, the projects strive to overhaul the existing inefficient paper routing system by establishing a system that will disseminate educational materials electronically at local learning centers. Proof of the success of the programmes? The Namibian project has just secured a large portion of a \$26 million grant given by the African Development Bank.

*Source: Education today. The Newsletter of UNESCO's Education Sector (N°17 - June-September 2006)*

### **Human Development Trends 2005**

Gapminder produce an interactive presentation for the "Human Development Report 2005" by UNDP. The website offers an animated view of statistics on Human Development, you can access the programme via <http://www.gapminder.org/index.html>

### **Science Policies Meet Reality: Gender, Women and Youth in Science in Central and Eastern Europe – Call for papers**

Call for Papers. Deadline 28th July. Conference 1-2 December, Prague. This conference will discuss current obstacles to successful science policy implementation and discrepancies between the status quo and stated goals concerning gender equality and the position of early stage researchers. This will be done through discussing/disseminating existing research and policy implementation practices. The conference will bring together researchers, activists and policymakers, particularly those involved in relevant research and policy implementation, experience of scientists and policymakers across Europe who may aid policy formulation and implementation and recognition of scientific excellence. Further information: <http://www.ccc-wys.org/html/>

### **Call for Young Web-Visionaries for a European Media workshop**

Date: 1-4 September 2006, Location: Potsdam

The rapid development of new media is the topic of the international youth workshop that is being held in the frame of the M100 Sanssouci Colloquium. Young journalists (up to 25 years) from Germany can apply for participation until **August 1**, by writing an essay on: "How can the new forms of Web 2.0 be used in order to transmit information to young people in Europe?" Applications should be sent to [m100@jugendpresse.de](mailto:m100@jugendpresse.de) Further information: [www.m100potsdam.org](http://www.m100potsdam.org).

### **Initiative Shout for Your Right is expanding, Call for Scouts**

There is also a new area on the web on human rights education and there is a blog led on youth participation and human rights in Germany at <http://blog.marcludwig.de>

One branch of the shout for your right initiative are the scouts: scouts are young people who dedicate themselves to one article of the human rights convention, find projects all over Germany that work on this article and support these projects with their knowledge and expertise in the field. The scouts are trained by the initiators of shout for your right.

If you are interested in becoming a scout, please contact: Marc Ludwig at [aktiv@schrei-fuer-dein-recht.de](mailto:aktiv@schrei-fuer-dein-recht.de). You will be guided from here. More information on planned workshops for scout training can be found here: <http://workshop.schrei-fuer-dein-recht.de>

### **Networking Resource Child- and Youth Participation**

The electronic newsletter of the Bertelsman Foundation's project mitWirkung (participation-with effect) has opened a new section for actors in the field of child and youth participation to voice concrete questions and networking desires to interested expert audience.

The editors are happy to post any questions or wishes for contact here. Simply write an e mail to: [newsletter@mitwirkung.net](mailto:newsletter@mitwirkung.net)

### **The German Child Assistance Works calls for application for the "Goldene Göre"**

Call for applications for the most highly endowed prize for child participation. Child and youth organisations and associations from all over Germany are asked to send in applications. The projects should touch the following areas: media, children policies, children cultures, play space and school. It is important that the activities are developed, planned and implemented in cooperation with children and young people. They should be in the implementation phase or should have recently be concluded. The Goldene Göre is a prize of acknowledgement, which is connected to a financial support.

**Deadline for applications is 15 August 2006.**

Further Information and application forms can be downloaded from: <http://www.dkhw.de>.

### **Call for European Commissioner for Children's Rights**

Brussels-based NGOs called for the EU to appoint a Commissioner for Children's Rights, while welcoming launch of the European Commission's first-ever strategy paper, *Towards an EU strategy on the Rights of the Child*. "The European Commission now has a unique opportunity to make sure children's rights are given the priority they deserve in all areas of its work and to turn policies into reality for children in Europe and elsewhere in the world. This Communication is a really positive development" said Jane Backhurst from World Vision.

"Now, more than ever is the time to invest in children's rights," said Britta Öström from Save the Children. "Within the EU itself many issues have not been dealt with adequately, such as, European legislation on separated asylum-seeking and migrant children which falls below international standards. Also, measures to protect all children from abuse need to be standardised across Europe and member states need to make good their commitments to eradicating child poverty."

The only way the European Commission will be able to form a coherent strategy to respond to all the issues related to children's rights, is to dedicate this task to one of the new Commissioner posts. These new posts will be created when Romania and Bulgaria join the EU. This would not only be a visible demonstration of Europe's commitment to the rights of children everywhere, but would also provide a focal point for children to communicate with.

But if the Commission is to ensure the best response possible to promoting and protecting children's rights, it must also ensure that children are truly able to participate in the decisions that concern them. That means making their voices heard at EU level and incorporating their opinions into future policy and action.

The new EU Strategy is an excellent first step but if EU policy is really to be in the best interests of children, then the EU must dedicate the time, resources and commitment necessary.

This press release has been endorsed by the following organisations: Save the Children, World Vision, Plan International, SOS-Kinderdorf International, The European Children's Network, Eurochild AISBL, European Foundation for Street Children Worldwide.

Further information : Eurochild AISBL, Rue de la Concorde, 53. 1050 Brussels, Tel: + 32 2 511 70 83, Email: [contact@eurochild.org](mailto:contact@eurochild.org), Website: [www.eurochild.org](http://www.eurochild.org)

## Info from CRIN Newsletters

### **UN STUDY ON VIOLENCE: Children and Young People's Consultation** [report]

The Secretariat of the UN Study on Violence against Children has just released a final outcome document from the [Children and Young People's Consultation on Violence](#) which was held from 23–26 May 2006 in New York, USA. 21 children and young people came together to the workshop to discuss the draft study report and provide feedback before the study report is finalised; discuss and plan for children's involvement in the launch of the UN Study report at the United Nations General Assembly in October 2006; and discuss the format and content of the child friendly materials for the UN Study report. The children and young people will share the outcomes of this meeting and the UN Study process with a wider group of children and young people in their countries and regions. This report captures the outcomes of the workshop. It attempts to present children and young people's views as they were presented by them (verbally, on flipcharts, in role plays and feedback sessions) and recorded during the workshop.

For more information, contact: UN Secretary General's Study on Violence Against Children – Secretariat, Email: [secretariat@sgsvac.org](mailto:secretariat@sgsvac.org), Website: <http://www.violencestudy.org>

### **JUNIOR 8 2006: Children gather to share views with G8 world leaders** [news]

Young people from G8 countries opened the "Junior 8" in Pushkin, near St. Petersburg. With an agenda that parallels the G8 itself, they will have the opportunity to share their views directly with the world's leaders. The J8 has brought together more than 60 youths aged 13- 17, representing all G8 countries, to discuss what they think the G8 leaders should do about some of the most serious global issues.

Hosted by the Russian Federation Government, in partnership with UNICEF, the Junior 8 will focus on the key themes of this year's G8 agenda: **Education, Energy Security and HIV/AIDS**. The children will also discuss violence and other issues they see as priorities. Their recommendations will be presented to the G8 leadership.

The participants include young people from each of the G8 member countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Russian Federation, UK and USA. The views of children from non-G8 countries, will be included via a series of videoconferences linking the Junior 8 to children from Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.

### **ISRAEL/PALESTINE: Listen to the children on Israel's wall** [news]

Two years after the International Court of Justice (ICJ) advised that Israel's separation wall should be taken down, two members of the International Save the Children Alliance working in the Occupied Palestinian Territories report that Palestinian children still fear the wall and talk forcefully about its negative impacts on their lives.

The Israeli government began construction of the wall five years ago. Built almost entirely on West Bank lands, the wall is over twice as long as the 1967 border with Israel. Snaking around populated areas along the border, the Wall encroaches upon nearly 22 kilometers of Palestinian land in the West Bank. The wall is eight metres high, twice the height of the Berlin Wall, and made of cement. In other areas it is an electrified metal fence with trenches, patrol roads, razor wire and motion sensors on each side.

Palestinian children have told Save the Children that the wall prevents them from going to school, from seeing their family and friends, and from getting health care. They said they feel insecure and afraid of it, and that their families are poorer and have lost their lands because of it.

14-year-old Basma said: "This wall takes [away] our simple rights. There are many children who have these rights, but we don't have the right to visit family or people outside the village, or go to parks or the zoo or to the pool. Our life starts to look like wishes...".

Palestinian children call on the world to "remove this wall because it steals our freedom". On the two-year anniversary of the ICJ ruling, members of the International Save the Children Alliance urge the Israeli government to heed the experience of Palestinian children, and to act on the advice of the ICJ to immediately stop construction of the wall and dismantle the sections already in existence.

Visit: <http://www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=9148>

### **CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD: Global Report on the Impact of Implementation** [publication]

The report was presented at the [Third Europe and Central Asia Conference](#), Palencia, Spain, 19 June 2006. The global report is composed of the following texts:

General Comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in English and Spanish;

General Measures of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in English.

An Executive summary in English and Spanish is available.

Key findings in Spanish and English are also available.

Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in English available on CD rom.

For more information, contact: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre; Piazza SS. Annunziata 12, 50122 Florence, Italy; Tel: + 39 55 203 30; Email: [florence@unicef.org](mailto:florence@unicef.org); Website: <http://www.unicef-irc.org>

## **Jobs Postings**

### **Save the Children: Research consultant for Violence and Abuse in Schools (Albania)**

Starting time: September 2006, Timeframe: 4 months

Save the Children in Albania is planning in 2006 to conduct a research project in the framework of the Violence and Sexual Abuse Programme. They are seeking to recruit a research consultant who will provide support with the design of the research methodologies and approach, carry out research and write a report on findings and recommendations for future work. The aim of the research is to: increase understanding on the issues related to violence and abuse of children, understand the causes of violence and abuse within schools, learn how this understanding can be used in building future interventions.

For more information, contact: Steve Ashby, Director; Save the Children in Albania; Email: [sashby@savealbania.org](mailto:sashby@savealbania.org); Tel: +355 (0) 6920 32 130

### **War Child: Expatriate Field Director (Afghanistan)**

War Child, the international NGO that works with street children, children in conflict with the law and child soldiers in locations such as Iraq and the Democratic Republic of Congo, is recruiting for a Field Director for its programme in Herat, western Afghanistan. The programme is aimed at children in conflict with the law. The post holder's key responsibilities will include: representing War Child as an organisation in a positive manner to all stakeholders; contributing effectively to the implementation and development of War Child Programmes in Afghanistan; providing support to the War Child Country Programmes Co-ordinator and Programmes Director in developing new proposals and funding sources to meet existing and emerging needs that are consistent with War Child's country strategy.

Application deadline: **4 August 2006**

For more information, contact: Leila Billing, Country Programmes Co-ordinator, Tel: +44 (0)20 79169276, Email: [leila@warchild.org.uk](mailto:leila@warchild.org.uk)

## Funding

See previous newsletters for funding possibilities!

## Upcoming Dates

**July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Deadline for papers for conference: Gender, Women and Youth in Science in CEE

**August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006:** Deadline for applications to European Media workshop in Potsdam

**August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Deadline for applications for the "Goldene Göre"

**September 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** European Media workshop in Potsdam

**September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** MA in "Human Rights, Development and Social Justice" at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague

**September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Deadline for application to the MCR in Sion starting on February 12, 2007

**September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Day of General Discussion, UN-Committee on the Rights of the Child

**September 20<sup>th</sup>- December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Distance Learning Course on Rights-Based Programming (HREA)

**September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Stakeholder workshop ENMCR-CD at University of Amsterdam

**October 1<sup>st</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Workshop "Children's Participation, Protagonism and Governance"

**October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Start Expert Course on Children's Rights in Berlin

**October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Deadline TEMPUS Applications (IMG's)

**October 24-25, 2006:** Juvenile Justice in Europe International Conference

**November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006:** Deadline Pre-call Erasmus Thematic Network Project

**December 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006:** Conference: Science Policies meet reality: Gender, Women and Youth in Science in CEE (Prague)

**December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Deadline Tempus Applications (GEPs)