Dear ENMCR network members and network interested,

Spring has come and with it news, events and publications of interest for those working on the children’s rights field.

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

Sincerely,
Rita Nunes (Editor)

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21st century: tools for teaching and learning

The event 21st Century tools for teaching and learning will take place at the Institute of Education at the University of London in June 2012. The Institute of Education is an ENMCR member. This event will focus on the role online tools play on education. Internet based communication and collaboration tools are part of everyday life, particularly for the younger generation. 21st century tools for teaching and learning give participants a solid grounding into teaching and learning opportunities outside of the Virtual Learning Environment. In this event participants will:

- learn about different types of online tools
- practice using a variety of tools including group creation sites, mindmapping, word clouds, brainstorming and collaborative bookmarking
- discuss and reflect on suggested ways of using the tools in school
- learn about Web 2.0 and its impact

For further information about this event: http://www.ioe.ac.uk/newsEvents/56583.html

Using Digital Media in Research with Children and Young People

Convened by Dr Susan Elsley and Professor Kay Tisdall who have extensive experience in delivering education and training on research and consultation with children and young people. The course will cover:

- using digital technologies;
- ethical and methodological issues in using digital technologies;
- inclusion of children and young people, particularly participation of children excluded by other research approaches;
- data collection and analysis;
- dissemination of research

The two day course (May 10 and 11, 2012) will involve presentations from those who have undertaken research in this area. It will draw on examples from academic research and organisations that have used these tools with children and young people. The course is highly participative and aims to draw on participants experience. For further information about the course, please contact Kathryn Dunne: k.dunne@ed.ac.uk

TEMPUS Project Diploma in Public Policy and Child Rights in Egypt and Jordan

Between 8-11 March 2012, colleagues from the Center for Digital Systems (CeDIS) and from the department of intercultural education at Free University Berlin visited Asyut and Cairo University. They carried out two workshops for the participating lecturers of the Diploma in Public Policy and Child Rights (DPPCR) in Egypt with the aim of developing a blended learning component into the newly established diploma. Similar trainings were conducted in November 2011 for the lecturers of the University of Jordan and Hashemite University. A final training for the lecturers of all four DPPCR universities in Egypt and Jordan will take place next month in Zarqa, Jordan, where the participants will also have the opportunity to exchange experiences within the DPPCR, review some contents of the curricula and seek ways to connect the DPPCR students from Asyut, Cairo, Amman and Zarqa.

In addition to the trainings in Egypt, a workshop on children in times of political transition was organized by Dr. Heba Raouf together with the DPPCR students from Cairo University. The event included presentations and discussions on the role of children in the Egyptian revolutionary events.

Second student intensive program in The Hague

After the success of the first student intensive program (IP) at the University of Jordan in September 2011, the DPPCR consortium will organize a second student intensive program in The Hague, Netherlands, this summer. 20-25 students from the eight participating universities in Germany, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Egypt and Jordan can apply to the program which will take place between 25 June and 6 July 2012 and which will focus on the topic “Poverty and Exclusion of Children and Youth. An International Perspective”. For more information on the DPPCR program, please contact Noemi Fivat noemi.fivat@fu-berlin.de.

EU guidelines on promotion and protection of the rights of the child and its implementation

On February 16, 2012, the European External Action Service held an expert workshop in Brussels (in which ENMCR members participated) in order to review the EU guidelines on promotion and protection of the rights of the child and its implementation. The goal of the workshop was to develop a thematic toolkit to assist in particular the human rights focal points at EU delegations (more than half of them have decided to prioritise children’s rights in the coming period) in their understanding of children’s rights.

ENMCR: New Coordinator

Since January 2012 Katja Schulze is the coordinator of the European Network of Masters in Children’s Rights (ENMCR). In this position she is responsible for:

- the dissemination of information regarding the ENMCRs
- the communication with and between the members of the network
- managing the membership applications
- recruiting new members

If you have questions or comments regarding the ENMCR activities please contact Katja Schulze katja.schulze@fu-berlin.de.

EMCR Berlin: New coordinator

With Katja Schulze’s new position, Jonas Geßner joins the EMCR coordination team in Berlin. He is a Diplom-Pädagoge holding a degree in educational science and a Master degree in Intercultural Education. Prior to his Masters at FU Berlin, he lived 5 years in Dublin and worked in different settings with people with an intellectual and/or physical disability. Welcome Jonas! We wish you a great start.
End to famine conditions in Somalia

The United Nations declared an end to famine conditions in Somalia but warned that the crisis in the Horn of Africa is not over and requires continued efforts to restore food security and help people resume normal lives.

The number of people in need of emergency humanitarian assistance in Somalia has dropped from 4 million to 2.3 million, according to a new report by the United Nations and the United States Government. Additionally, 325,000 children are acutely malnourished.

Millennium Development Goal Drinking Water target has been surpassed

The world has met the Millennium Development Goal target of halving the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water, well in advance of the Millennium Development Goal 2015 deadline. At the end of 2010 89 per cent of the world’s population, used improved drinking water sources. This is one per cent more than the 88 per cent Millennium Development Goal target. However, at least 11 per cent of the world’s population – 783 million people – are still without access to safe drinking water, and billions without sanitation facilities.

The achievement of this goal represents good news for children. Access to safe drinking water helps to prevent diarrhoeal diseases which cause more than 3000 deaths per day.

Refugees perish trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea

More than 1,500 people drowned or went missing trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea in 2011 which makes 2011 the deadliest year for this region since UNHCR started to record these statistics in 2006. The previous high was in 2007 when 630 people were reported dead or missing. Since pro-democracy protests erupted across North Africa and the Middle East early last year, a large numbers of people have taken to boats to try to reach Europe, with Italy and Malta bearing the brunt of the displacement and migration. 58,000 irregular migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees managed to make it to European shores last year after setting off in boats from Asia and North Africa.

Children’s Rights and Business Principles launched

Children’s rights took a step forward with the launch of the Children’s Rights and Business Principles. Save the Children, The Global Compact and UNICEF gathered together a group of business professionals, children’s rights advocates and academics for a day-long programme of discussions and debates centred on the Principles, which aim to ensure that the business community not only respects, but also proactively supports children’s rights.

South Sudan commits to making the national army child-free

The Sudanese People’s Liberation Army of South Sudan (SPLA) signed an agreement with the United Nations which renewed their commitment to release all children within their ranks. This agreement plan also ensures that all militias currently being incorporated into the SPLA are child-free.

The action plan ensures that a transparent system is in place for disciplinary action against those in command who recruit children within the SPLA. It also improves communication among commanders to make sure that the practice of child recruitment is halted and responsibility for child protection is understood on all levels. Finally, the agreement institutionalizes child protection within the SPLA.

International Juvenile Justice Observatory Campaign

The International Juvenile Justice Observatory (IJJO), through its European branch, the European Juvenile Justice Observatory (EJJO), presented its awareness campaign: Keeping the Youth out of Exclusion - The Benefits of Volunteering. This campaign was developed within the framework of the European Year of Volunteering and launched in 2011. The campaign stresses the benefits children and young adults get from being involved in voluntary activities, rather than the benefits they could receive from the work of volunteers. Keeping the Youth out of Exclusion - The Benefits of Volunteering put emphasis on how much minors at-risk learn by doing and by being engaged in voluntary activities. In particular the Campaign:

- gathers the views of experts explaining the benefits of volunteering: how volunteering can give a youngster a sense of belonging, help him or her to develop more social skills, etc;
- shares examples of good practices of a series of NGOs providing volunteering;
- provides testimonies from youngsters having experienced the benefit and make some recommendations for the near future.

For further information about the campaign consult: http://eyvcampaign.ejjo.org/.

New dataset for age-specific child well-being information

As policy interventions for children in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries increasingly overarch traditional policy fields, demand has grown for better comparative information across a range of children’s outcomes. The Child Well-being Module (CWBM) is a new dataset for age-specific child well-being information including data on policies and family and community contexts.

The CWBM is part of the OECD Family Database portal for internationally comparable information on the situation of families in OECD countries. The CWBM features quality-checked data on children and their family contexts to help inform cross-national and national-level analysis of policies for children, and the outcomes that they achieve.
Funding / Prizes / Research Opportunities

Call for information on harmful traditional practices affecting children’s rights

The objective is to promote a rights-based and comprehensive discussion of the definition of harmful traditional practices and how to eliminate them effectively. You are invited to send:
- papers, reports and discussions on harmful traditional practices
- a list of harmful traditional practices in your state/region and any comments on the definition of harmful traditional practices
- positive legal frameworks and other measures adopted to challenge and work towards the elimination of harmful traditional practices, together with any assessments of their effectiveness.

The list of possible topics includes:
- Female genital mutilation/cutting
- Male circumcision
- Initiation ceremonies
- Violent and/or humiliating forms of punishment/treatment: corporal punishment, isolation etc.
- Early and forced marriage
- HIV/AIDS “cleaning”
- So-called “honour” crimes; acid attacks, crimes committed in relation to bride-price and dowry;
- Denouncing of children as witches or possessed by evil spirits;
- Deliberate discriminatory treatment of children
- Forms of treatment including extreme restriction of liberty for certain groups of disabled children – autism; children with albinism;

Please send materials, references and comments to adcoresearch@crin.org, by April 15, 2012

Graduate Student Article Award

The Oxford Bibliographies Graduate Student Article Award offers experienced doctoral candidates an opportunity to contribute to Oxford Bibliographies. This competition offers graduate students a unique chance to draw attention to their work and to add a peer-reviewed publication to their CVs. Invitation is by faculty nomination only. To maintain Oxford Bibliographies’s high standard of quality, this award will feature a rigorous selection and approval process. Contracts will only be offered to authors whose proposals demonstrate scholarly excellence, strong command of the literature, and are directly relevant to Oxford Bibliographies. Rigorous quality controls such as external peer review and editorial board approval will permit only the highest quality contributions to reach publication. Deadline: April 15, 2012.

Further information: http://oxfordbibliographiesonline.com/obo/page/grad-award

Call for papers: Children and Youth in a Changing World

The principal aim of the 2012 Inter-Congress of International Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences is to offer anthropologists in academia, governmental organisations, non-governmental organisations and agencies working on and with children from different parts of the world a common platform to address various emerging issues relating to children and childhood. Further information: http://www.kiit.ac.in/iuae/index.html. Deadline for abstract submission: May 1, 2012.

Submit your paper to: iuaesintercongress2012@gmail.com

Call for papers: World Congress on Childhood, Adolescence & Social Change

Argentina will host the V World Congress on Child and Adolescent Rights which will be held in October, 15 to 19, 2012 in the province of San Juan.

The intention of this call is to produce documents, bibliography, reports of intervention experiences and to develop investigation lines on the different fields of application based on the collaborative work among professionals, researchers and institutions. There are three calls within the framework of this congress, for:

The organizing team has set up guidelines for the presentation of abstracts, papers and forums. Detailed information: http://v2.enviaosimple.com/user_uploads/file/10932/guidelines.pdf

Contact: info@vcongresomundialdeinfancia.org

Vacancy: Project Manager in Jordan

MIZAN Law Group for Human Rights (www.mizangroup.jo) in collaboration with the International Bureau for Children’s Rights (www.ijcr.org) are seeking a qualified and experienced Project Manager to implement a two-year project on children’s right. The project is intended to strengthen the protection of children’s rights in Jordan by developing and institutionalising technical specialisation training targeting the national legal community, public institutions and the private sector and promoting greater awareness of children’s rights in both the public and private sectors. The project focuses on three areas: 1) children and justice, 2) child sex tourism and 3) child trafficking. Please submit your applications to the following address: jordan@ijcr.org. Closing date: April 2, 2012

Vacancy: International Human Rights Education Advisor

Amnesty International is seeking an International Human Rights Education Advisor. Task: advise and support the Amnesty International movement and other key partners to develop, implement and evaluate human rights education activities that reflect good practice in human rights education methodology and contribute to the human rights agenda. Closing date April 8, 2012. Further information: www.amnesty.org/jobs
Publications

UNICEF: Humanitarian Action for Children 2012 report

UNICEF’s Humanitarian Action for Children 2012 describes the daily situation of some of the world’s most vulnerable children and women in more than 25 countries and territories beset by emergencies and crisis. The chapters include summaries of the key humanitarian challenges and the results of the organization’s interventions in 2011, as well as plans and associated funding requests for the coming year. The document also lays out the vital support to country operations provided by the seven UNICEF regional offices. Also included are the unique contributions and funding needs of UNICEF’s global efforts to coordinate emergency assistance. Available Online: http://www.unicef.org/hac2012/files/HAC2012_LOW__WEB_Final.pdf

Child Trafficking in the Nordic Countries: Rethinking strategies and national responses

Child Trafficking in the Nordic Countries: Rethinking strategies and national responses analyses how the general principles of the Convention of the Rights of the Child are applied in relation to those children vulnerable to trafficking and other forms of exploitation. The study confirms that the Nordic countries have indeed made significant attempts to address the issue of child trafficking, including through setting up relevant institutions, developing action plans and allocating budgets. However, while this has meant that specialized expertise is available for specific groups of children, it has sometimes also led to fragmentation of services, leaving some children unprotected. The research also finds that many existing gaps may be bridged by consistent and strengthened implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

ISBN: 978-88-6522-003-0

Tackling Violence in Schools: A global perspective Bridging the gap between standards and practice

Tackling Violence in Schools: A global perspective Bridging the gap between standards and practice. This report advances the concept of a rights-based, child-friendly school as a means to reduce and eliminate violence against children. It was developed to assist partners, including Governments, international organizations, human rights mechanisms, civil society actors, research institutions, teachers’ unions and communities, which all have an indispensable role to play in ending all forms of violence against children in and around schools. Available online: http://srsg.violenceagainstchildren.org/sites/default/files/publications/Tackling%20Violence%20in%20Schools-%20SRSG%20VaC%20Publication.pdf

Eyes on Europe: Progress on children’s rights in the European Union— a study on the impact of international children’s rights monitoring on European member states EU institutions

This report from Save the Children deals with the response of political institutions to the obligations to children which followed from the adoption by the UN CRC in 1989. In the two succeeding decades there have been considerable differences between countries in their internal momentum for the realization of children’s rights. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Human Rights Council (through the process of the Universal Periodic Review) have made observations and recommendations to Individual European states about how they should improve the implementation of children’s rights. By means of exploring actions to combat violence against children by European member States and the EU institutions, the report assesses the extent to which the concerns and advice of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Universal Periodic Review have been addressed. Available online: http://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/node/5559

The State of the World’s Children 2012: Children in an Urban World

Upcoming Dates

APRIL 2012
27/04 to 29/04: International Conference on Global Issues of Early Childhood Education and Children’s Rights. Zirve University’s School of Education and School of Law, Gaziantep, Turkey.

MAY 2012
10/05 to 11/05: Using Digital Media in Research with Children and Young People, University of Edinburgh, Scotland.
10/05 to 11/05: The child in the world of the book and media, Lodz, Poland.
16/05: Workshop: Exploring Childhood Studies in the Global South: Africa in Focus, ICOSS, Sheffield, UK.
17/05 to 19/05: AFTA Conference-Theme: Family Resilience, San Francisco, USA.
26/05 to 27/05: C & K 2012 Early Childhood Conference - Children’s Right to Childhood, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Australia.

JUNE 2012
06/06 to 08/06: 14th International Conference of Finland Futures Research Centre and Finland Futures Academy, University of Turku, Finland.
15/06: 21st century tools for teaching and learning, Institute of Education, University of London, UK.
16/06: The rights of children with disabilities: the duty to protect, respect, promote and fulfil, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
26/06 to 29/06: Representing Young People: Voice, Image, Practice, Power, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

JULY 2012
05/07: Theories, frameworks and concepts Workshop, University of Bristol, UK.
09/07 to 11/07: 4th International Conference: Celebrating Childhood Diversity, University of Sheffield, UK.
30/07 to 04/08: International course “HumanRightsforDevelopment” (HR4DEV), University of Antwerp, Belgium.

SEPTEMBER 2012
04/09 to 07/09: 12th International EUSARF Conference, Glasgow, Scotland.
05/09 to 07/09: Children, Young People and Adults: Extending the Conversation, University of Central Lancashire, UK.
13/09 to 14/09: Twenty-first Century Childhood and Youth: Interdisciplinary Debates and Challenges. Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge, UK.
Upcoming Dates & ENMCR

SEPTEMBER 2012
26/09 to 29/09: Child in the City 2012, Zagreb, Croatia

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

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

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

How to join ENMCR

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

Why is it worthwhile joining our network?

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

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