



European Network of Masters in Children's Rights

# CRnews 6

Children's Rights Newsletter  
June/July 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,

As usual we are providing you with information on procedures within ENMCR and its members. For comments and feedback on CRnews, please write to [info@enmcr.net](mailto:info@enmcr.net). If you would like us to include information on activities please send an e-mail to [info@enmcr.net](mailto:info@enmcr.net).

Sincerely,  
Rebecca Budde (Editor)



ESF Exploratory Workshop on Children's Participation in decision-

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## General News Internal

### **ESF Exploratory Workshop on children's participation in public decision making**

From June 16-18, 2008 scholars and researchers from Switzerland, UK, Germany, Sweden, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Serbia, Belgium, Italy, Finland, Norway, came together in a ESF Exploratory Workshop to discuss about theorizations of children's (and young people's) participation in political decision-making across Europe. Many of the participants are members of ENMCR. It was interesting to experience the unexpected differences in approaches to children's rights and in particular to participation or citizenship rights, which were often used synonymously. The contributions made by participants were both heterogeneous concerning their disciplinary backgrounds and approach.

Where some contributions took a clear individualistic approach others emphasized the collective right to participation, manifested in social movements. Adult rights compared to children's rights were discussed and at times it seemed dichotomies were created in order to keep discussions going. There was much talk about one topic versus another topic, e.g. adult rights vs. children's rights; individual rights vs. collective rights; dependent vs. independent participation. It is surely useful to contrast certain aspects and approaches, yet unfortunately the thinking in "together" categories in contrast to "vs" categories lagged behind during the workshop. However: there is value in simplicity as was stated several times throughout the workshop. In the end the debates and different approaches encouraged and inspired to think further on the topics and all participants committed themselves to joint follow-up activities such as organizing and planning a larger conference, working towards a publication of the workshop papers and results and possibly start new cross European, comparative and complimentary research projects on certain children's rights aspects (e.g. Children in Cities; Children in Migration; History of children's participation across Europe).

The final report on the workshop will be posted on ENMCR's website in August.

Further information on the European Science Foundation: [www.esf.org](http://www.esf.org)

### **General Assembly ENMCR**

After the ESF workshop, members of ENMCR held a General Assembly in which further steps for the formal Network ENMCR AISBL were discussed and new members were accepted to the network. The representatives decided to change the criteria for becoming a member of the network, where from now on, newly interested researchers and university departments are asked to submit an outline of their programmes and courses in children's rights or their respective plans.

These criteria will be included on our website and information material in the next days.

Two new members were accepted as full members (Institute Universitaire Kurt Bösch, Sion, Switzerland; Universidade da Beira Interior, Covilha, Portugal) and one as associate member (West University of Timisoara, Romania) of the network.

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

#### **Eurochild General Assembly and Policy Forum on Social Inclusion**

ENMCR's membership in the network eurochild was confirmed at eurochild's annual general assembly on 17 June 2008. ENMCR and other new members were welcomed by acclamation.

Following the general assembly, a policy forum was held. Participants were informed about new developments in the EU social agenda process. Eurochild presented a toolkit to assess the social inclusion strand of the National Strategy Reports on Social Protection and Social Inclusion (NSRSPSI) from a child poverty and social inclusion perspective. The toolkit was discussed in different discussion groups. A few changes shall be made before the toolkit is distributed to member organizations. Eurochild will use the assessment reports of its member organizations to influence the European Commission's overall report on the social agenda and social inclusion process.

**International Interdisciplinary course Children's Rights in a Globalized world: From principles to practice.**

Date: 8-19 September 2008 Location: University of Ghent and University of Antwerp, Belgium

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

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 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. The Course Convenors are the Children's Rights Centre (Ghent University), the UNICEF Chair in Children's Rights (University of Antwerp) and the University College Ghent.

For more information, please visit <http://www.iccr.be/>, where the detailed program is now available or alternatively you can contact Kathy Vlieghe, Tel. 32 9 264 62 85 Fax. 32 9 264 64 93, Email: [Kathleen.Vlieghe@UGent.be](mailto:Kathleen.Vlieghe@UGent.be)

**Invitation to expert meeting to discuss the structures and actions of an ideal EU strategy on children's rights**

Date: 7 July 2008; Location: EURONET office in Brussels

The EURONET Management Council would like to invite you to an expert meeting to discuss the structures and actions that an EU strategy on children's rights should include. **Please confirm by Monday 30 June** if you would like to participate in the expert meeting on the EU strategy on children's rights. The European Commission is preparing at the moment a draft strategy/consultation paper on children's rights.

**Timeframe for the EU Strategy on Children's Rights:**

- The Commission aims to have a first draft ready by 22 July. After which there will be a period of consultation and input from all stakeholders.
- Discussion of the draft strategy on CR at the steering group on children's rights on 9 October 2008.
- Discussion of the draft strategy on CR at the European Forum on children's rights in November 2008.
- Child friendly version will be made of the draft strategy on CR for consultations with children from December 2008 - May 2009.
- Final strategy on children's rights adopted by the Commission in June 2009. The new European Commission to be installed end of 2009 will have to decide what to do with it, but the aim is that they will adopt the strategy as a new communication.

At the moment the Child Rights Action Group (CRAG) of which EURONET is a member and currently one of its coordinators is preparing a first draft framework for the EU strategy on CR. This first draft is giving some general guidance to the EU to ensure it takes a child rights based approach (based on the UNCRC and its optional protocols) and includes a range of questions that CRAG members believe that the Commission should address in the EU strategy on CR. A second input by CRAG to the Commission is planned for mid July, to allow its member organisations to be consulted and give input to this.

For further information please contact:

Mieke Schuurman; Secretary-General; The European Children's Network (EURONET)  
Avenue des Arts 1-2; B-1210 Brussels; Tel: +32 2 2170186 or +31 187 481396; Fax : +32 2 513 4903 or +31 187 487390; [mieke.schuurman@tiscali.nl](mailto:mieke.schuurman@tiscali.nl) or [europeanchildrennetwork@skynet.be](mailto:europeanchildrennetwork@skynet.be)  
URL: [www.europeanchildrensnetwork.eu](http://www.europeanchildrensnetwork.eu)

## General News External

### **Malta Conference on Social Capital and Social Inclusion**

Date: 19-22 September 2008 Location: Malta

The provisional program of the TSCF Malta II conference has been published on the conference site: <http://www.socialcapital-foundation.org/conferences/2008/TSCF%20International%20Conference%202008.htm>

If you have suggestions, or if you feel that you may be involved in one or more sessions, please let us know. Submissions and registrations are still open currently. (**until July 30, 2008**)

TSCF is also looking forward to having new active members. They are looking for persons with various profiles and skills, such as academic reviewers but also marketing and media specialists, web or computer specialists, fundraisers, librarians and information science specialists, and many others. If you are interested please send cover letter + CV for deliberation.

Contact: Post: B.P.30, 1310 Terhulpen, Belgium; Tel: (+32)-(0)2-256 98 37, Fax: (+32)-(0)2-256 98 37, Website: <http://www.socialcapital-foundation.org>

### **Working Group Session on the Quality of Childhood in the European Parliament.**

Date: 1 July, 2008; Location: European Parliament, Rue Wiertzstraat 60, Brussels, Entrance Spinelli

Prof. Steen Hildebrandt, University of Aarhus, Denmark will speak on 'Multiple intelligences in the knowledge-based society'. He is one of the pioneers in the world concerning a response of our societies regarding the challenge of globalisation. He has worked out the consequences of this response for our school system. Because of this he is also critical of the highly competitive testing culture of our school systems.

The session is hosted by the following Members of the European Parliament: MEP Karin Resetarits, MEP Adrian Severin, MEP Corina Cretu, MEP Rovana Plumb and MEP Hiltrud Breyer. The session will be chaired by MEP Rovana Plumb. Mrs Plumb is in that period host to a group of 30 teachers and pupils / students from Romania and they will also be present. For this reason the presentation is simultaneously translated into Romanian. On top of that the Romanian media (national television etc) will be present.

**Badges will be prepared in advance:** in order to avoid the lengthy check-in procedure, there is a kind request to inform the coordinator Michiel Matthes whether you will be present a.s.a.p.(the deadline has passed already, please contact the coordinator nonetheless and give him the following information: first name; family name; date of birth.

Michiel Matthes; Secretary-General; Alliance for Childhood European Network Group; Konkelstraat 214 box 7; B 1200 Brussels; Tel: +32.2.7622557; Internet: [www.allianceforchildhood.eu](http://www.allianceforchildhood.eu)

### **Child Poverty and Disparities: Public Policies for Social Justice**

Date: January 2008 Location: Cairo

Within the framework of the First International Forum for the Developing Countries Think Tanks, UNICEF EGYPT is organizing an International Conference on Child Poverty and Disparities.

The conference serves as a platform for innovative thinking on social policy and child rights that will bring together academics, policy makers, practitioners as well as university students and high school students. With the aim to reduce child poverty and disparities, it will exchange experiences and discuss evidence based proposals for inclusive and child-sensitive public social and economic policies.

A Call for Papers has been issued, it can be found on the UNICEF Egypt website:

[http://www.unicef.org/egypt/media\\_4579.html](http://www.unicef.org/egypt/media_4579.html) and also on ENMCR's website: [http://www.enmcr.net/cms/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=61](http://www.enmcr.net/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=61)

For further information you may contact Dennis Arends at the following e-mail address:

[egyptchildpovertyconference@unicef.org](mailto:egyptchildpovertyconference@unicef.org) .

**“Building a Europe for and with Children – Towards a strategy for 2009-2011”**

Date: 8-10 September 2008; Location: Stockholm

The Council of Europe, together with the Swedish government (currently the president of the Council of Europe) organises a conference called “Building a Europe for and with Children – Towards a strategy for 2009-2011”. The conference aims at highlighting what the Council of Europe has done for children's rights in the last 3 years and take the first steps on what focus should be on for the future. The conference will gather 250-300 persons from governments, international organisations, NGOs and other experts. The first day will be divided into three seminars (child participation, violence against children and child friendly justice) and the 2 following days will be the high level (some ministers will attend) conference ending with the adoption of the new strategy.

At the moment, the Council of Europe is asking for persons interested to attend to send in a registration form to them. They will then send invitation letters to selected people, based on geographical locations as well as representative selection (not only NGOs etc). This means that if you are interested to attend, you should fill in the registration form and send it to the Council of Europe as soon as possible (**deadline for submission is 27 June**).

You can find all information regarding the conference, including the draft agenda and the registration form, with the following link:

[http://www.coe.int/T/TransversalProjects/Children/First\\_announcement/firstannoucnement\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/T/TransversalProjects/Children/First_announcement/firstannoucnement_en.asp)

**Getting it Right for Every Child : Childhood, Citizenship and Children's Services**

Date : 24-26 September 2008, Location: Grosvenor Hilton Hotel, Glasgow

The Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde are hosting an international conference to explore key themes arising from the integration of children's services.

What is needed to secure better outcomes in work with children and their families? How can professionals work together, most effectively, to ensure that they are “Getting it Right for Every Child”? Drawing on insights from a range of disciplines, this timely cross professional conference, will explore contemporary policy, practice and theoretical issues of relevance to all those with an interest in improving the quality of life for children and young people. It will be of relevance to professionals, policy makers and academics committed to delivering effective education, health, youth justice and social work services.

The event builds on the successful “Children's Hearings at the Crossroads” conference held in 2003. The key themes are: Children's voices, citizenship and inclusion ; Building better childhoods; Changing children's services: challenges for education, social work and health care professionals

For further information and booking details please contact: [b.reid@educ.gla.ac.uk](mailto:b.reid@educ.gla.ac.uk) or telephone: 0141 330 6107

**2010: European Year against Poverty**

With a clear majority the European Parliament has agreed to the proposal to nominate 2010 as the “European year for fighting against poverty and social exclusion”. Initiatives in 2010 should above all aim at combating the “inheritance of poverty”, to support disadvantaged regions and to promote the integration of immigrants. In the EU, 78 Million citizens are threatened by poverty, of which 19 million are children and young people. The EU will allocate 17 million € for events, information campaigns and studies on the theme.

**New Network: European Cities Against Child Poverty**

The European Cities Against Child Poverty network is an EU-wide partnership led by GLE (Greater London Enterprise), working together with the London Development Agency, London Councils and the cities of Amsterdam, Budapest, Helsinki, and Milan. The two-year project addresses the root causes of child poverty in our cities through sharing practical experience. The network will also enable practitioners in charge of social services to share tried and tested approaches on how best to tackle



child poverty through initiatives and policies. Taking best practice from all partners and developing a practical guide to help shape future policy, the network aims to make a real difference.

The network issues an electronic information service which can be subscribed to by sending an e-mail to: [claire.c@gle.co.uk](mailto:claire.c@gle.co.uk)

Here two events that were advertised in the first issue of the newsletter:

**Active citizenship: Democratic practices in education**

Date: 9-12 October 2008 Location: Budapest, Hungary

This event, organised by ISSA (an organisation working in early childhood care and education) will provide a forum for discussion and exchanges of experiences on how the promotion of democracy can affect the quality of children's life.

**Child in the City 2008**

Date: 3-5 November 2008; Location: Rotterdam, The Netherlands

The fourth annual conference of Child Friendly Cities will take place in Rotterdam, in cooperation with the Child in the City foundation. The conference will focus on two themes:

Child friendly communities, and the necessity to promote child-friendly strategies at the lowest scale and points of reference, overview on which indicators are most useful for defining a city children-friendly. For further information: <http://www.childfriendlycities.org/>

**„Global Dialog“, discussion on political participation of youth in democratic states**

Date: 30 June- 4 July, 2008 Location: FEZ-Berlin An der Wuhlheide 197; 12459 Berlin

With the support of teamers and language assistants, 36 young people from 4 continents will exchange opinions, experiences and practices on everyday and policy themes, will explore common interests, elaborate on project ideas and establish networks for sustainable cooperation in a multilingual, intercultural campus with a parcours and open-space event. Highlight of “Global Dialog” will be the Global Act Day, which will take place on Friday, July 4 and in which the young people will present their ideas and recommendations for the EU on the theme: Global Cooperation.

Further information: <http://www.global-dialog.eu/>

**Publications**

**Child Friendly version of the newest UN Convention**

UNICEF has produced a child friendly version of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities; it is designed for all children, so that all children can get an understanding of the rights of children with a disability. (its also a pretty nice read compared with the adult text.)

[http://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Its\\_About\\_Ability.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Its_About_Ability.pdf)

Source: Catherine Naughton; EU liaison officer; [catherine.naughton@cbm.org](mailto:catherine.naughton@cbm.org); [www.cbm.org](http://www.cbm.org)

**Indicators- newsletter of the International Society for Childhood Indicators (ISCI):**

The information service of the International Society for Childhood Indicators offers valuable information on new studies concerning aspects such as child development, monitoring children's rights and gives extensive information on new publications and findings of research on child indicators worldwide. The International Society for Child Indicators (ISCI) contributes to improving the well-being of the world's children. The ISCI seeks to build a network of individuals dedicated to improving measures and data resources, advancing data analysis, exploring theoretical issues, and publicizing and disseminating information on the status of children. ISCI is also working to enhance the capacity of the field, especially for countries in the initial stages of producing child well-being indicators. Finally, ISCI is identifying and developing ways to facilitate the dissemination and application of indicators in policy and practice.

For a full description and information on joining ISCI, please visit [www.childindicators.org](http://www.childindicators.org)

Please contact the editor of the newsletter to be included in the mailing list or if you have information

you would like to submit to the newsletter:

Dr. William O'Hare  
The Annie E. Casey Foundation  
701 St. Paul Street Baltimore, MD 21202  
e-mail: [wohare@aecf.org](mailto:wohare@aecf.org) ++410-547-6600, ext. 2049

### **Scientific evidence for policy-making? Publication of research and investigation on dialogue of scientists and politicians**

The publication is based on the results of an extensive series of interviews with politicians, leading consultants and knowledge transfer experts, who were asked about solutions for overcoming the contextual, cultural and structural obstacles in dialogues between scientists and academics and politicians. The publication can be downloaded from: [http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/scientific\\_evidence\\_policy-making\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/scientific_evidence_policy-making_en.pdf)

### **Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse and explanatory report, Council of Europe Treaty Series No.201**

This convention aims to prevent the sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, protect child victims of sexual offences and prosecute perpetrators. With an emphasis on respecting the rights of children and keeping their best interests in the forefront, the convention covers preventive measures; criminal offences, including several entirely new offences, such as "child grooming"; protective measures and assistance to child victims and their families; "child-friendly" procedures for investigation and prosecution which are adapted to children's special needs; intervention programmes or measures for child sex offenders; recording and storing of data on convicted sex offenders; international co-operation and a monitoring mechanism.

To place an order directly:

[http://book.coe.int/sysmodules/RBS\\_page/admin/redirect.php?id=36&lang=EN&produit\\_aliasid=2320](http://book.coe.int/sysmodules/RBS_page/admin/redirect.php?id=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2320); Council of Europe Publishing; Palais de l'Europe, 67075 Strasbourg Cedex, France; E-mail : [publishing@coe.int](mailto:publishing@coe.int). <http://book.coe.int>

### **EURONET Position Paper EP Report on Fundamental Rights**

The European Children's Network (EURONET) published a position paper on the European Parliament report on the situation of fundamental rights in the EU, and in particular on social rights. Together with several key recommendations for EU policy makers, EURONET stated its concerns for the current levels in the EU of violence against children and child labour, as well as detention of asylum-seeking children across the EU.

Further information can be obtained from EURONET:

<http://www.europeanchildrensnetwork.org/euronet/>

### **The social situation in the European Union 2007 - social cohesion through equal opportunities** (European Commission, April 2008)

This study explores the situation of poverty in the EU area. The report shows that children with parents born outside the EU are about twice as likely to grow up in poverty as those with parents born in the country of residence. The study also explores how fighting child poverty among children from a migration background has become a high priority in the EU area.

## **News from CRIN**

### **EUROPEAN UNION: Anger and dismay at new immigration policy**

In what has been described as one of the European Union's "darkest days", the European parliament has voted to allow rejected asylum-seekers be detained for up to 18 months before being deported. The EU's "returns directive" - approved by members of Parliament (MEPs) on 18 June - is officially designed to provide a common approach to the length of time under which migrants facing expulsion can be kept in custody. At present, there is no mandatory limit on the duration for which migrants can

be held in seven of the Union's 27 countries.

Among the criticisms, experts are worried about insufficient safeguards for children.

Under the new law, a threshold for the maximum length of detention would be set at six months, yet this could be extended for a further 12 months in many circumstances.

The MEPs' decision was taken despite strong opposition from a wide coalition of churches and groups campaigning on human rights and civil liberties, who regard the 18-month limit as an excessive measure, particularly given that most migrants have not been convicted of any crime.

It is not just the provisions on jailing asylum-seekers that have proven contentious. Amnesty International has opposed the five-year ban that the directive would place on a deportee re-entering EU territory, complaining that this sets "an extremely bad example to other regions in the world." According to Amnesty, the law does not contain sufficient safeguards to ensure that child migrants who are unaccompanied by their parents will have their needs taken care of.

Other groups have protested that the directive would allow for deportations to occur to countries where they would be at risk of torture, harassment or even death. In some cases, migrants would be expelled to countries other than their own, according to some interpretations.

#### **Convincing vote in favour**

Within the Parliament, however, the directive was defended by its major political groupings. MEPs voted 367 in favour of the proposal, with 206 against and over 100 abstentions.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURE: Committee on the Rights of the Child endorses campaign**

The UN Committee on the Rights of the child endorsed a campaign on a communications mechanism, which would allow children and their advocates to appeal when domestic or regional remedies fail or simply do not exist. It would provide new pressure on States Parties to fulfil their obligations and also encourage them to provide effective remedies at national level.

By June 2008, more than 400 international and national organisations had signed the petition: "An international call to strengthen the enforcement of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child by the drafting of an Optional Protocol to provide a communications procedure". To sign the petition, go to: [www.crinorg/petitions/petition.asp?petID=1007](http://www.crinorg/petitions/petition.asp?petID=1007)

#### **JUVENILE JUSTICE: Protecting the Rights of Children in Juvenile Justice Systems [news]**

On 5 June, Defence for Children International (DCI) organised a Panel Discussion entitled "Protecting the Rights of Children in Juvenile Justice Systems: Follow-up to General Comment No.10".

The panel was chaired by DCI's founder and child rights expert Nigel Cantwell. Panellists included Nevena Vuckovic Sahovic and Jean Zermatten, members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child; Virginia Murillo Herrera, DCI Vice President for Latin America; and, Davinia Ovet, Secretariat Coordinator of the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice.

The objectives of this event were to raise awareness about pressing issues in juvenile justice, and relevant international standards, specifically the Committee on the Rights of the Child's General Comment No.10 "Children's Rights in Juvenile Justice" (GC 10). This event was part of DCI's wider international programme aimed at promoting the use of GC 10 and monitoring its implementation.

In his opening words, Nigel Cantwell recalled that just 30 years ago we had no international standards at all in the field of juvenile justice. GC 10 consolidates the existing standards in one document, but also makes new recommendations, for example with regards to developing an appropriate minimum age of criminal responsibility.

Nevena Vuckovic Sahovic identified some of the most pertinent trends and issues in juvenile justice today. She said that the greatest challenge in juvenile justice at present is not legislative reform, but rather the implementation of existing legislation at the local level. She also listed what she considered to be some of the most pressing issues including: the need to shift from repressive measures to prevention of juvenile delinquency; the need for greater implementation of diversionary measures; the over-use of pre-trial detention; the existence of status offences; and, the lack of attention paid to the situation of children below the minimum age of criminal responsibility. She noted that there is also a



wider problem of violence against children and its root causes that needs to be addressed, as there is a strong relationship between violence and children coming into conflict with the law.

Several NGO partners participated in the discussion.

For further information, contact: Anna Volz, Juvenile Justice Programme Officer: [juvenilejustice@dci-is.org](mailto:juvenilejustice@dci-is.org). Website: [www.dci-is.org](http://www.dci-is.org) Visit: <http://www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=17565>

**POVERTY: Call for ideas on poverty and human rights** [news]

The 2008 Social Forum of the Human Rights Council will be held from 1 to 3 September 2008.

A [letter from the OHCHR Secretariat of the Social Forum calls for stakeholders' inputs on concrete ideas and suggestions on how best the Forum can be utilised](#) to move forward the eradication of poverty in the context of Human Rights, as well as on specific themes the Social Forum should focus on. Note that submissions should be sent at the latest by **11 July 2008** to the Secretariat of the Social Forum via fax +41 22 928 9010 or electronically to [socialforum@ohchr.org](mailto:socialforum@ohchr.org).

For more information, contact: UN Human Rights Council Website:

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/>

**REFUGEES: UNHCR Guidelines on Determining the Best Interests of the Child** [publication]

The principle of the best interests of the child has been the subject of extensive consideration in academic, operational and other circles. Legal documents relating to the protection of children, including those adopted by UNHCR's Executive Committee on children of concern to the Office, systematically refer to it. How to apply this principle in practice, however, often remains challenging for UNHCR and its partners. Limited guidance is available on how to operationalise the best interests principle. UNHCR's [Guidelines on Determining the Best Interests of the Child](#) are intended as one step to help fill this gap. Among others, the Guidelines describe a formal mechanism to determine the best interests of the child.

For more information, contact: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Case Postale 2500, CH-1211 Genève 2 Dépôt, Switzerland; Tel: +41 22 739 8111

Website: <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home>

## Job Postings

**EMPLOYMENT: INTERIGHTS** (Executive Director)

The Executive Director will be based in London, but will be required to travel from time to time and ability to travel internationally is essential (on average not more than eight weeks per year).

INTERIGHTS has an attractive package of benefits including relocation, flexible working and sabbatical arrangements. The appointment of the Executive Director will be made permanent subject to the satisfactory completion of six months' probation.

Find out more information, visit: <http://www.interights.org/Vacancies/index.htm>

Deadline: **Friday 4 July 2008**

Return PDF application form by e-mail only. No CVs or cover letters. No applications by fax or post.

**EMPLOYMENT - Enfants du Monde** (Psychosocial advisor)

EMDH (Enfant du Monde- Droits de l'Homme) is a French NGO who has been active in the Occupied Palestinian Territories since 2001 working in partnership with BASR (Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation) to provide psychosocial services to children and their caregivers affected by conflict related violence and its consequences in their district.

The two partners are entering a new phase of their partnership and are looking for a qualified professional to continue the supervision and training work and prepare the team (social workers/counsellors, psychologists, animators, education officer) to be autonomous in the organisation and management of psychosocial activities. For more information, visit:

[http://www.emdh.org/website/emdhwebsite/emdh/poste.php?id\\_poste=202](http://www.emdh.org/website/emdhwebsite/emdh/poste.php?id_poste=202)

### **CRAE (National Coordinator)**

The UK's leading children's rights organisation seeks an exceptional individual with demonstrable commitment and experience. You will:

- Be an energetic and creative campaigner with wide knowledge of children's legislation and policy
- Have excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Be a successful fundraiser, able to head an enthusiastic team and manage change.

The post-holder will drive the national children's rights agenda following the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's assessment this year of the UK's implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Job pack available from [www.crae.org.uk](http://www.crae.org.uk) or 020 7278 8222 ext. 29.

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact the National co-ordinator Carlyne Willow on 020 7278 8222 ext. 22 or [cwillow@crae.org.uk](mailto:cwillow@crae.org.uk)

Deadline for applications: **July 9 2008 3pm**; Interviews: **July 18 2008**

### **Funding//Prizes//Research Opportunities**

#### **ResearchGATE „Facebook“ for international researcher's community**

Since the end of May 2008, the ResearchGATE enables registered users access to a free/open platform, on which you can create a personal scientific profile and can present your academic work. In addition, the platform offers the possibility to send messages to other researchers and to participate in virtual group discussions. A search machine facilitates the findings of suitable partners with similar or complimentary interests. This international networking technology should enable an immediate peer reviewing amongst colleagues as well as an interdisciplinary and trans-sectoral exchange of academics and researchers. The ResearchGATE is being coordinated from Hannover in Germany and supporters are amongst others the Max Planck Phdnet, the European Students Conference and GAIN also the European Science Foundation (ESF), who are actively encouraging researchers to use this tool and who have announced to post job vacancies on the portal.

Further Information: <https://www.researchgate.net/> or <http://blog.researchgate.net/>

#### **New Webportal EURAXESS informs early stage researchers**

EURAXESS has been available since the beginning of June. It comprises all former services of the European mobility portal. It is divided into the following 4 Thematic areas:

- 1) **EURAXESS Jobs** lists on a daily basis hundreds of jobs for researchers
- 2) **EURAXESS Services Network** is the Network of European mobility centres, which offers support to outgoing and returning researchers in their work and everyday lives.
- 3) **EURAXESS Rights** informs about the European Charta for researchers as well as the code of conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers.
- 4) **EURAXESS Links** is a network for European researchers abroad. This site offers information on events abroad and newsletters as well as on European research. In June EURAXESS Links for Japan and China has started, other countries will follow.

Further information: [http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index_en.cfm)

#### **„Young European 2008“**

The Heinz-Schwarzkopf Foundation Junges Europa awards the “Young European of the Year” prize. They are looking for young people between 18 and 28 from Europe, who dedicate themselves to voluntary engagement on understanding between people/nations and/or the integration of Europe and do exceptional work in this field. The prize is worth 5.000€. The sum shall enable a 6 month internship with a member of the European Parliament or another European institution. It is also possible to use the money for a project serving European integration.

**Deadline: 30 June 2008.**

Further information: [www.heinz-schwarzkopf-stiftung.de](http://www.heinz-schwarzkopf-stiftung.de)

## Upcoming Dates

- 30 June:** Deadline application to DAAD for HEI partnerships between Germany and developing countries.
- 30 June - 4 July:** 33rd global conference of the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), Tours, France.
- 30 June - 4 July :** „Global Dialog“, discussion on political participation of youth in democratic states, Berlin, Germany
- 1 July:** Working Group Session on the Quality of Childhood in the European Parliament.
- 1 July:** Children's rights and participation conference (York, UK)
- 11 July:** Call for ideas on poverty and human rights. Deadline submissions
- 13-15 August:** World Conference of Children's Playtowns (Berlin, Germany)
- 19 August:** Deadline submission applications Marie Curie Fellowships (Specific Programme: People)
- 2 September:** Deadline applications for Initial Training Networks (FRP 7)
- 8-10 September:** “Building a Europe for and with Children - Towards a strategy for 2009-2011”, Stockholm
- 15 September:** Deadline ESF conferences 2010
- 17 September - 16 December:** Course monitoring Children's Rights
- 19 September:** Day of General Discussion (Geneva, committee on the Rights of the Child)
- 19 September:** Swansea Conference
- 19-22 September :** The Social Capital Foundation – Malta Conference
- 24-25 September:** Educational Dilemmas in Culturally Diversified Societies (Conference in Warsaw)
- 24-26 September:** Getting it Right for Every Child : Childhood, Citizenship and Children's Services, Glasgow
- 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.
- 9-12 October:** Active citizenship: Democratic practices in education Budapest, Hungary
- 3-5 November:** Child in the City 2008: Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 5-7 November:** Eurochild annual conference (Budapest)
- 17-18 November:** final colloquium of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue
- 19 November:** World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse
- January 2009:** Child Poverty and Disparities: Public Policies for Social Justice, Cairo