

CRnews 01

Children's Rights Newsletter January 2009

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Dear Network Members and Network Interested,

The European Network of Masters in Children's Rights wishes all Child Rights activitists, scholars, fighters, advocates and just interested a very successful and joyous new year 2009. Even though we are entering 2009 with more wars and conflicts than in 2007 or 2008, of which children and their rights are one of the first to suffer from, we do hope that we can continue good work towards making children's rights a reality for ever more children in the world. In this newsletter we briefly give you an overview of what the network has planned for 2009 and there are many activities mentioned of other networks, associations and organisations, which are surely of interest to you also. Also in 2009 you are welcome to send us information you would wish to distribute through our infoservice. Sincerely,

Rebecca Budde (Editor)

In this Newsletter you will read:

General News

Internal:

Brief Summary of ENMCR's planned activities in 2009

News from Members and Networks of which ENMCR is a member

International Day Conference Representations of children in news media: rights, research and policy: revisiting the Oslo Challenge

Eurochild receives membership in Fundamental Rights Platform

The Modern Child and the Flexible Labour Market: Exploring early childhood educat. & care

External

International exchange seminars in Germany

Young people's and Children's Knowledge about Children's Rights in Europe

Symposium "Children's Rights in need"(Kinderrechte in Not)

Public debate on EU priorities in Justice and Home affairs

Dutch website to assist undocumented children to their rights

Control mechanism at universities to detect irregular migrant students (UK)

Call to found a network of young/early stage researchers

European Seminar on Child Well-Being Indicators

Seminar "ILO 182 and Girl Child Labour"

International Migration as efficient measure against financial crisis

2nd International Conference on Geographies of Children, Youth And Families: 'Diverse child-

hoods in international contexts: gender and other social and cultural differences'

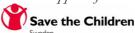
ESA Research Network - Sociology of Children and Childhood (Call for Papers)

9th European Sociological Association Conference

Please use <u>info@enmcr.net</u> for all feedback, questions, comments or information.

Thank you for reading this newsletter

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Publications

Kinderrechte – aus Kindersicht: Wie Kinder weltweit zu ihrem Recht kommen (Children's Rightsfrom a children's view: how children come by their rights across the world) Author: Manfred Liebel Intl. Review: Youth policy in Hungary

ALL I WANT IS TO LAND! (Final report from Utanpapper.nu)

Hidden Children - the Story of State Care for Separated Children Author: Maria Corbett

"Family Structure and Children's Psychosocial Outcomes" Journal of Family Issues 29(12): 1600-1624. Authors: Wu, Zheng/Feng Hou/Christoph Schimmele (2008)

2007/2008 annual report of the Children's Institute (CI), University of Cape Town

Fighting racism and promoting equal rights in education and training. Ed: European Network against Racism (ENAR)

Selected info from CRIN- again in the next newsletter Job Postings

Funding//Prizes//Research Opportunities

Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) 2010 Initiating and intensifying bilateral cooperation

Upcoming Dates

General News Internal

Brief Summary of ENMCR's planned activities in 2009

As promised above and in the last CRnews, we would like to give you an overview of our plans for 2009. Over and above all, our main activity, the offer of advanced university programmes in Children's Rights (MSc's; MA's; Expert course; specializations; PhD programmes) will be continued in 2009 as in the previous years. We are happy to be able to let you know that recruitment for the courses is high, which indicates that there is a need and an interest in these courses-hopefully the fruits of the qualifications grow all over the world!

Besides the ongoing courses, ENMCR is offering an Intensive Summer School Programme in June/July 2009 on the topic of Children's Citizenship and Participation Rights- accessibility and exclusion. It will be held in at the University Babes Bolyai in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. We will inform you in more detail on the programme in one of the following editions of CRnews. (Further Information:

http://www.enmcr.net/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=40&Itemid=69)

This year the first exchanges between the newly established MA programmes in Serbia and the Republic of Moldova with universities within the European Union will take place via scholarship grants from the Tempus project (Further Information:

http://www.enmcr.net/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=14&Itemid=29)

Also ENMCR is engaging in another Tempus project application to extend the offer of Children's Rights advanced higher education courses also to the Mediterranean region. Cooperation is envisaged with universities and institutions in Egypt and Jordan.

This is not the only Mediterranean initiative- already in mid 2008 a group of members from the Mediterranean decided that it would be good and necessary to form a "sister" network for countries in the region. The founding meeting for this Mediterranean network is to take place in January- we will report of the outcome!

ENMCR is furthermore planning to organize an annual General Assembly in late Autumn 2009- so please keep your eyes open for further indications of dates in the coming weeks.

Of course all members have their own activities going on, on which we continuously report here- also, as you can see ion this edition- below.

We wish the network and all its members a very good and successful year 2009.

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

International Day Conference Representations of children in news media: rights, research and policy: revisiting the Oslo Challenge

Location: CLARKE HALL, Institute of Education; Date: Wed, 22nd April 2009; 9:30 - 4:30pm

The Intl. Day Conference is jointly organised by IOE and The Open University.

The Oslo Challenge (1999) was a collaboration between the Norwegian Government and UNICEF and marked the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the UNCRC. It included the following challenge to media professionals at all levels and in all media:

"to work ethically and professionally to sound media practices and to develop and promote media codes of ethics in order to avoid sensationalism, stereotyping (incl. by gender) or undervaluing of children and their rights" (MAGIC 1999)

20 years after the UN CRC, and 10 years after the Oslo Challenge, this intl day conference will draw out the political, economic, practical, justice and rights implications of representations of children in news media, and will explore the following questions:

- Why do negative representations of children matter?
- What research and evidence are there about possible adverse effects on/for children and young people, adults and societies generally?
- How might more positive representation be promoted? How would it differ from present images?
- How can and should the news media work ethically for and with children, so that their interests are well served?
- What steps can and do governments and professional organisations take to improve the representation of children?
- What scope is there for children to work with adults towards improved news media representation?

Please see www.ioe.ac.uk for directions to the location, as well as the booking form for attendance (fee: £50/£10 for registered students and unwaged) or contact: Sue Grant, ECPE, Institute of Education, 20, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL. Tel: 020 7612 6588, Email: s.grant@ioe.ac.uk The conference is linked to the Institute of Education's MA Sociology of Childhood & Children's Rights, and the week long module 'Children's Rights in Practice', 20th-24th April 2009. This can be a stand-alone course. The conference is also linked to The Open University's BA (Hons) Childhood and Youth Studies.

Eurochild receives membership in Fundamental Rights Platform

Eurochild has been accepted as member of the <u>Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP)</u>. FRP is a network for cooperation and information exchange, set to act as the main channel for the <u>Fundamental Rights Agency's (FRA)</u> cooperation with civil society and to ensure a close cooperation between the Agency and relevant stakeholders. The Platform was launched in October in Vienna. The aim of the meeting was to receive suggestions from the participants to the Agency's work programme 2009 and feedback on the Annual Report 2008. The meeting also selected a representative to report the outcome of the meeting to the Fundamental Rights Agency's Management Board

The Modern Child and the Flexible Labour Market: Exploring early childhood educat. & care Date: 29-30 April 2009; Location: Trondheim, Norwegian Centre for Child Research, NTNU

Norwegian Centre for Child Research informs you that the registration deadline to the conference on April 29th and 30th, 2009 is extended to January 15, 2009.

Please see the following link for information about Call for Papers, registration, and how to upload abstracts. http://www.svt.ntnu.no/noseb/english/research/prosjekter/BHP/noseb2009.htm
Please note that all abstracts must be submitted in pdf-format.

We look forward to seeing you all in Trondheim in late-April, 2009!

General News External

International exchange seminars in Germany

Date: August 31 to October 22, 2009; Location: Berlin

AGJ Child and Youth Welfare Association is organising an international exchange programme for social workers and professionals in the field of youth work and youth welfare services Each year, the German Government provides a total of 20 - 22 grants for activities in this field. Eligible applicants are all those engaged in the field of social work and child/youth welfare including children and youngsters with special needs. Candidates must have worked for at least one year after obtaining their professional qualification and must have very good comprehension and speaking skills in German. An introduction and evaluation seminars will be carried out. Between the seminars internships will be provided in different German cities. **Deadline:** Application forms must be sent in two copies to the local German Embassy by January/February 2009. **Contact:** Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kinder- und Jugendhilfe- AGJ, renate.wisbar@agi.de Internet: http://www.agi.de

Young people's and Children's Knowledge about Children's Rights in Europe

A survey conducted across Europe in 2008 revealed that the majority of young people in Europe (67%) know that people under the age of 18 have specific rights. Yet 79% also say that they do not know what to do, when these rights are violated or don't even realize when they are breached. Therefore 88% of the young people who answered top the flash survey wish for moiré 9information on their rights and how to defend them, by e-g- Campaigns, a specific website.

As far as we know, no new website has been launched since then and it may be a good idea and possibility to make information on children's rights more accessible for those to whom they belong in 2009.

Symposium "Children's Rights in need"(Kinderrechte in Not) Date: 04 April 2009; Location: Hamburg

Germany signed the UNCRC on April 5 1992. The 17th anniversary of this date; which on one hand forms a milestone for CR in Germany yet also bears the bad taste of restrictions the German government allowed itself to impose in ratifying the convention is taken as starting point top discuss the issues at stake. In addition, Germany's state report to the UN Committee is also due in 2009 and the symposium should serve as kick-off for the preparation of the alternative report to the UN Committee The symposium should serve to discuss and jointly strive for amendments to the restrictions of the government.

Thematic foci: Children and poverty; unequal treatment of children in Germany, refugee children, children without papers; children and education, children's participation.

Parallel to the symposium and children and youth symposium will beheld – the results will be presented in the plenary.

Further information (organisers): dethloff@diakonie-hamburg.de, www.haburgasyl.de

Public debate on EU priorities in Justice and Home affairs

The EU Commission has launched a public debate on future priorities in the area of Justice and Home affairs. The European Civil Liberties Network, ECLN has elaborated an alternative questionnaire in order to enable and reach a broader discussion on EU policies and practice. Further information: http://www.ecln.org/index.html.

Dutch website to assist undocumented children to their rights

On November 20th the new website was launched: www.iLegaalkind.nl. It helps undocumented children to get by their rights. iLegaalkind.nl is an initiative of Dutch organisations, Defence for Children International and Stichting LOS. In addition the website provides information for adults- for parents, teachers, police, doctors/medics- as well as an extra section for lawyers. Further information can be found on the website itself or here: http://www.defenceforchildren.nl/

Control mechanism at universities to detect irregular migrant students (UK)

The UK government has launched a rigorous attempt against irregular immigration of students by which universities are asked to install surveillance systems to pursue movements of international students. New rules that are to force universities to detect foreign students to immigration administration who miss too many lectures and classes will be detrimental to the relation between students and teachers as presenter are supposed to act as the police, as a group of about 200 university teachers and activists against these rules declared. A letter to the guardian organised by Ian Grigg-Spall, academic director of the National Critical Lawyers Group argues that the rules may violate the European Human Rights convention, which guarantees the right to privacy:

http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2008/nov/10/international-students-migrantscamscrackdown

Call to found a network of young/early stage researchers

To support and promote an information and discussion exchange between "young" childhood researchers, a network is to be founded within the section Childhood in the German Association for Sociology. We are looking for childhood researchers, who have an interest in networking and would like to get *actively* involved. On one hand this means integration of own research or questions or needs for discussion that arise in this context as well as including organisational issues to prepare joint activities. At the moment a "young researchers"- blog is planned which is linked to the sections website, which should serve as communication platform for about 15-20 researchers. Also, information on upcoming events and scholarship opportunities, calls for paper etc are to be uploaded and published on the blog. Also a "who is who" of the bloggers is planned to raise public awareness. If you are interested then please contact Nicole Klinkhammer: nicole.klinkhammer@gmx.de or Anna Hein: anna-hein@web.de by end January 2009

European Seminar on Child Well-Being Indicators

Date: 29 January 2009; Location: Instituto degli Innocenti Florence

In the morning the practical use of indicators in the mapping and assessment of the childhood condition will be discussed in an International and European context followed by an insight into national contexts in the early afternoon and concluding with a Round Table discussion on: How child wellbeing indicators can impact on child policies. Amongst intervenors are: Helmut Wintersberger, University of Vienna; Asher Ben-Arieh, Hebrew University in Jerusalem; Sinead Hanafin and Anne-Marie Brooks; Benoît Parmentier; Helmut Sax and many more.

Seminar "ILO 182 and Girl Child Labour"

Date: 26-27 June 2009; Location: The Hague

In June 1999, the ILO adopted Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The Convention has been ratified by 168 countries and the last decade has witnessed increasing attention to solving the problem of child labour, particularly its worst forms. Girls account for around half of the child labourers around the world, but have rarely been approached as a distinct category, except in cases of typical female professions, such as prostitution and domestic labour. The IREWOC Foundation (www.irewoc.nl) is organizing a two-day seminar to present recent research on the impact of ILO Convention 182, particularly in relation to the girl child. A number of issues that will arise include best practices, the extent of worst forms of child labour (sectors and regions) and the policy implications. The seminar will also aim to identify key gaps for future research.

The seminar will be convened by Kristoffel Lieten (kli@iisg.nl), in co-operation with ILO and Plan Netherlands. Papers, to be written in English, are welcomed. A synopsis must be submitted before February 10th 2009. A scientific committee will select a short list of authors. The eventual seminar paper must be submitted by June 1st 2009. All parties interested in attending are invited to register for the seminar by email (seminar@irewoc.nl).

International Migration as efficient measure against financial crisis

During the 2nd Global Migration Forum in Manila, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon declared that the movement of workers across national borders could make economies more efficient and balance

Children's Rights Newsletter / January 2009

out economic inequalities. "Human Mobility makes our economies more efficient, even if they aren't growing, by ensuring that the correct competences are at the right place at the right time" he said. http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=28750&Cr=&Cr1

2nd International Conference on Geographies of Children, Youth And Families: 'Diverse childhoods in international contexts: gender and other social and cultural differences' Date: 16-18 July 2009; Location: Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

The conference is the second of a bi-annual intl. conference series that has been prompted by the current intl. vitality of geographies of children, young people and families. The aim of the conference is to provide a forum for the exchange of different knowledges, ideas and experiences from researchers and practitioners working in variety of intl. contexts and disciplinary fields, who are interested in exploring and advancing any aspect of geographies of children, youth and families.

Themes to be explored could include, without being limited to:

- * Children and young people in their families and households from a gender perspective.
- * Inter-subjective relationships and the construction of child/youthful subjects.
- * Children's mobilities and migrations.
- * The experiences of children and young people who are particularly 'othered', such as those with disabilities, mental ill-health and socio-emotional differences;
- * Children and young people's emotional geographies/geographies of affect.
- *Public policies and children's participation. a.o.

More broadly, the conference is designed to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and networking between researchers interested in any field of geographies of children, young people and families. Papers are invited that detail any aspect thereof. Abstracts (max. 200 words) should be sent to Maria Prats Ferret (Maria Prats@uab.cat) by 30th January 2009.

A number of travel bursaries are available to support postgraduate researchers and scholars or practitioners with limited resources to attend the conference.

ESA Research Network – Sociology of Children and Childhood (Call for Papers) 9th European Sociological Association Conference Date: 2nd-5thth September 2009; Location: Lisbon, Portugal

The Research Network aims to bring together scholars engaged in theoretical and empirical work on Children and Childhood across Europe. The Network has organised successful Sociology of Childhood Streams at the last five ESA Conferences (1999-2007). The general theme of the 2009 conference is European Society or European Societies and the various sessions will address commonalities and differences between children growing up in European Societies.

Abstracts (200 words max) will be accepted through completion of the online submission form and this will be available shortly at the conference website at: www.esa9thconference.com.

The deadline for receipt of abstracts is 26th February 2009. Decisions on acceptance will be conveyed by 26th March 2009. We are particularly keen to receive abstracts on the following themes:

Children's everyday lives in European Societies; Citizenship and Participation; Childhood and children's rights; Child Work and Economic Activity; What makes a 'good' childhood – children, health, wellbeing; Theoretical and Methodological Issues in Researching Childhood and Children's Lives

We also welcome papers addressing other themes which can contribute to increasing our understanding of children's lives in a European context from empirical and/or theoretical perspectives.

We will also be organising a meeting and social event for the **Sociology of Children and Childhood Research Network** at the conference. Information will be made available about this at the first session. For further information, please contact: Jo Moran-Ellis; University of Surrey; <u>J.Moran-Ellis@surrey.ac.uk</u>

Publications



Manfred Liebel: **Kinderrechte – aus Kindersicht**: Wie Kinder weltweit zu ihrem Recht kommen (Children's Rights- from a children's view: how children come by their rights across the world) 1989 – 2009: 20 years after the proclamation of the UNCRC it is time to make CR a reality....based on concrete situations, the book asks how children can come by their rights. The book shows why a specific understanding of these rights is needed in order to make them attractive and achievable for children. Socially disadvantaged children are in the center. Different methods and practice tools are demonstrated with which children can reach confidence and political participation and citizenship and which political frameworks need to be established. (in German)

To be ordered through: bestellung@lit-verlag.de

Youth policy in Hungary

This international review of Hungarian national youth policy is the fifteenth in the series started in 1997 by the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe. Like preceding reviews, it aims to fulfil three distinct objectives: - to advise on national youth policy; - to identify components which might combine to form a harmonised approach to youth policy across Europe; and - to contribute to a learning process in relation to the development and implementation of youth policy. Hungary, at its own request, embarked on an international review to benefit from ten years of reviewing experience and to contribute to the European exchange of information on youth policies. This report includes information gathered by the international review team as well as its analyses and recommendations concerning the development, perspectives and challenges for the future of youth policy in Hungary. Author(s): Andreas Walther, Manfred Zentner, Elvira Cicognani, Bjorn Jaaberg Hansen, Roman Kühn, Zsuzsanna Szelenyi, Howard Williamson

To place an order directly:

http://book.coe.int/sysmodules/RBS_page/admin/redirect.php?id=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2358

ALL I WANT IS TO LAND! (Final report from Utanpapper.nu)

Utanpapper.nu is a helpline for undocumented children. The project was operated by Save the Children Sweden for two years.

ALL I WANT IS TO LAND! is also how a ten year old boy rapped at a summer camp for undocumented children. His poem has given the report its name, as it reflects the unsecure state between hope and despair that characterizes the life of the undocumented child. In the report you will meet some of the 470 children and young adults who, directly or indirectly, came in contact with the helpline from different places in Sweden. Their experiences of broken families, fear for deportation and lack of rights in Sweden are described in examples and quotations, and also by extensive documentation of who they are, what they need and how they became undocumented. The report contains advice on how to support undocumented children, voluntarily or professionally.

The fact that undocumented children certainly are victims of war, repression and migration policy, but also individuals with rights, hope and dreams of the future, is present throughout the report.

The report can be downloaded in English: http://www.utanpapper.nu/land

Hidden Children - the Story of State Care for Separated Children

Author: Maria Corbett, Working Notes, Edition 59, November 2008. The article investigates to what extent the Irish state reacts to the especially sensitive group of unaccompanied children http://www.cfj.ie/images/stories/pdf/issue59/hidden-children.pdf

"Family Structure and Children's Psychosocial Outcomes." Journal of Family Issues 29(12): 1600-1624. Authors: Wu, Zheng/Feng Hou/Christoph Schimmele (2008).

This article examines the influence of family structure on children's short-term psychosocial behavioural outcomes, including emotional disorder, conduct disorder, and pro-social behaviour. The analysis uses five waves of data from Canada's Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth to model how living in a cohabitational household (two biological parents) and how experiencing cohabitation dissolution influence children's behaviours, comparing these effects to outcomes observed in children from married biological-parent households. The findings indicate that growing up in a married biological parent household does not offer a clear advantage. Most differences in behavioural problems across family structure associate with household demographics, low income-status, family dysfunction, and parental nurturance. As such, this study contributes two important findings. First, the results do not support the hypothesis that non-marital cohabitation represents an undesirable child-rearing environment. Second, cohabitation dissolution has a non-significant effect on children's behaviours, which is surprising considering that divorce has a well-established harmful effect.

2007/2008 annual report of the Children's Institute (CI), University of Cape Town

This year the report contains a special feature: A set of reflective essays that trace the development of the Institute's distinctive approach to socially responsive research and public engagement. The essays are: Participating in law-making processes: Experiences of the Children's Bill; Litigating for a better deal; Children Count: Using child-centred data to monitor the realisation of children's socio-economic rights in South Africa; Making a case for children's right to social services; and The making of the South African Child Gauge: A reflection on the first three years.

We also present some selected observations on the activities of the Children's Institute.

The report can be downloaded from the institutes website: www.ci.org.za

Fighting racism and promoting equal rights in education and training Ed: European Network against Racism (ENAR)

In order to fight and remove racist discrimination, to promote the inclusion of diversity in educational and vocational systems and to improve the educational chances for pupils from ethnic minorities and migrants, ENAR recommends 4 key principles, which should underlie all actions: further information can be found in the fifth edition of the strategy paper Fighting racism and promoting equal rights in education and training:

http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdf/GPP%20No%205%20Education%20%20EN %20final%20and%20adopted.pdf

Funding/Prizes/Research Opportunities

Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) 2010

"A Passion for Science" is the motto of the Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) 2010 to be held in Turin, Italy. From 2-7 July 2010 the forum offers the opportunity to discuss with experts from all areas and from across Europe current scientific themes and their relevance for science, economy politics, media and the public. Ideas for themes can be sent in from now until **June 15 2009**. On the website ESOF 2010 the guidelines for applications can be found: www.esof2010.org

Initiating and intensifying bilateral cooperation

In support of establishing and intensifying bilateral cooperation, the German Research Associaton (DFG) is offering a flexible and modularized funding instrument starting from January 2009. Applicants who'd like to establish or strengthen scientific cooperation with partners from abroad, can be funded for a period up to 1 year. It is possible to extend the funding. The application should ideally be short and precise and convincing and should contain how and with what measures the cooperation is being established or strengthened.

Further Information:

http://www.dfg.de/aktuelles_presse/information_fuer_die_wissenschaft/ausschreibungen_mit_inter_nationalem_bezug/info_wissenschaft_78_08.html

Upcoming Dates

January 16 2009: deadline Youth Karlsprize

January 19 2009: deadline cofund programme Marie Curie

January 19-20 2009: Child Poverty and Disparities: Public Policies for Social Justice, Cairo

January 19 - March 23 2009: Course at University of Edinburgh: 'Listening to Children: Research and Consultation'

January 26- 30 2009: San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment

January 29 2009: European Seminar on Child Well-Being Indicators, Florence Italy

January 30 2009: Deadline Abstracts: Intl. Conference on Geographies of Children, Youth Families

February 10 2009: Deadline Abstract Seminar "ILO 182 and Girl Child Labour"

February 26 2009: Deadline for abstracts 9th European Sociological Association Conference

April 4 2009: Symposium "Children's Rights in need" (Kinderrechte in Not); Hamburg, Germany

April 15 2009: Deadline submission ERC Advanced Grants in Social Sciences and Humanities

April 20-22 2009: Conf. Children and the EU: Legal Research and Political Perspectives (Liverpool)

April 22 2009: Intl Day Conference Representations of children in news media: rights, research and policy: revisiting the Oslo Challenge; Institute of Education, London

April 29-30 2009: The Modern Child and the Flexible Labour Market: Exploring early childhood education & care; Trondheim, NOSEB

June 2009: 5th session of the Seminar for Advanced Studies in Private and Public International Law

June 15 2009: Deadlines for submission of ideas for themes Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) 2010

June 26-27 2009: Seminar "ILO 182 and Girl Child Labour" The Hague, Netherlands

July 16-18 2009: 2nd Intl. Conference on Geographies of Children, Youth And Families: 'Diverse childhoods in international contexts: gender and other social and cultural differences' Barcelona, Spain

August 31 to October 22, 2009: International exchange seminars in Germany, Berlin

September 2-5 2009: 9th European Sociological Association Conference Lisbon, Portugal

July 2- 7 2010: Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) 2010