



European Network of Masters in Children's Rights

# CRnews 11

Children's Rights Newsletter  
November 2009

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,

After all the celebrations of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN-Convention on the Rights of the Child we are coming back to our regular work. Hopefully some of the events have left you with new motivation to bring forward children's rights issues, like they have in my personal case. Well... let's light candles and cook some nice biscuits to get energy, as the Advent season has started already...

We will keep you informed on proceedings here in CRnews. Please feel free to contact us with comments, news, ideas for improvement via the regular e-mail address: [info@enmcr.net](mailto:info@enmcr.net)  
Looking forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,  
Lea Fenner (Editor)

## In this Newsletter you will read:

- **General News**

### Internal:

Short report on the ENMCR's General Assembly

Documentation of the International Workshop

Conference: Social Ecology of School Success - Implications for Policy and Practice

### External:

Launch of NEIJ - Childhood and Youth Studies Interest Group (CRIA, Portugal)

8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the African Working Children and Youth, Benin

Launch of Portal for Human Rights Schools

Beta version of new platform online: [www.100millionchildren.eu](http://www.100millionchildren.eu)

Megjashi calls for action against corporal punishments on children

Lisbon Treaty fully ratified

20 Years United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - A new era for children's rights in the European Union?

UN adopted Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children

"Draw me a right!" - Poster competition on children's rights

- **Publications**

Book: International Children's Rights (November 2009)

COMPASITO-Handbuch zur Menschenrechtsbildung jetzt auch auf Deutsch

Booklet: Children and Young People in Care - Discover your Rights!

Report: Childhood in Transition: Experiencing Marginalisation and Conflict in Northern Ireland

UNICEF report on children immigrants in wealthy countries

Brochure: „Beteiligungsrechte von Kindern und Jugendlichen in Deutschland – Ein Vergleich der gesetzlichen Bestimmungen in den Bundesländern“

New: Amici dei Bambini's Institutional E-Newsletter

### Council of Europe publications

Book: Janusz Korczak: The Child's Right to Respect - Lectures on today's challenges (November 2009)

- **Funding//Prizes//Research Opportunities**

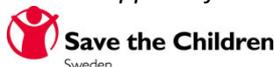
CALL FOR PAPERS: Growing up in Divided Societies

Call for Papers: 3<sup>rd</sup> INT. CONFERENCE- Childhood and Youth in Transition

- **Upcoming Dates**

Thank you for reading this newsletter.

*CRnews is produced with the support of Save the Children, Sweden*



## General News Internal

### Short report on the ENMCR's General Assembly

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of November around 15 people from Universities in Germany, Spain, Romania, England, Serbia, Belgium, The Netherlands and Portugal came together to report on their work, discuss joint projects and collect and develop new ideas for future projects to keep the network active. We were very happy to be able to come together and discuss some issues face-to-face. Thanks again to all participants who took time of their regular work-schedule and found their way to Berlin!

### Documentation of the International Workshop: "Conceptual Approaches in Human Rights Education for Children - Participation and Citizenship"

Can be downloaded on our website:

[http://www.enmcr.net/cms/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=17&Itemid=33](http://www.enmcr.net/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=17&Itemid=33)

### Conference: Social Ecology of School Success - Implications for Policy and Practice

Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 13-15 May 2010

Researchers and practitioners are invited to submit titles and abstracts for the following workshops:

- Partnerships for building school success
- Peers and schooling
- Parenting school children
- Improving school attendance
- Mental health and school success
- Tracking school success
- Scaffolding school success
- Minorities matter
- School management for success
- Gendering school success
- Evaluating success in and out of school

- From vulnerability to promising students
- Evidence based school interventions
- Equal chances in education
- Special or mainstream education

You are kindly invited to submit abstracts on topics related to the Conference themes using the registration form available on the <http://socasis.ubbcluj.ro/successcolar/submission.html> webpage.

**Deadline for Abstract Submission:** December 31, 2009

## General News External

### **Launch of NEIJ - Childhood and Youth Studies Interest Group (CRIA, Portugal)**

The NEIJ - Childhood and Youth Studies Interest Group has just been launched within CRIA - Centre for Research in Anthropology, in Portugal. The objective of the group is to create visibility for this field of studies, encourage scientific research and production, foster exchange between professionals and students and participate in the international debate. Though the main language will be Portuguese, information and comments in other languages are welcome as well.

Proposal : <http://cria.org.pt/neij>

Blog: <http://neij-cria.blogspot.pt>

If you are interested in collaborating with NEIJ, getting additional information or signing up the mailing-list write an e-mail to: [neij@cria.org.pt](mailto:neij@cria.org.pt)

### **8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the African Working Children and Youth, Benin**

From 26<sup>th</sup> October to 07<sup>th</sup> November 2009 the 8<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the African Movement of Working Children and Youth (AMWCY) in cooperation with the government of the Republic of Benin and the national and international partners of the AMWCY took place in Cotonou (Benin). The delegates coming from 22 African countries and their guests assessed the Movement regarding the evolution of the children's rights, of the WCY actions and their impact on the population and decided on new directions for the future. The final declaration of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AMWCY in Cotonou can be found on the following website: <http://eja.enda.sn/page%20anglais/indexanglais.htm> or in the 67 Calao Express newsletter (November 2009)

### **Launch of Portal for Human Rights Schools**

The Human Rights Education Associates (HREA) commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) with the launch of a new web portal to promote understanding and application of a human rights-based approach to schooling. A human rights-based approach (HRBA) to schooling is concerned with the organization of learning so that it is reflective of human rights principles and promotes understanding and cherishing of the human rights framework.

The aims of this portal are:

- to provide viewpoints on the theoretical underpinnings of the HRBA
- to present a range of HRBA practices that are emerging in schools worldwide
- to encourage "best practices" in the documentation and evaluation of the HRBA by sharing resources dedicated to examining the most pressing issues in evaluating human rights education.

The Portal for Human Rights Schools can be accessed at: <http://www.hrea.org/humanrightsschools>

### **Beta version of new platform online: [www.100millionchildren.eu](http://www.100millionchildren.eu)**

This beta site is a preview of a new platform for sharing information, collaboration and networking on children's rights in Europe. The main aim is to stimulate activities that improve the lives of children in Europe, making life better for children by fully respecting their rights. The site will be a platform dedicated to children's rights issues in Europe, and will monitor developments from the full range of Euro-

pean actors. The site is open to a high level of interaction to act as a useful and useable resource for children's rights organizations. It will be updated with new activities at EU level as they occur, such as updates i.e. on the Stockholm Programme, the EU Strategy on the rights of the child, and the impact on children's rights in the European Union.

**Functions include:**

- A members-only section with pass-word protection providing a closed area dedicated to capacity-building, collaboration and funding. New funding opportunities will be highlighted and a discussion section incorporated where willing organizations can assist in the complicated application processes, offering advice, and assistance on a voluntary basis. This area could include a closed area for members to discuss possibilities for collaboration, such as joint activities, projects, and/or events where objectives overlap.
- Areas to comment on items on the site
- Events alert and calendar
- Newsletter

**Content includes:**

- News and analysis with comment sections
- Information on child rights
- Information on the what Europe is doing for child rights (including the EU, FRA, Council of Europe...)
- Information on countries (initially with the EU countries, with possible expansion to the rest of Europe)
- A reports section for analysis/papers/reports relevant to children's rights in Europe
- A campaigns section to highlight campaigns for children and their rights
- A links section

The site is under construction. In order to better meet your requirements please leave a comment in the feedback section.

**Megjashi calls for action against corporal punishments on children**

The first Children's Embassy in the World and Macedonian member of Eurochild (Megjashi) is calling for a stricter control from the social centers in the former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia on brutal corporal punishments inflicted by parents to their children. Megjashi is urging centers for social work to better supervise the exercise of parental rights and to give quick and appropriate responses to such abuses. Megjashi also conducted a research on the perception of citizens of Macedonia with regard to corporal punishment on children and compared the data with a 2005 survey.

The study reflects the conviction that punishing children is considered, by an alarmingly one third of interviewees, as an acceptable education style.

Download study: [http://www.childrensembassy.org.mk/WBStorage/Files/Omnibus\\_research\\_2009.pdf](http://www.childrensembassy.org.mk/WBStorage/Files/Omnibus_research_2009.pdf)

**Lisbon Treaty fully ratified**

With the signature of the Czech President Václav Klaus on 3 November, after Czech Constitutional Court had given the text its green light, the EU's reform treaty is now fully ratified and entered into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December.

Download full text: [http://europa.eu/lisbon\\_treaty/full\\_text/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/lisbon_treaty/full_text/index_en.htm)

**20 Years United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - A new era for children's rights in the European Union?**

The Swedish Presidency of the European Union organized on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, a conference of the permanent intergovernmental group L'Europe de l'Enfance, bringing together ministers from several member states, plus senior representatives of royal families from across Europe.

In the closing debate, Jana Hainsworth, Secretary General of eurochild called for a paradigm shift in how we think of children in society. "Children must be valued in their own right, not as 'adults in the making'. Well-being needs to look at the quality of children's lives in the present."

In the context of the anniversary COE Commissioner Hammarberg said that the implementation of the

treaty is still not satisfactory: "The Convention on the Rights of the Child has become one of the most well-known and broadly supported international human rights treaties. Yet, its actual implementation has been less effective than we anticipated, mainly because of the absence of a systematic, comprehensive approach to children's rights as a political priority."

#### **UN adopted Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children**

On 20th November, the United Nations adopted a resolution welcoming the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children.

SOS Children's Villages International issued a publication which aims at promoting the dissemination of the Guidelines. It introduces the official text of the Guidelines and provides questions for reflection on some of the key content areas outlined in the Guidelines. It was developed in partnership with the International Social Service.

Download English pdf-version:

<http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/Focus-areas/Children-and-family/Family-based-child-care/Pages/Guidelines-for-the-Alternative-Care-of-Children.aspx>

French and Spanish versions of this publication will be available beginning of 2010.

#### **"Draw me a right!" - Poster competition on children's rights**

The European Commission, DG Justice, Freedom and Security, launched this competition on the 20th of November.

See website: [http://www.europayouth.eu/index\\_en.htm](http://www.europayouth.eu/index_en.htm)

## **P u b l i c a t i o n s**

#### **Book: International Children's Rights (November 2009)**

by Sara Dillon

The book provides a look at the main themes — legal and political — affecting international children's rights today. Designed for use in undergraduate, graduate, and law school settings, it is divided into seven major topics: the role of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, child labor, children in the global sex industry, children without parental care, children and punishment, children and armed conflict, and, finally, children's rights as interpreted and applied in regional human rights systems.

ISBN: 978-1-59460-115-6

Order here: <http://www.cap-press.com/isbn/9781594601156>

#### **COMPASITO-Handbuch zur Menschenrechtsbildung jetzt auch auf Deutsch**

Compasito, das erste deutschsprachige Handbuch zur Menschenrechtsbildung mit Kindern im Grundschulalter ist erschienen. Es wurde am 20. Jahrestag der UN-Kinderrechtskonvention, im Haus der Bundespressekonferenz in Berlin vorgestellt. Herausgeber sind die Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung/bpb, das Deutsche Institut für Menschenrechte und der Europarat.

Compasito macht mit Begriffen der Menschen- und Kinderrechte vertraut und bietet theoretisches Hintergrundwissen zu 13 Menschenrechtsthemen wie Demokratie, Frieden, Geschlechtergerechtigkeit, Umwelt, Medien, Armut oder Gewalt. Der Band bietet eine Vielzahl an Aktivitäten und Methoden, die Kindern im Grundschulalter Menschenrechtsthemen praxisorientiert vermitteln. Die Publikation gibt außerdem Informationen zu wichtigen Akteuren im europäischen Menschenrechtsschutz.

Deutsche Ausgabe: 1. Auflage November 2009, Bonn, ISBN: 978-3-8389-7013-4

Zu beziehen ist Compasito über die Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung/bpb:

<http://www.bpb.de/publikationen/JNMS25>

Bestellnummer: 2409, Bereitstellungspauschale: 4,00 €

**Booklet: Children and Young People in Care - Discover your Rights!**

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Council of Europe and SOS Children's Villages International finalized a youth-friendly information booklet addressed to children and young people in alternative care.

Through comics, stories and informative texts, children and young people in care can learn about their rights. The booklet was developed together by adults and young people with care experience and should help children and young people in care to learn about their rights, how to exercise them and how to take on an active role in their own care process.

Download: [http://www.coe.int/t/transversalprojects/children/default\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/transversalprojects/children/default_en.asp)

**Report: Childhood in Transition: Experiencing Marginalisation and Conflict in Northern Ireland**

by Siobhán McAlister, Phil Scraton and Deena Haydon

Queen's University Belfast, N. Ireland

This partnership research project, within six communities in Northern Ireland most affected by poverty and the legacy of the Conflict, raises concerns about entrenched inequalities, infrastructural under-resourcing and the systemic denial of children's rights. Presenting evidence from their daily experiences in families, schools, and communities, it illustrates the marginalization and exclusion experienced by children and young people.

Order copies (hard or digital): [d.p.coyle@qub.ac.uk](mailto:d.p.coyle@qub.ac.uk)

**UNICEF report on children immigrants in wealthy countries**

A new report from the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre presents internationally comparable data on the situation of immigrant children in wealthy countries. The research was conducted in eight countries (Australia, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States).

Download here: [http://www.unicef-irc.org/article.php?id\\_article=133](http://www.unicef-irc.org/article.php?id_article=133)

**Brochure: „Beteiligungsrechte von Kindern und Jugendlichen in Deutschland – Ein Vergleich der gesetzlichen Bestimmungen in den Bundesländern“**

Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk

Download: [http://www.dkhw.de/cms/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=608:deutsches-kinderhilfswerk-mehr-beteiligungsrechte-fuer-kinder-und-jugendliche-notwendig-&catid=68:pressemittelungen&Itemid=76](http://www.dkhw.de/cms/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=608:deutsches-kinderhilfswerk-mehr-beteiligungsrechte-fuer-kinder-und-jugendliche-notwendig-&catid=68:pressemittelungen&Itemid=76)

**New: Amici dei Bambini's Institutional E-Newsletter**

dedicated to the Child Abandonment Emergency

Website: <http://www.aibi.it/ita/>

C o E

**Book: Janusz Korczak: The Child's Right to Respect - Lectures on today's challenges (November 2009)**

Janusz Korczak, whose original name was Henryk Goldszmit, is seen as the father of the very idea that children also have rights - human rights. His essay "The Child's Right to Respect" in which he analyses the role of adults and the place of children in society is published in this volume. Korczak's vision about children's rights is still relevant. What can we learn from his ideas when tackling today's problems? Five children's rights activists tried to analyse current problems in the spirit of Korczak.

ISBN: 978-92-871-6675-3

Order here: [http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit\\_aliasid=2452](http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2452)

## Funding/Prizes/Research Opportunities

### **CALL FOR PAPERS: Growing up in Divided Societies**

**June 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> 2010, Queen's University Belfast**

The conference aims to bring together scholars whose work focuses on the experiences of children who are growing up in ethnically and politically divided societies. The relative lack of scholarly attention on the subject highlights the need to address this from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, to take stock of what has been done so far, and to reflect on the future study of children in divided societies.

We are particularly interested in how children's lives are impacted by ethnic and political divisions and how, in turn, children shape these societies through their own activity. How are children implicated in nation-building and how is childhood co-opted in divided societies for ideological purposes? How do children partake in, and respond to, such processes? And how is their political engagement enabled and constrained by the social structures and realities they are confronted with in these societies?

Possible themes for participants to explore in relation to children and childhood in divided societies include but are not limited to:

- Children's daily lives and their experiences
- Health impact of growing up in divided societies
- Representations of children in divided societies
- Children's rights in divided societies
- Constructions of "us" and "them"
- The role of education and schooling and of other institutions like the family or the media
- Children's political and national identities
- Theories of nationalism and the study of children and childhood in divided societies
- Citizenship
- Immigrants and immigrant children in divided societies
- Methodological and ethical issues in the study of children in divided societies

Scholars from any discipline who are working with either contemporary or historical accounts of children and childhood in divided societies are welcomed.

### **Abstracts:**

Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be sent to the conference organisers by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2010: Madeleine Leonard ([M.Leonard@qub.ac.uk](mailto:M.Leonard@qub.ac.uk)) and Spyros Spyrou ([S.Spyrou@euc.ac.cy](mailto:S.Spyrou@euc.ac.cy)). Abstracts should include the proposed title of the presentation, the name(s) of the author(s), affiliation, and email address.

**Notification of Acceptance: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010**

### **For enquiries, please contact:**

Professor Madeleine Leonard ([M.Leonard@qub.ac.uk](mailto:M.Leonard@qub.ac.uk))

Dr. Spyros Spyrou ([S.Spyrou@euc.ac.cy](mailto:S.Spyrou@euc.ac.cy))

The conference is co-organised by The Research Forum for the Child at Queen's University Belfast, the Center for the Study of Childhood and Adolescence in Cyprus, and the International Childhood and Youth Research Network.

### **Call for Papers: 3<sup>rd</sup> INT. CONFERENCE- Childhood and Youth in Transition (July 6-8, 2010)**

In the context of global social, political and economic changes the conference this year will explore the ways in which these broad shifts are having an impact on ideas of childhood and youth and on children's and young people's everyday lives. Themes for exploration might include:

- UNCRC and its aftermath- changes in law and policy
- Children and young people's changing citizenship
- Technological change, new media and consumption

- Environmental change and children's futures
- Economic recession and child poverty
- Transitions in the life course for children and young people in relation to school and work
- Health, well-being and the body

This year we also welcome suggestions for small symposia around specific themes. If you wish to organise a symposia please contact Allison James ([allison.james@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:allison.james@sheffield.ac.uk)).

**Plenary speakers:**

- Professor David Buckingham (Institute of Education, UK)
- Professor Martin Woodhead (Open University, UK)
- Professor Irene Rizzini, (International Center for Research and Policy on Childhood, Brazil)

**Abstracts:**

Abstracts of no more than 200 words should be sent to the conference administrator, Dawn Lessels, by **January 31<sup>st</sup> 2010** [d.j.lessels@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:d.j.lessels@sheffield.ac.uk).

The conference registration form and further details can be found at [www.sheffield.ac.uk/cscy](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/cscy)  
- Please note that places are limited at this conference so early booking is recommended

## Upcoming Dates

- **December 10, 2009:** 6. Deutscher Kinderrechte Tag – Der Kinderrechtsansatz in der Verbandsarbeit, Duisburg, Germany
- **March 14-19, 2010:** International Academy on Remembrance and Human Rights, Berlin
- **April 26-28, 2010:** GPIA-UNICEF International Conference - Adolescent Girls – Cornerstones of Society: Building Evidence and Policies for Inclusive Societies, New York
- **May 13-15, 2010:** Conference: Social Ecology of School Success: Implications for Policy and Practice, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- **June 10-11, 2010:** Growing up in Divided Societies, Belfast
- **June 14-18, 2010:** World Summit on Media for Children and Youth, Karlstad, Sweden
- **July 2-7, 2010:** Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) 2010
- **July 6-8, 2010:** 3<sup>rd</sup> INT. CONFERENCE- Childhood and Youth in Transition, Sheffield
- **July 11-17, 2010:** XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology, Sweden
- **September 6-8, 2010:** Europe at a Crossroads, Bruges, Belgium. [www.uaces.org/bruges](http://www.uaces.org/bruges)
- **September 26-29, 2010:** XVIII ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA
- **September 30 - October 2, 2010:** International multidisciplinary conference: Children and War: Past and Present, Salzburg, Austria
- **November 3-5, 2010:** Eurochild's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Working together to end child poverty - Building effective partnerships, Örebro, Sweden
- **November 15-18, 2010:** IV World Congress on Child and Adolescent Rights - The best interest of children and adolescents: Well-being and development in the new world economic order, Puerto Rico