



European Network of Masters in Children's Rights

CRnews 4

Children's Rights Newsletter
April/May 2007

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,

In this newsletter we inform you on internal proceedings of the network, some proceedings concerning the Communication of the European Commission: *Towards a Strategy on Children's Rights* and we have as usual listed upcoming dates relevant for children's rights. To the left you can see the speakers on the panel that was organized in Berlin, Germany on March 1, 2007 on "Making children's rights constitutional". The report on the event was published in CRnews2_07, which is available for download on our website. We would like to improve our newsletter and would like to know your opinion. Please send us comments, critique and feedback to info@enmcr.net

Sincerely,

Rebecca Budde (Editor)



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General News Internal

European Master in Children's Rights- Application forms available now!

Deadline for application: 30 June for EU residents, **31 May** for non-EU residents

It is now possible to apply for the MA study program European Master in Children's Rights which will be launched in October 2007 at the Free University Berlin.

The course deals with all aspects of childhood, viewed as a socio-cultural construct, and with theories of children's rights and practice in adult-child relationships.

At the FU, the course will be held mainly in English however it is highly recommended that students have sound knowledge of German, as some seminars will be held in German and some materials are available only in German.

The modules taught at the Free University are:

1. Childhood studies and children's rights
2. Methods and techniques of childhood and children's rights research
3. Work and education of children
4. Socially disadvantaged and discriminated children and child rights oriented practice
5. Research/Thesis

More information on the content and qualification of each module can be found in the study regulations on the MA homepage: www.fu-berlin.de/emcr.

In addition, students have the possibility to attend selected courses and seminars at the Department of Educational Sciences and Psychology, the Faculty of Political Sciences and the Law Faculty.

The European Master is a joint interdisciplinary study program of East and West European universities:

- Institute of Education, University of London (IoE), UK
- Universidad Complutense Madrid (UCM), Spain
- Stockholms Universitet, Sweden
- Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA), Netherlands
- Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai in Cluj- Napoca (UBB), Romania
- Universitatea A. I. Cuza in Iasi, Romania
- Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

There are **two alternatives** on how to study the 1 year program:

1. Students enrol at one university in the first semester (e.g. FU Berlin) and conclude the program at another partner university in the second semester. Successful graduation leads to the award of a "dual degree" of the two universities studied at. In the first cycle of the program (2007/08) this alternative is available at the partner universities: Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, and both universities in Romania

2. Students enrol at a "host university" (e.g. FU Berlin) and have the possibility to take a module at a partner university in the second semester. The credits earned are recognized as part of the curriculum at the host university and form part of the degree.

The costs for the MA at the FU are 2.800€ for the whole year, excl. general administrative costs.

Application forms are available at: www.fu-berlin.de/emcr or on request from Rebecca Budde: rbudde@ina-fu.org and should be sent to: European Master in Children's Rights, Habelschwerdter Allee 45, D-14195 Berlin, Germany.

For further information please contact Rebecca Budde (coordination) at: rbudde@ina-fu.org . Tel: ++49-(0)30-838-53968

Round Table Discussion: Dialogue on Youth in the Streets

Location: Colegio de Doctores y Licenciados en Ciencia Política y Sociología. C/ Ferraz, 100, entrance paseo de Carruajes, Madrid, Spain. **Date:** Thursday, April 26, 2007, 19:00h

The working group on childhood sociology in collaboration with the expert course in social politics of childhood (Universidad Complutense Madrid) invites you to join the round table to discuss the situation of youth living in the streets. Two experts will give brief introductions:

Juan Martín Pérez García, academic coordinator of the university program: Education with street population (Faculty of Psychology UNAM Mexico and international consultant in children's rights: *The evolution of the phenomenon of street population in Latin America- lessons learned* and

Gerardo Sauri Suárez, executive director of the network for children's rights in Mexico (REDIM): *Recommendations of the UN-Committee on the Rights of the Child concerning street children and youth. The Mexican case.*

Requests for membership

Two universities have submitted their letters of intent to become members of the European Network of Masters in Children's Rights:

The University of Barcelona, Faculty of Civil Law and the University of Minho in Braga, Portugal, Institut of Child Studies.

The University of Barcelona offers a study program in Family Law with an emphasis on Children's Rights and is responsible for organizing and planning the third world congress for children's and adolescents rights, which is to take place in Barcelona on 14-19, November 2006. (Further information on the congress: <http://www.iiicongresomundialdeinfancia.org/event.htm>).

The University of Minho in Braga has been offering a two year Master course in Sociology of Childhood, incl. Methods and Techniques in Sociology, Socio-Educational Studies, Optional Modules on Childhood, Leisure and Free Time, Sociology of Family, Communication, Media and Childhood and Anthropology of Childhood. Further information: www.iec.uminho.pt

General News External

24 hour web conference for pupils from all over the world- Agenda 21 Now!

Agenda 21 Now! Is an international internet conference for pupils as well as teachers that will be held on May 9, the Europe Day. Young pupils from the age of 14 as well as teachers are invited to chat about globalisation online. In four virtually moderated conference rooms, participants from all over the world can exchange their views and ideas. For preparation a Wiki page is available on the web, providing info on the subject that can be edited by registered participants. Agenda 21 Now! is a pilot project of the UNESCO project schools.

More information: <http://nl.xeu.de/j.cfm?i=324646&k=100238>

Medius – New prize for final theses (university and university of applied sciences)- Call for applications

The Deutsche Kinderhilfswerk e.V., the Freiwillige Selbstkontrolle Fernsehen (FSF) and the Gesellschaft für Medienpädagogik und Kommunikationskultur (GMK) are awarding Medius for the first time in 2008. Medius is a prize for innovative scientific and practice oriented theses. The new prize is concentrated on the transfer of practice and science, it promotes interdisciplinary and international perspectives and replaces the former WAL prize. The award will be given to theses from the German speaking community, that have dealt with innovative aspects of media, pedagogy or the protection of youth in media.

Three criteria are in the foreground:

1. Interdisciplinarity: impulses to link media theory and practice with other disciplines of social pedagogy or school pedagogy
2. Linking theory and practice: a meaningful connection and critical reflection of media theory and practice, dealing with the living conditions of children and their equal opportunities
3. Internationalisation: Theses that reflect on the view of German media on international developments.

Theses of universities and universities of applied science that deal with one or more of these aspects can be submitted by the professors in charge. The theses should have been written in 2006 or 2007. A 1-2 page summary and an evaluation of the work has to be included.

Deadline: September 30, 2007

The prize is remunerated with 2.500 €.

More information: Freiwillige Selbstkontrolle Fernsehen (FSF), Hallesches Ufer 74-76, 10963 Berlin, Tel.: ++49-30 - 230 836-60 www.fsf.de, E-Mail: info@fsf.de

European attitude to life- photo competition

How do young people view their lives in Europe? What is European? Is there a European attitude to life? The platform youthphotos.eu has launched a photo competition. Photographers under the age of 27 can go out and look for motives. We are looking for pictures that show Europe from the perspective of young people. Both individual and series of photos are possible. The prize is a Canon EOS 4000 camera kit, a research trip to Cyprus and various software packages. The European Commission supports this competition. Photo contributions can be uploaded until **May 31**.

Further information: www.youthphotos.eu

Creation of European forum in the frame of the EU Children's Rights Strategy

One of the concrete activities set out in the Communication of the European Commission from July 4, 2006 *Towards a strategy on Children's Rights* is the creation of a European forum as one central element to enhance and ensure children's participation. The timeline is set for the second half of 2007. The German government, as holder of the EU Presidency in the first half of 2007, has committed itself to bring forth the establishment of the envisaged forum. To this end, an opening session is planned for July 4, 2007. The Ministry of Justice and not the Ministry for Family, Youth, Senior Citizens and Sports is in charge of the preparation of the event. Federal Minister of Justice, Mrs. Zypries has put child prostitution, trafficking in children and child pornography in the centre of discussion at the opening session.

These criminal activities, the worst forms of child rights abuse, are very important to bring forth and measures have to be taken by all parties to combat these illegal, criminal doings, however the majority of children in Europe and around the world are not subject to forced prostitution, pornography and trafficking, nonetheless their rights as set out in the UNCRC, not least the right to participation in all matters affecting them (Art. 12) are not fully implemented in the European Union. In particular in Germany e.g., a focus may rather be laid on eliminating the proviso the government has formulated when ratifying the UNCRC and continues to uphold despite demands from various sides (NGO's, Activist groups, children themselves, the UN-Committee on the Rights of the Child) for elimination thereof and secure the rights of immigrant and refugee children entering Germany.

Children's Rights are all encompassing rights, it would be wise to use the position of the German presidency to push forward the realization of the rights of ALL children.

Info from CRIN newsletters:

Juvenile Justice and Human Rights- course

Date: 18 - 22 June 2007, Location: Copenhagen, Denmark

Criminal offences carried out by juveniles have a serious impact on society. Nonetheless, the rights of the child demand that juvenile justice is designed and implemented in the best interest of the child.

Alternative responses to judicial proceedings for juvenile offenders are mandated by the UN

Convention on the Rights of the Child, and states are required to create a youth justice system as an alternative to the "adult" criminal justice system.

There are two main objectives of the course:

- To provide participants with a thorough understanding of the legal and policy framework for juvenile justice, with the starting point of respecting, protecting, and fulfilling the human rights of children in the criminal justice system.
- To develop an individualised analysis and framework for a human rights-based approach to juvenile justice in their own countries, by
 - analysing their countries' national normative framework in light of the international human rights framework related to juvenile justice, identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges of their system
 - Identifying local stakeholders in national juvenile justice systems, and developing indicators relevant to juvenile justice

Course content

- International normative framework on juvenile justice, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Beijing Rules and Riyadh Guidelines
- Comparative discussion of different systems of juvenile justice: Denmark, USA, Germany, Malawi, Serbia.
- The flow of juvenile justice, including the concept and methods of diversion, and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms relevant for juvenile justice.
- Visit to relevant institutions in Denmark

For more information, contact: Rita Roca, Education Manager, Danish Institute for Human Rights Strandgade 56, 1401 København K, Denmark, Email: courses@humanrights.dk

Website: <http://www.humanrights.dk>

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL: Child Rights at the 4th session [news]

The UN Human Rights Council held its 4th session from 12 March - 6 April 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland. In a video message, the recently appointed Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, said that the world was watching to see if the Council would live up to its promise. He hoped that the Council's members would work together to promote an objective and universal approach to human rights.

The new Human Rights Council carries high expectations – it was established with the hope that it could be more objective, credible and efficient in denouncing human rights violations worldwide than the highly politicised Commission on Human Rights. In the frame of the 4th session, the council discussed the subject of **Violence Against Children on 19 March 2007**.

Following the launch of the UN Study on Violence Against at the 61st session of the UN General Assembly in October 2006, a resolution was adopted which extended Paulo Pinheiro's mandate as Independent Expert for another year.

His activities are to serve as follow-up to the Study and include:

- dissemination of the Study findings
- identification and dissemination of proven and promising practices
- networking and information sharing

This special event at the Human Rights Council was an opportunity for Pinheiro to present his Study to the Human Rights Council, but also to engage governments and civil society to discuss follow-up.

Job Postings:

Please note all ECPAT vacancies listed below are London-based.

- Programme Co-ordinator – Trainer (Full Time)

The successful applicant will be responsible for managing the expansion of the ECPAT UK training programme across the UK, including the delivery of training workshops and designing new training tools on safeguarding child victims of trafficking (REF: TCord).

- Trainer – Community (0.6 Part Time)

As part of a joint project ECPAT UK and AFRUCA are recruiting a dynamic community trainer to design and deliver multi-stakeholder training workshops across the UK on safeguarding child victims of trafficking. The successful applicant will work with the Programme Coordinator to identify training needs across community and voluntary sector networks (REF: TComm).

- Campaigns Officer (Full Time)

The successful applicant will be responsible for co-ordinating activities to support ECPAT UK's public awareness campaigns and working with the Director on advocacy initiatives on child trafficking (REF: Campaign).

- Senior Office Administrator (Full Time)

The successful applicant will be responsible for managing the administration needs across the organisation, including the trafficking training programme. The role also includes coordination of office systems to support communications, IT, volunteers and ensuring the smooth running of a small but hectic office (REF: Office).

Application deadlines: **27 April 2007**. Quote REF code in all communication.

For more information and an application pack, contact: info@ecpat.org.uk, www.ecpat.org.uk

Funding

Youth in Action (EU)

In the frame of the program "Youth in Action" the European Commission has launched a call for proposals for cooperation activities between young people in the EU and countries not directly neighbouring the EU. A total sum of 2,3 Mio € are available for youth education, exchange of experience and to establish new longstanding networks between international youth organisations.

Deadline for applications: **31 May 2007**

Further Information: <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/youth/calls2007/action32/index.htm>

Upcoming Dates

April 27th, 2007: Round Table discussion: Dialogue on Youth in the Streets, Madrid, Spain

April 27th, 2007: Deadline Job applications ECPAT

April 30th, 2007: Deadline application Erasmus Mundus, Action 1

May 9th, 2007: 24 hour Internet conference for pupils from all over the world- Agenda 21 Now!

May 15th, 2007: Deadline application to participate in the Intensive Summer School program:
Children's European Citizenship: Information and Participation

May 21st- 24th, 2007: World Conference on Children without Parental Care

May 31st, 2007: Deadline applications for EMCR at FU Berlin (non-EU residents)

May 31st, 2007: Deadline for upload of photos in the frame of competition youthphotos.eu

June 2nd, 2007: First world day for a responsible and respectful tourism

June 18th- 22nd, 2007: Juvenile Justice and Human Rights- course Copenhagen, Denmark

June 30th, 2007: Deadline applications for EMCR at Fu Berlin (EU residents)

September 30th, 2007: Deadline submission for Medius –new prize for final theses