

# CRnews 03

### **Children's Rights Newsletter** March 2010

**European Network of Masters in Children's Rights** c/o Internationale Akademie an der Freien Universität Berlin Königin-Luise-Strasse 29, D- 14195 Berlin info@enmcr.net/www.enmcr.net/Fon:+49-(0)30-838-52734

### Dear Network Members and Network Interested,

Once more we update on developments, activities and events in the area of Children's Rights... Please feel free to contact us with comments, news and ideas for improvement via the regular e-mail address: info@enmcr.net Looking forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Lea Fenner (Editor)

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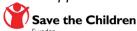
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Thank you for reading this newsletter.

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### General News Internal

### New Tempus Project: Diploma in Public Policy and Child Rights

For the next three years, the FUB and INA will be involved in a new EU-TEMPUS project which aims to develop and implement a one year diploma program in *public policy, child rights and advocacy* in four universities in Egypt and Jordan. The project involves partners from the four universities in Egypt (Cairo and Assiut) and Jordan (Amman and Zarqa) as well as partners from the Netherlands (The Hague and Maastricht), the UK (Bristol and Dartington), Germany (Berlin), UNICEF Egypt and UNICEF Jordan. Through this new program, students shall be enabled to implement scientific research on questions of children's rights, education, economic and human development into policies and projects. The primary target group consists of local and national policy makers, civil servants as well as front line workers such as teachers, social workers, health professionals etc. We are looking forward to the first meeting in Berlin with partners from Egypt in two weeks as well as to the kick-off meeting of the project in Cairo in mid-April this year. For more information please contact: noemi.fivat@fu-berlin.de

### **University of Edinburgh**

Course: Using Digital Media in Research with Children and Young People

\*This course is now full. Please complete the booking form if you wished to be placed on the waiting list\*

Tutors: Professor Kay Tisdall and Dr Susan Elsley

Length: Two days - 10am to 4pm each day.

Cost: The fee is £250.

Date & location 13 and 14 May 2010, The University of Edinburgh.

### Course description:

· Using digital technologies

Exploring the use of a range of different technologies including:

Online survey tools

Social Networking Sites

Other web based resources

Computer games and games consoles

Mobile phones

- 2. Ethical and methodlogical issues in using digital technologies including Informed consent Anonymity and confidentiality Child protection Peer research
- 3. Including children and young people
   Particularly participation of children excluded by other research approaches Access to digital technologies
- 4. Data collection and analysis

How to collect data

Approaches to analysing data

• 5. Dissemination of research

How to present research

Sharing research

A set of resources will be produced for the course.

The two day course will involve presentations from those who have undertaken research in this area. It will draw on examples from academic research and organisations who have used these tools with children and young people. If you require further information about this course please contact Kathryn Dunne

### **Exploring Children's Relationships across Majority and Minority Worlds**

Funded by the ESRC

The seminar series will bring together leading research on children's relationships, to foster debate, challenge and dialogue across Majority and Minority Worlds contexts. It has a distinctly interdisciplinary agenda, bringing together theoretical developments and research in Childhood Studies with concepts of intimacy and relationships. At a time when investment in children's services has never been so extensive and there is considerable concern about UK children's well-being, this seminar series will be very timely to consider the implications of the above for policy and practice.

There will be four seminars in this ESRC seminar series, taking place over 2 years. The first is detailed below and information about the others will appear nearer to the event dates:

Seminar One: Peer Relations 29 April 2010

Seminar Two: Intergenerational Relationships Oct/Nov 2010 Seminar Three: Youth Transitions to Adulthood Feb/March 2011

Seminar Four: Migration and family relationships Oct 2011

If you are interested in presenting papers at any of the three later seminars then please contact Laura Marshall - L.Marshall@ed.ac.uk

Seminar One: Peer Relations Event venue Patersons Land, Moray House of Education,

The University of Edinburgh

Date: Thursday 29 April 2010, 9.30am-4.30pm

This intensive and interactive day seminar will address the topic of children's peer relations. Following introductory theoretical papers scoping the conceptual territories of relationships and childhood studies, the seminar will address three types of relations:

- peer relations within the family;
- friendships; and
- peer relations in relation to children and young people's
- collective participation.

Each session will have paired papers on current research and theorisations, from the Majority and Minority World perspectives. Confirmed speakers already include: Dr Kate Bacon, Professor

Judith Ennew, Professor Lynn Jamieson, Dr Sue Milne, Dr Ruth Payne, Dr Barry Percy-Smith, Professor Nigel Thomas, and Professor Kay Tisdall. Spotlight presentations will be given by early career researchers.

Who should attend The seminar series has a particular interest in supporting early career researchers and postgraduates, both to attend and more broadly to network. If you would like to be part of a network e-mail list, please contact <u>L.Marshall@ed.ac.uk</u>

Cost £30.00 including lunch

For further information about any of the above events or information about accommodation please contact Laura Marshall - L.Marshall@ed.ac.uk

\*This seminar series adopts the terminology of Majority World (for the 'Developing World' or 'Global South') and Minority World (for the 'Developed World' or 'Global North') to acknowledge that the 'majority' of the world's population, poverty, land mass and lifestyles are in the former, and thus to shift the balance of our world views that frequently privilege 'western' and 'northern' populations and issues. This is discussed within Panelli, R., Punch, S. and Robson, E. (Eds) (2007) Global Perspectives on Rural Childhood and Youth: Young Rural Lives, London: Routledge.

### In Spanish:

### Universidad Computense de Madrid

The VI Edition of the Expert Course in Childhood Policies at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid started in February 2010 with a total of 12 students.

A series of symposia regarding current questions on children and/or childhood are organized by the Group for Sociology of Childhood in collaboration with the Expert Course (Universidad Complutense de Madrid).

March 2010: "Minors – the difficult way towards adulthood". An open debate regarding institutionalized children and their challenging pathway towards a more independent life as young adults

A Summer course named "Childhood in the 21st Century" will take place from July 5th - 30th:

### Curso de verano "La Infancia en el Siglo XXI"

En el marco de la Escuela de Verano de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid, del 5 al 30 de julio, de lunes a viernes de 16 a 21 horas. El plazo de inscripción se abrió el 25 de enero y se cierra el 10 de junio. De todas formas es mejor hacer la inscripción antes del 15 de mayo para asegurar la plaza.

Más información sobre el curso y enlace para hacer la inscripción:

http://www.ucm.es/info/fgu/formacion/escuela verano/cursos/k04.php

- Información general de la Escuela de Verano de la UCM:
  - http://www.ucm.es/info/fgu/formacion/escuela\_verano/index.php
- Información sobre las avudas económicas disponibles:

http://www.ucm.es/info/fgu/descargas/escuela verano/ayudas.pdf

## Universidad de Barcelona: Seminario - Los derechos de la persona y de la familia desde una perspectiva multidisciplinar

Del 26 al 28 de abril de 2010

Del programa:

- Conferencia inaugural: "Nuevas perspectivas del derecho de la persona y de la familia"
- Cine-Fórum: "Persona y familia. Nuevas representaciones en el panorama audiovisual"
- Mesa Redonda: Dependencia, discapacidad y asistencia
- Mesa Redonda: Implicaciones sociales de las reformas del derecho de la persona y de la familia: la cuestión de la custodia compartida
- Mesa Redonda: Las transformaciones del derecho de familia desde una perspectiva de género
- Mesa Redonda: La evolución del derecho de la persona y la familia desde una visión de infancia

Información e Inscripciones: info@santa-coloma.uned.es, <u>postgrausegur@ub.edu</u> 934682819 / 934039617 (tardes)

http://www.addia.net

### **University of Amsterdam**

Of the first of September 2010 the Children's Rights programme will become a track of the Master in International Development Studies (IDS). Until now, it is officially part of three master programmes (IDS, Anthropology and Pedagogical Sciences/ Educational Sciences), but that is thus going to change. For more information about the track, the requirements etc, please refer to: www.studeren.uva.nl/ma-childrens-rights

### **University of Antwerp**

16 students have enrolled for the Children's Rights class in the International European Legal Studies Programme. After some introductory classes, they will write a paper on a topic of their own interest.

Good to know: as of 1 January 2010, a Children's Rights Knowledge Centre has been established in Flanders, Belgium. The Knowledge Centre is a multidisciplinary, interuniversity endeavour to (1) communicate research findings to policy makers and practitioners; (2) provide policy advice; (3) stimulate interuniversity cooperation in the field of children's rights in Flanders. More information on www.keki.be

## International Interdisciplinary Course: Children's Rights in a Globalized World - From Principles to Practice

5 to 17 September 2010, Ghent-Antwerp (Belgium)

More than 18 years after the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and 60 years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is time to take stock of the achievements and challenges. In particular, as globalisation expands and deepens, challenges of poverty, environmental degradation, child labour and migration take on a new dimension. Globalisation and the dispersion of power also means that states are only one among many actors. These developments challenge the concept of children's rights and ask for critical reflection on children's rights as a leverage for societal change. The reality of children's rights is much richer than a legal instrument and its implementation. In order to turn principles into practice, a multidisciplinary approach, which allows for multiple interpretations of children's rights, is needed. A critical reflection therefore strengthens rather than weakens children's rights. 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. Five broad themes will be addressed from a children's rights perspective: poverty, child labour, armed conflict, migration and the environment. One day will also be dedicated to children's rights education.

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.

Applications can only be done online: www.iccr.be. Deadline for applications: 15 May 2010. Course Fee: € 1800 - The fee covers tuition by experts in the field, participation in all sessions and the printed course material, as well as accommodation for two weeks (from Sunday 5 September to Friday 17 September), and breakfast and lunches on course days.

More information on www.iccr.be or Kathy.Vlieghe@keki.be

### Reminder: International Day Conference - Children's Rights and War

Wednesday, 14th April 2010 10:00-16:30

Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London WC1 0AL

Wars and conflict affect children in numerous ways. They are often the direct victims of attacks, they are displaced through war, and they become involved in wars as soldiers. What is particularly problematic about children caught up in war? Does war change the relations between people and the state, or between groups of people and the state? How can the civil rights, citizenship and participation of children caught up in wars be promoted? How can children's participa-

tion in peace-building be strengthened?

Please contact Matt Haywood for booking details: m.haywood@ioe.ac.uk

### Save the Children Sweden: EU Project on Good Practice of the CRC in 5 countries

Save the Children Sweden is coordinating an EU project on the implementation of the first cluster of the CRC ("the General Measures of Implementation", articles 4, 41, 42 and 44.6) in Italy, Lithuania, Rumania, Sweden and the UK. It will be carried out in partnership with the Save the Children organizations in the respective countries. The Project is funded by the European Union's Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme.

The Project will conduct research on the extent of the implementation of these articles at both national and community level, as well as within the EU institutions. The research from each country will be analysed in a regional report, including identification of good practices and a list of recommendations for policy makers both at community, national and EU level. The project will run from 1 February 2010 to 31 July 2011. For more information, contact project coordinator Karin Fagerholm (karin.fagerholm@rb.se)

### General News External

## Human Rights Council to develop UN communications procedure for violations of children's rights

On 24 March the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva agreed to start drafting a new international human rights instrument enabling the Committee on the Rights of the Child to receive and examine communications from children and their representatives alleging violation of their rights. The communications procedure will be established by a new Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child which came into force 20 years ago.

"This is a great breakthrough for children's rights", said Anita Goh, the NGO Group for the CRC Advocacy Officer coordinating the international campaign for the new mechanism, "The Convention on the Rights of the Child is the only core international human rights treaty that does not have a communications procedure. We have lobbied very hard for the past four years to get this result."

In June 2009, the UN Human Rights Council established an intergovernmental Working Group to "explore the possibility" of drafting a new Optional Protocol. The Working Group met in December 2009 and States, experts and civil society had the opportunity to discuss the different issues raised by the creation of this new instrument. Now, a few months later, the Council has adopted by consensus a new resolution that gives the Working Group the mandate to draft an Optional Protocol. Find out more at CRIN: http://www.crin.org/resources/infodetail.asp?id=22274

### Conference: Pathways to Resilience II: The Social Ecology of Resilience

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada June 7 - 10, 2010

More than 300 presenters from 25 countries will be sharing their work at this international event. The Resilience Research Centre (www.resilienceresearch.org), its Principal Investigator, Michael Ungar, and the Centre's partners around the world invite you to an international gathering in Halifax, Canada, June 7-10, 2010. Together, we will explore how children, youth, their families and communities from different cultures and contexts overcome adversity and thrive. At this, our second conference, researchers concerned with child and adolescent development, family processes, and the social determinants of health will meet front-line service providers, child advocates, and policy makers from many different professional backgrounds. Our goal is to help those attending share what we know globally about the interaction between psychological factors and the social, economic, political and cultural forces that shape children's and adolescents' pathways to resilience when they are seriously disadvantaged. For more information, please contact us at <a href="mailto:rrc@dal.ca">rrc@dal.ca</a> or <a href="mailto:click here">click here</a> for a full description of the conference and registration information (also available on the website).

## **Utrecht Summerschool – International Juvenile Justice** 12-22 July 2010

What is the course about?

The course offers an international comparative perspective on juvenile justice, bringing together a group of international experts. It will focus on trends in juvenile justice in Europe and elsewhere, on institutions and procedures, on sanctions and practices of diversion, on juvenile penitentiary law and on children's rights in the context of juvenile justice.

Who are involved?

Various international juvenile justice experts, among others: Prof. Jaap Doek (Chair UN Commitee on the Rights of the Child 2001-2007), Prof. Frieder Dünkel (University of Greifswald, Germany), Prof. Josine Junger-Tas (UU), Prof. Julia Sloth-Nielsen (University of the Western Cape, South Africa), Dr Ursina Weidkuhn (Switzerland), Dr Ton Liefaard (UU) & Prof. Ido Weijers (UU).

Where can I find more information?

For more information: http://www.utrechtsummerschool.nl/index.php?type=courses&code=E11

## Launch of website of the Childhood, Transition and Social Justice Initiative at Queen's University, Belfast

The Childhood, Transition and Social Justice Initiative is an interdisciplinary team of researchers from across Queen's University Belfast. They have launched their website at: <a href="www.qub.ac.uk/ctsji">www.qub.ac.uk/ctsji</a> The Initiative is engaged in projects seeking to challenge the structural marginalisation of children and young people, our research is underpinned by the principles of social justice. They aim to raise awareness at an individual and community level, as well as inform local policy and practice. They are concerned about issues of social exclusion, particularly in the contexts of the transitions experienced by all children and young people and Northern Ireland's societal transition from armed conflict. Yet, political-economic marginalisation and social-cultural exclusion are global issues. The Initiative is committed to comparative analysis and/ or collaborative research with strong connections in Europe, Australia, South Africa, Canada and the USA.

The Initiative adopts a critical rights-based perspective grounded in, but moving beyond, international human rights conventions and standards. Through Their research They consider how rights, particularly those promoted and protected by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, impact on the everyday lives of children and young people.

### Pakistan: First child rights portal launched

The Child Rights Legal Centre has launched the first comprehensive website on child rights in Pakistan. The portal can be accessed at <a href="http://pakistan.childrightsdesk.com">http://pakistan.childrightsdesk.com</a>. The website aims to help government institutions and civil society organisations monitor the country's compliance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and to take immediate and informed measures to protect the rights of children in Pakistan. Readers will find in-depth information on the spectrum of child rights issues in articles, reports and videos.

The site also provides information on international and domestic legal frameworks protecting children. The rights of children in Pakistan, who make up almost half the country's population, are protected by the Constitution of Pakistan and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC).

Pakistan ratified UN CRC in 1990. This means that Pakistan is committed and obligated to take the necessary legal, administrative and other measures to implement the Convention. However, according to the site, Pakistan's existing laws are outdated, lack crucial details, do not fully incorporate international standards on children's rights, and are not adequately enforced. Understanding children's rights, and ensuring their protection, is an important element of living in a democratic society that values diversity and is committed to equality and social justice for all. The website is part of the Child Rights Legal Centre's broader programme launched this week. The programme aims to strengthen knowledge of international laws and standards relating to child rights and facilitate the application of the Convention on the Rights of the Child accessed at http://www.crlc.info.

### Alliance urges Irish government to set date for children's rights referendum

The Children's Rights Alliance says, in a press statement, that they are delighted about the publication of the final report of the Joint Committee on the Constitutional Amendment on Children on 16 February. They see it as a significant progress "along the road towards making Ireland one of the best places in the world to be a child". Crucially, the Third Report includes all-party agreement on a proposed wording for a constitutional amendment to strengthen children's rights. This, according to the Alliance, is in itself a significant step forward. However, "we must not let this report gather dust on a shelf", the press statement reads. "We call on Government to show their commitment to children and name a date for a referendum on children's rights". "The Alliance will hold a consultation meeting with its 90 member organisations to review the

Committee's report and proposed wording", the press release concludes.

Click here to read the full Alliance press release:

http://www.childrensrights.ie/index.php?q=knowledgebase/irish-constitution/%E2%80%9Csetdate-children%E2%80%99s-rights-referendum%E2%80%9D-alliance-urges-government

### Honduras: Inter-American Commission condemns repression against activists and their children

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) has condemned the murders of three people in Honduras last month who had actively opposed, or were related to people who opposed, last year's coup d'etat. It has also deplored the kidnappings, arbitrary detentions, acts of torture, sexual violence, and illegal raids to which members of the resistance have been subiected.

The Commission has recently received information indicating that the children of activists are being threatened and harassed, and, in two cases, killed, as a strategy to silence opponents. In one such instance, on 17 February 2010, 17-year-old Dara Gudiel was found hanged in the city of Danlí, in the department of Paraíso. Dara Gudiel was the daughter of journalist Enrique Gudiel, who runs a radio programme called "Siempre al Frente con el Frente" ("Always Upfront with the Front"), which broadcasts information about the resistance. Days before she was found dead, Dara Gudiel had been released after having been kidnapped and held for two days, during which time she was alleged to have been physically mistreated.

These events are taking place in a context of grave harassment directed against active members of the resistance in Honduras. More than 50 detentions, eight cases of torture, two kidnappings, fully and freely exercise their right to freedom of expression and their right to assembly, without violence and in accordance with the law and with inter-American standards for the protection of human rights. As the Commission and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights have two rapes, and one raid have been reported by members of the resistance in the last month. The Commission urges Honduras to adopt immediate measures to guarantee the rights to life,

humane treatment, and personal liberty of all its citizens, stating that all persons, without distinction, must be equally protected in the exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and political participation.

The IACHR finds it necessary to reiterate that political and social participation through public demonstration is essential in the democratic life of societies. People from all political sectors have the right to indicated, States not only must not interfere with the exercise of these rights, but they must also adopt measures to ensure that these rights can be exercised effectively. Read more: http://www.cidh.oas.org/Comunicados/English/2010/26-10eng.htm

### The African Committee: Factfile 2010

The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child monitors State compliance with the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Three members of the Committee - Agnes Kabore, Adrianirainy Rasamoely and Cyprien Adebayo Yanclo - gave an update on their work at the 3rd Forum on the Rights and Welfare of the Child held in Ethiopia from 11-13 March 2010.

What is the Committee currently working on?

The Committee has reviewed a number of State party reports on the African Charter. It has issued Concluding Observations to two States and is due to finalise other recommendations during the current session. The Committee has also revised criteria for granting observer status to civil society organisations and a draft action plan for 2010-2014, both of which will be discussed at the 15th session. The Committee continues its efforts to encourage ratification by all 53 Member States. Recent ratifications by Sao Tome and Principe and the Democratic Republic of Congo bring the total to 47. Committee Experts have undertaken a number of country visits, including to Namibia, Uganda and Sudan.

An issue on the agenda this year is the election of new Committee members as the mandate of six of the current members will end in July 2010. The African Union Legal Affairs Department is now accepting nominations for new members.

Which States have submitted their initial report on the African Charter?

Eleven States: Nigeria, <u>Egypt</u>, <u>Mali</u>, Togo, <u>Niger</u>, <u>Uganda</u>, Rwanda, <u>Kenya</u>, <u>Burkina Faso</u>, Mauritius and <u>Tanzania</u>. The report of Niger has been postponed three times. The report of Uganda is under review at the current session.

To how many States has the Committee issued concluding observations?

Two: Nigeria and Egypt.

Have any shadow reports been submitted?

Shadow reports have been submitted from organisations in Mali, Uganda, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Niger, Tanzania and Uganda.

How many organisations have applied for observer status?

Four organisations have requested observer status: Save the Children Sweden, the Institute for Human Rights and Development in Banjul, the Centre for Human Rights in Botswana and the African Child Policy Forum. None of these organisations have so far been granted observer status because the selection criteria were still under review.

What are the latest developments in terms of cooperation between the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the African Committee?

A working group of three people has been established to coordinate with the CRC. For more information see: http://www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=22200

### Europe 2020: Commission's draft neglects child poverty and children's rights

On 3 March, European Commission's President José Manuel Barroso, presented the final draft of the Europe 2020 Strategy aiming at Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth.

Eurochild states that it is deeply concerned that the new draft of the strategy does not explicitly mention child poverty and seems to totally neglect children in its wording, not including them even in a paragraph calling for the definition and implementation of measures at national level addressing the specific circumstance of groups at particular risk, when children are clearly a group at higher risk of poverty as compared to the overall population.

In view of the adoption of the strategy during the June European Council, there is still room for maneuver and for filling the huge gap left by excluding child poverty and children's rights from the agenda.

The European Policy Center also published a reaction on the strategy entitled "Europe 2020: better - but still not good enough", a commentary by Fabian Zuleeg which assesses the Strategy's strengths and weaknesses. On the positive side it makes concrete proposals, gives seven flagship initiatives and includes education within its scope. On the negative side its rational for the targets set is unclear, it is too dependent on Member State political will, does not integrate public finance and reform and has weak delivery mechanisms.

Read the commentary here:

http://www.epc.eu/en/pb.asp?TYP=TEWN&LV=187&see=y&t=32&PG=TEWN/EN/detailpub&l=1 2&AI=1005

### Netherlands: Eviction of undocumented children unlawful

The Dutch policy to evict undocumented children from reception centres following a failed residency bid denies children their basic right to protection, according to the European Committee of Social Rights in response to a collective complaint submitted by the Netherlands section of Defence for Children International.

The European Committee found that the Netherlands' policy of evicting children and their families from reception centres violates the rights contained in the European Social Charter, pointing out that the right to shelter is directly linked to the right to life, social protection, and respect for the child's human dignity and best interests.

On 14 January 2008, Defence for Children International - The Netherlands Section submitted a collective complaint to the European Committee of Social Rights alongside Fischer lawyers, UNICEF the Netherlands and LOS (a support centre for undocumented persons), with the support of the Dutch Section of the International Commission of Jurists.

"This decision is a milestone for the protection of children who are unlawfully present in the Netherlands," said Carla van Os, Migration and Children's Rights Advocate at Defence for Children International.

The European Committee monitors the implementation of the European Social Charter by States Parties. The European Social Charter is a significant treaty at the European level for the protection of human rights. It complements the European Convention on Human Rights, and reflects the rights of children as recognised in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Importantly, the Committee considers the general principle of the best interests of the child, as recognised in article 3 of the CRC, as a binding principle under the European Social Charter.

Defence for Children International considers the Committee's decision on the child's right to shelter a unique opportunity for all those responsible for ensuring children's rights, including local and governmental authorities and lawyers, to work together for a humane reception of undocumented children and their parents in the Netherlands and other European countries. Click here to read the Committee decision:http://www.crin.org/docs/FileManager/Netherlands.pdf

### Romania: Starting Early on Human Rights With School Textbook

A textbook on human rights activism, being introduced in Romanian schools this year, steers away from preaching and uses interviews with global and local rights activists to suggest how young people may get involved.

Alongside interviews with prominent global human rights defenders, the Romanian book contains discussions with local activists fighting such issues as domestic violence and the rights of the Roma.

For a start, the book is being tested in selected high-schools in the capital and a few other major cities. While Romania is the main testing ground for this project, the textbook is likely to be adopted in neighboring Moldova and Bulgaria.

The educational package is one of the first projects to be implemented by the Robert F. Kennedy Foundation in Romania, where the group is working on opening its third global centre, modeled on existing ones in the U.S. and Italy.

In Romania, the group will focus, among other things, on the rights of prisoners. A theatre play by Ariel Dorfman, 'Speak Truth to Power: Voices from Beyond the Dark' has already been staged in Romania with actors chosen from among prisoners serving sentences.

Read more on the Romanian pilot project on:

http://www.crin.org/email/crinmail detail.asp?crinmailID=3264#ro

### Publications

### **Book: Children's Rights and Human Development**

Willems, Jan CM (ed.), Children's Rights and Human Development: A Multidisciplinary Reader, Maastricht Series in Human Rights, Vol. 11, Antwerp-Oxford-Portland: Intersentia, 2010, 964 pp. (ISBN 978-94-000-0032-2),

www.intersentia.be/searchDetail.aspx?back=reeks&reeksCode=MSHR&bookid=101461</hr>
www.intersentia.be/searchDetail.aspx?back=reeks&reeksCode=MSHR&bookid=101461>

### Article: Children and Childhood in Romanian Society and Social Research

Elisabeta Stanciulescu: 'Children and Childhood in Romanian Society and Social Research: Ideological and Market Biases and some Notable Contributions', in *Current Sociology*, March 2010, Volume 58 Issue 2: 309–334.

### Tdh: Report on child victims of trafficking in Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia

Terre des Hommes has published the regional report on the implementation of the Unicef guidelines for the protection of the rights of the child victims of trafficking in Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia. Further information: <a href="http://tdh-childprotection.org/">http://tdh-childprotection.org/</a>

### Participation: How to support children and young people's campaigning

A new publication from Participation Works called 'How to support children and young people's campaigning' provides information on how to support children and young people's campaigning. Participation Works has produced a series of free 'How to...' guides available to anyone with an interest in youth participation. 'How to support children and young people's campaigning' helps practitioners support children and young people to design, deliver and evaluate campaigns that bring about change. Participation Works is a consortium of six national children's charities aiming to enable organisations to effectively involve children and young people in the development, delivery and evaluation of services that affect their lives.

To download a copy of the guide, visit the Gateway at <a href="www.participationworks.org.uk">www.participationworks.org.uk</a>. For hard copies call the enquiry service on 0845 603 6725 or email <a href="mailto:enquiries@participationworks.org.uk">enquiries@participationworks.org.uk</a>.

### IREWOC Reports: The Worst Forms of Child Labour in Asia

IREWOC previously conducted a project on the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Latin America. It was then expanded into Asia. Afke de Groot studied children in brick kilns, restaurants, and those working as porters in Nepal. Anna Ensing studied children working in the leather sector and the conditions of working girls in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Nanna Baum studied domestic workers in Bangladesh - both in the city and at home in the villages. Additional data is presented in the summary report by Mariette de Graaf, who studied the working conditions of children involved in Dhaka's leather sector from an occupational hygiene point of view:

<a href="http://www.childlabour.net/documents/worstformsAsiaproject/WOFAS%20presentatie%20samenvatting\_2010.pdf">http://www.childlabour.net/documents/worstformsAsiaproject/WOFAS%20presentatie%20samenvatting\_2010.pdf</a> The Worst Forms of Child Labour in Asia. Main findings from Bangladesh and Nepal - contributors: G.C.M. Lieten, Afke de Groot, Anna Ensing, Nanna Baum, Mariette de Graaf

<a href="http://www.childlabour.net/documents/worstformsAsiaproject/Ensing\_Leather\_B">http://www.childlabour.net/documents/worstformsAsiaproject/Ensing\_Leather\_B</a> angladesh 2009.pdf> Hazardous Child Labour in the Leather Sector of Dhaka, Bangladesh - by Anna Ensing

<a href="http://www.childlabour.net/documents/worstformsAsiaproject/working\_girls\_ba\_ngladesh\_2010.pdf">http://www.childlabour.net/documents/worstformsAsiaproject/working\_girls\_ba\_ngladesh\_2010.pdf</a> A Triple Burden: Young, Poor and Female. Working Girls in the Homes and Streets of Dhaka - by Anna Ensing

### CoE

#### Draft guidelines on child friendly justice

With these guidelines, the Council of Europe aspires to safeguard the best interests of the child in all circumstances where he or she is, for whatever reason, likely to be brought into contact with any sphere - civil, administrative or criminal - of the national justice system. To respond to this transversal perspective, the Council of Europe adopted a working method which brings together three of its major intergovernmental committees dealing with civil law and administrative law (the European Committee of Legal Co-operation - CDCJ), criminal law (the European Com-

mittee on Crime Problems - CDPC), general human rights (the Steering Committee for Human Rights - CDDH) and the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ).

The guidelines should promote and protect the rights of information, representation and participation of children, and give a place and voice to the child in justice in all types and at all stages of the procedures. They build on existing international, European and national standards and, as a concrete tool, should present examples of good practice and propose practical solutions to remedy lacunae in law.

The last draft version of COE's guidelines is open to continuous public consultation and was recently sent to the 47 delegations of the CDCJ and national "focal points" on the rights of the child for possible comments by 31 March 2010.

Besides, it has been agreed that children and young people will be consulted on the initiative via a questionnaire online and individual and collective interviews by working groups in various countries.

http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/childjustice/default\_en.asp

## Funding/Prizes/Research Opportunities

Call for proposals 2010 for indirect actions under the multi-annual Community Programme on protecting children using the Internet and other communication technologies

According to the general objectives set out by the Safer Internet Programme aimed at protecting children in the use of Internet and other information technology, the European Commission has launched a call for proposals inviting proposals for actions to be financed by the Programme. The actions outlined in this call for proposals are aligned with the overall objectives of the four lines that make up the Safer Internet Program:

- Ensuring public awareness
- Fighting against illegal content and tackling harmful conduct online
- Promoting a safer online environment
- Establishing a knowledge base.

Click here for further information: http://euroalert.net/en/calls.aspx?idc=1896

Call for proposals: Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme ec.europa.eu/justice\_home/funding/rights/doc/ag\_call\_2010\_en.pdf
Deadline 29-4-2010

### Daphne: Violence against children - new call for proposals

The call for proposals is based on the Daphne III annual work programmes for 2009 and 2010 and combines the priorities as well as the resources available for both years.

Therefore approximately twice the usual funding will be available amounting to an indicative EUR 28.990.560. It is therefore expected that a higher number of projects will be funded than in previous calls. Among the objectives supported by this call it is worth mentioning the identification of best practices, recommendations, education and campaigns on street and peer violence involving young people; targeted educational programmes and activities designed to increase children, young people and/or women's understanding of the potentially negative impacts of new technologies and media with regard to violence; awareness-raising on corporal punishment of children; field work at grass-roots level with involvement of children, young people and/or women.

Projects require a minimum partnership of 2 organisations from different EU member states and must be of duration of either 12 or 24 months. Grants awarded under the call will range from EUR 75.000 to EUR 300.000 for 12-month projects and from EUR 150.000 to EUR 600.000 for 24-month projects, which may constitute a maximum of 80% of overall eligible project cost. For further information contact the Daphne team <<u>mailto:JLS-DAPHNE@ec.europa.eu</u>> or click here to read more about this call for proposals:

http://ec.europa.eu/justice\_home/funding/daphne3/funding\_daphne3\_en.htm

Deadline: 30 April 2010, 12:00 CET.

## CALL FOR PAPERS: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE - TOWARDS AN ANTHROPOLOGY OF CHILDHOOD AND CHILDREN

ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELDWORK DIVERSITY AND CONSTRUCTION OF A FIELD

MARCH 9-11, 2011, INSTITUTE OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF LIEGE (BELGIUM) Papers should question the connection between social and symbolic construction of childhood and the construction of the 'child-actor': how is the child shaped and how does it construct itself, what is its position in society and how can its voice be taken into account?

The following configurations will be considered:

- family and community break-ups (street children, child-refugees, child-soldiers),
- migration (transnational families, migrant children, interethnic relations),
- new parenthood (blended family, same-sex family, child-headed household, intergenerational relations),
- cultural transmission (between peers, within the family, within institutions),
- individual, familial and institutional care (adoption, fosterage, daily care),
- development and humanitarian action (target groups, vulnerable groups, reciprocal influences between local and global norms),
- secular and religious institutions (schools, orphanages, youth movements, trade unions),
- local societies and public policies (work, family planning, training, children's heritage),
- new technologies (virtual worlds, new reproductive technologies, communication).

In order to explore these configurations, health, body, food, language, development, gender, play or ethics are possible entry points. Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Northern or Southern societies, the papers will particularly:

- enhance knowledge on children's worlds (ordinary and extraordinary daily life),
- link this knowledge to other dimensions of social and cultural life (economics, politics, kinship, religion...),
- promote a better understanding of the society, the community or the group that children belong to.

From their ethnographic reports, participants are also invited to discuss the specificities of fieldwork with children, regarding the diversity of methodological positions, personal orientations and institutional attachments of the anthropologist. How does she/he act and how is she/he perceived by children and their social environment? How relevant are age, sex and social status (parent or not, origin)? How does she/he enter the 'children's world'? What sort of observations and interviews (or other audiovisual, graphical tools…) can be used? More largely, the specific questions that ethnographic fieldwork with children addresses to fieldwork practice in anthropology will be stressed.

Finally, papers should outline the conceptual characteristics of anthropology of childhood and children. What is the heuristic utility of notions and concepts such as body and person, body techniques, socialization, interaction...)? Which are the reciprocal influences, the specificities and synergies between anthropology, sociology, history, psychoanalysis, psychology, linguistics or demography? Moreover, the Conference aims to highlight the contribution of an anthropology of childhood and children to other fields in anthropology and social and human sciences. It will also strengthen its position on the international scientific and public arena.

Sending of papers proposal (in English or French) by the 31<sup>th</sup> of May 2010: 250 words (title and 5 keywords included).

Selection of papers proposal by the Scientific Committee: 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2010.

Editorial rules and schedule for a collective publication will be sent to participants by the Coordinators after the Conference. Contact: ConfAnthropoChildren2011@hotmail.fr

#### **FRA: Video Competition**

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights invites you to participate in the International Video Competition 2010. This is an opportunity to express your views on camera on fundamental rights in the European Union. Share with us whether your rights are abused or enjoyed. The 3 strongest entries will each win a 5 day trip for 2 people to Vienna, from 6-10 May 2010, with transportation and accommodation included.

The competition deadline is 18 April 2010. Eligible candidates include students and non-

students alike, anyone between 18 and 30 years of age, and from all EU countries. For registration and further information, please visit the competition's website at http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/news&events/video-competition/video-competition en.htm

### Extension of deadline for the International Children's Peace Prize 2010

This prize is awarded annually to a child, whose courageous or otherwise extraordinary efforts have made an impact on behalf of the Rights of the Child.

New deadline to send in nominations: May 1st, 2010.

## Upcoming Dates

- April 9, 2010: Exploring Childhood Studies, A Graduate Student Conference, Camden, New Jersey
- April 14, 2010: International Day Conference: Children's Rights and War, IoE, London
- April 15-16, 2010: Conference: "Learning Democracy and Human Rights", Strasbourg
- April 26-28, 2010: GPIA-UNICEF International Conference Adolescent Girls –
  Cornerstones of Society: Building Evidence and Policies for Inclusive Societies, New
  York
- May 6, 2010: Conference: Protecting Children Online, European NGO Alliance for Child Safety Online (eNACSO), Brussels, Belgium
- 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
- July 12-22, 2010: Utrecht Summerschool International Juvenile Justice
- **September 6-8, 2010:** Europe at a Crossroads, Bruges, Belgium. www.uaces.org/bruges
- September 22-24, 2010: Primer Congreso Nacional De Antropología Social Y Etnología, Ciudad De México
- **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
- October 20-22, 2010: 6° NGO Forum for National Child Rights Coalitions
- October 27-29, 2010: 5th Child in the City Conference, Florence, Italy
- November 3-5, 2010: Eurochild's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Brighter futures Building effective partnerships to end child poverty, 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