



European Network of Masters on Children's Rights
Red Europea de Maestrías en Derechos del Niño

Children's Rights Newsletter (crnews) 4/05

Dear Network Members and Network Interested,

We would like to invite you to read this year's fourth edition of crnews. All other formerly published Children's Rights Newsletters are now available for download from ENMCR's newly installed website www.enmcr.net , where you will also find general information on the network and its member institutions. As usual, for feedback, criticism and comments as well as any information input, please use the e-mail address: crnews@eufund.de or info@enmcr.net. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter any longer. Simply send a message with the subject "unsubscribe crnews" to the same addresses.



Sincerely,

Rebecca Budde,
Günter Chodzinski,
Editors

In this Newsletter you will read:

- **General News**
 - ENMCR Website
 - 39th session of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
 - Human Rights Education course
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 - Domestic Violence
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- **News from the Members/Interested**
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General News

ENMCR Website:

The ENMCR website can now be visited at www.enmcr.net .

You will find information on the master courses offered at the member universities of ENMCR, contact addresses, general information on ENMCR as well as various links to other networks, information sources and organizations dealing with the Rights of the Child.

UN Committee on the Rights of the Child: 39th Session

Members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child will meet again for three weeks, from 16 May to 3 June at the Palais Wilson in Geneva, Switzerland. The Committee will consider the following State reports: Ecuador, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Nepal, Philippines, Norway, Nicaragua, Mongolia, Yemen, Saint Lucia, Costa Rica.

For more information on the Committee, contact:

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Committee on the Rights of the Child

8-14 Avenue de la Paix, CH 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Tel: + 41 22 917 9000; Fax: + 41 22 917 9022

Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/index.htm>

Human Rights Education course

Dates: 21 September- 13 December 2005

Human Rights Education Associates (HREA) is calling for applications for the distance learning course: "Introduction to Human Rights Education". This course will introduce the international field of human rights education (HRE), including presentations of programming approaches, teaching and learning resources, and related theory. The course is intended for educators and trainers working in both the formal and nonformal sectors. Participants might be expected to apply the skills obtained within formal education settings, for staff development within their own organisations, and for outreach and advocacy.

Registration deadline: 1 July 2005

For more information, contact:

Human Rights Education Associates (HREA)

PO Box 382396, Cambridge, MA 02238, USA

Tel: + 1 978 341 0200; Fax: + 1 978 341 0201

Email: info@hrea.org , URL: <http://www.hrea.org/courses>

Children Taken Seriously- Involving Children in Decision-Making

In a recent book entitled "Children Taken Seriously" and published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers, leading researchers and policy makers consider how children can be recognised as social actors rather than passive consumers or victims. Using children's own views and experiences as a starting point, they explore how children can be involved as partners in the decision-making processes that affect them, in social work, education, health care and broader social policies.

Chapters on the theoretical background draw parallels between developments in children's and women's rights, and discuss communication issues and social and sexual constructions of children. Other chapters explore issues of policy and practice in a variety of areas, from Family Group Conferencing and child protection to child labour and notions of active citizenship. Highlighting the important role of schools in empowering children, the authors discuss children's engagement in their own education and how children's rights theory influences debates over discipline.

"Children Taken Seriously" is a valuable source of insight and ideas for social workers, teachers, mental health professionals and anyone working with children.

Domestic Violence: First National Website for Children

Last month, Women's Aid launched The Hideout - www.thehideout.org.uk - the first national domestic violence website for children and young people. The website has been

designed to inform children and young people about domestic violence, help them to identify whether it is happening in their home and signpost them to additional support and information.

Child Welfare Leaders WorldForum 2005

Date: 19-23 September 2005

Location: Tallinn, Estonia

The International Forum for Child Welfare (IFCW) is organising the WorldForum 2005, hosted by the Estonian Union for Child Welfare, IFCW member. The theme of the WorldForum will be "Children in Poverty". Today, the main concerns facing society include poverty, unemployment, abuse, drugs, AIDS, low living standard, women's social guarantees, etc. Organisations protecting children's rights try to find and carry into life various solutions to fight against these problems. These solutions are then implemented by governments through their various policies based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Scientific Committee invites authors to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations during the Forum. The selected abstracts will be printed in the Book of Abstracts and distributed at the Forum.

Submission deadline: 31 May 2005

For more information, contact:

Frens Conference Services

Toompuiestee 30, 10149 Tallinn, Estonia

Tel: + 372 6 979 290; Fax: + 372 6 979 201

Email: conference@frens.ee, URL: <http://www.lastekaitseliit.ee>

Youth Voice Initiative website

UNICEF UK's Youth Voice initiative and the accompanying website for young people, the Rights Site, provide an opportunity for young people to learn about and get involved with children's rights locally and on a global scale.

The site includes information on UNICEF and the Youth Voice programme as well as issues affecting global child rights, including child labour and HIV/AIDS. Campaigning and fundraising ideas are included and stories and extracts of other young people's involvement can be seen.

For more information, contact:

Alex Brookes, Youth Officer

UNICEF UK, Education Department

Africa House, 64-78 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NB, UK

Tel: + 44 20 7312 7611

Email: rightssite@unicef.org.uk, URL: www.therightssite.org.uk

National Coalition Germany:

The German National Coalition for the implementation of the UNCRC with over 90 member organizations has a new website. Here you can find information, statements and documents on the UNCRC as well as texts on various working fields and thematic networks on the implementation of the convention in Germany. <http://www.national-coalition.de>

Children's Participation

The Bertelsman Foundation is implementing the initiative »mitWirkung!« (double meaning: withEffect, participation) in order to strengthen children's and youth participation in German communities. A first survey on participation possibilities conducted in 50

communities reference models are to be developed in selected communities in order to elaborate concrete suggestions for actions.

More information on the state of the project can be found on:

<http://www.mitwirkung.net>

News from the Members/Interested:

University of Amsterdam:

Next year the University of Amsterdam offers a specialisation track in Children's Rights in the framework of the *International Master Programme International Development Studies*. In addition to the required courses (32 ECTS) students must take a course on Child Labour and Development (10 ECTS) and do a final project (3 months fieldwork and a dissertation) on the topic "Refractions of Children's Rights in Development Practice". For more information see <http://www.ishss.uva.nl/> or contact Dr. Olga Nieuwenhuys: O.Nieuwenhuys@uva.nl

To Do's:

For all network members:

- Establish contacts to interested individuals and organisations, institutions who could possibly participate in the network (as members, sponsors, affiliated)
- Find out about national funding programmes

Upcoming Dates:

May 16- June 3, 2005: 39th session UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Geneva, Switzerland

June 23-25, 2005: Marginality And Voice: Childhood In Sociology And Society 2005 In Wuppertal, Germany. URL: <http://www.kindheitssoziologie.org/marginalhome.htm>

June 29- July 3, 2005: Childhoods 2005 Conference in Oslo, Norway. URL: www.childhoods.org

July 1, 2005: Registration Deadline for HRE long distance course. URL: <http://www.hrea.org/courses>

September 19-23, 2005: Child Welfare Leaders WorldForum 2005 in Tallinn, Estonia. Deadline for submission of abstracts: May 31, 2005. URL: <http://www.lastekaitseliit.ee>

Impressum:

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