



[European Network of Masters in Children's Rights](http://www.enmcr.net)

# CRnews 11

Children's Rights Newsletter  
November 2010

European Network of Masters in Children's Rights  
c/o Internationale Akademie an der Freien Universität Berlin  
Habelschwerdter Allee 45, D- 14195 Berlin  
[info@enmcr.net](mailto:info@enmcr.net)/[www.enmcr.net](http://www.enmcr.net)/Fon:+49-(0)30-838-52734

## Dear Network Members and Network Interested,

This month, the upcoming election of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on December 21<sup>st</sup> is probably the most interesting event for organisations working in the field of Children's Rights. Let's see what else was going on...

Please feel free to contact us with comments, news and 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)

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Thank you for reading this newsletter.

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



**Save the Children**  
Sweden

## General News Internal

### **University of Antwerp: Expert Meeting on Children in Armed Conflict and Guest Lecture**

The Expert Meeting on Children in Armed Conflict took place in Antwerp on 26 - 27 November 2010 with the participation of experts from different legal disciplines and different parts of the globe. The meeting brought together expertise in different fields of international law, including humanitarian law, international labour law, international criminal law and human rights law to contextualize the provisions on children affected by armed conflict in these different fields, to comparatively explore commonalities and differences therein and to discuss the necessity and possibility for converge between different frameworks. The debates encompassed not only issues related to child soldiers but also to children affected by armed conflict on a broader spectrum. The papers presented at the conference, which formed the bases for the discussions, will be published in a special issue of the *Journal Human Rights & International Legal Discourse* on children in armed conflict in October 2011.

Professor Dr Heike Krieger, Freie Universität Berlin, visited the UNICEF Chair in Children's Rights, University of Antwerp, from Thursday 25 to Tuesday 30 November. She taught a lecture on children and armed conflict in the master course on children's rights and participated in an expert meeting on the same topic.

## General News External

### **Member States Declare their Commitment to EU Child Rights Strategy**

The permanent inter-governmental group Europe de l'Enfance met Tuesday 16th November hosted by the French-speaking Community of Belgium, under the EU Belgian Presidency. They adopted an important declaration. The original paper available on the event website was shortened but the essence remains the same. In brief:

1. It calls for greater synergy & coherence between the EU children, youth and children's rights policy agendas, and prioritises the fight against child poverty;
2. It calls for countries signed up to the Barcelona targets on childcare to reinforce their efforts to increase provision, and ensure conditions for high quality early childhood education & care including working on training and qualifications for early childhood workforce and ensure proper monitoring and evaluation systems;
3. It endorses the contribution of the Belgian Presidency to the EU child rights strategy which emphasizes mainstreaming of children's rights and calls for increased focus on participation and provision rights rather than restricting the strategy to protection.

Or visit the event website: [www.europedelenfance2010.cfwb.be](http://www.europedelenfance2010.cfwb.be)

### **Conference on Human Rights Education**

The Conference "Bring Human Rights To Life!" 15 Years of Human Rights Education in Germany, Europe and the United Nations, organised by the German Institute for Human Rights and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights took place on Friday, 3 December 2010 in Berlin. The conference was attended by a range of well-established experts and best practise was exchanged in interactive workshops. Among the needs for the future expressed at the final panel and discussion were: methods for the evaluation of programmes and projects as well as more research and implementation of human rights education.

### **Conference on Child Poverty in Germany and Europe at the end of the European Year**

The conference "Child Poverty in Germany and Europe - Where are we at the End of the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion?" took place in Berlin on 30 November. In this conference, organized by AGF (Association of German Family Organizations) and the Representation of the European Commission in Germany, a discussion on the current state of the fight against child poverty in Germany and Europe and the necessary steps to effectively fight child and family poverty was held.

### **Serbia Adopts Platform of the Network of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) for Children**

From 29-31 October, at the National Conference in Sokobanja, Serbia, 43 representatives of civil society organizations working on protecting and promoting child rights adopted the "Platform of the Network of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) for children in Serbia". The national conference, "Networking for Children" was organized by the Association for Protection and Promotion of Mental Health in Children and Youth, with the support of UNICEF Sokobanja. Please read more about the network [http://eurochild.org/index.php?id=505#news\\_shortcut1141](http://eurochild.org/index.php?id=505#news_shortcut1141)

### **Albania: Training Seminar on Early Child Protection Interventions**

In the framework of MARIO project and in partnership with Terre des hommes and Save the Children in Albania, a two-day training seminar aiming to strengthen the professional capacities of the Albanian Child Protection Workers was held in the capital Tirana on 17-18 November 2010. Focusing on the subjects of Early Child Protection Interventions and Family Support, this seminar will enable the participants to increase their knowledge and skills in terms of key theoretical concepts and established practices associated with early interventions in support of both children and their families. For more information: <http://marioproject.org/news/mario-training-seminar-on-early-child-protection-interventions-to-take-place-this-week>

### **Children's Rights in the Americas**

The Inter-American Commission staged its 140<sup>th</sup> session from 20 October to 5 November 2010. During the session, the Commission held 52 hearings on persistent human rights violations in the region, 28 working meetings and approved 66 reports on individual cases and petitions. Hearings concerning children's rights presented at the recent session revealed widespread discrimination and violence against children in the Americas, particularly in State and private institutions. In addition, violations of children's rights featured strongly in a number of hearings on other human rights issues.

#### *Elections*

Four vacancies are coming up on the Inter-American Commission for 2012-2015. The new Commissioners will be elected at the 41<sup>st</sup> session of the General Assembly of the Organisation of American States (OAS), which will be held in El Salvador in June 2011. Members of the Commission serve four years and may be re-elected once. Paraguay has nominated Rosa María Ortiz, currently a member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Source: CRIN

### **Asia Pacific Region**

A high level regional meeting on children's rights was hosted by the Chinese government with support from UNICEF. The meeting brought together representatives from 28 governments from across the Asia Pacific region to discuss and explore opportunities for mutual cooperation in the promotion of children's rights. Issues covered included child protection and welfare sys-

tems, disaster risk reduction and the Millennium Development Goals. Read the Beijing Declaration: [http://www.unicef.org/eapro/Beijing\\_Declaration.docx](http://www.unicef.org/eapro/Beijing_Declaration.docx)

### **Council of Europe: New Campaign to Stop Sexual Violence Against Children**

The Council of Europe launched a new campaign to stop sexual violence against children. Available data suggest that about one in five children in Europe are victims of some form of sexual violence, the majority of which is carried out by someone they know. The aims of the campaign, "One in five", are to urge States to ratify and comply with the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse and to equip children, their families/carers and societies with knowledge and tools to prevent and report sexual violence against children. The campaign sets a simple rule, called the Underwear Rule, to help parents explain to their children where others should not try to touch them, their right to set limits, and the need to express their feelings and speak up against abuse. The rule is explained in a TV spot, a children's book, a website and other support materials featuring a character called Kiko. Website: [http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/children/1in5/default\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/children/1in5/default_en.asp)

### **New Website: the Child Recovery and Reintegration Network**

A new website focusing on the recovery and reintegration of children affected by sexual exploitation and trafficking globally was launched recently. The website was developed and maintained through an Oak Foundation fellowship, the site is supported by an Advisory Group of experts and hosted by the UHI Centre for Rural Childhood in Scotland.

Please visit the website: <http://www.childrecovery.info/>

## Publications

### **In Spanish: Niñez y Derecho a la Ciudad**

Edilberto Noguera Meléndez (2010): Niñez y Derecho a la Ciudad. Una mirada a la inclusión y participación de niños, niñas y adolescentes en la ciudad de Cartagena de Indias. FUNSAREP Asociación Santa Rita para la Educación y Promoción, Cartagena – Colombia  
For more information: [www.funsarep.org.co](http://www.funsarep.org.co)

### **Study: On Children's Rights: Different Views on Child Labor, Exploitation, and Citizenship Rights of Children and Adolescents in Ecuador**

by Cristiano Morsolin, expert from the Latin American Observatory SELVAS

The phenomenon of child labor in Ecuador has the face of a million working children, 18% of the economically active population. In a country where 54% of the population is in the grip of poverty, child labor to support the family takes on different connotations: 67% is in the agricultural sector, 15% in commerce, and the remaining 18%, in the tertiary sector, crafts, and domestic work. An articulate response to this situation comes from the Latin American country projects initiated by the Salesians and the Jesuits, who have long cared for thousands of working children. Among the examples cited by the study, he noted the initiative of the American Jesuit Fr. John Halligan, who 46 years ago founded the Young Worker's Center, offering an opportunity for dignity to 25,000 people in only half a century. For more information:

[http://www.salesians-un.org/focus\\_human\\_rights\\_Ecuador\\_ProtectChildrenRights10.html](http://www.salesians-un.org/focus_human_rights_Ecuador_ProtectChildrenRights10.html)

### **CRIN Study: Status of Children's Rights in the UPR**

CRIN have carried out a comprehensive study of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), to ascertain the extent to which children's rights are addressed in this new UN Mechanism and assess ways in which children's rights focused organisations can effectively engage with the UPR. See: <http://www.crin.org/resources/infodetail.asp?id=22015>

### **European Commission: Qualitative Survey on the Rights of the Child**

The result of discussions held in 170 focus groups with children aged 15-17 across all EU member states has been released by the European Commission. The exercise aimed to contri-

bute to the drafting of the Communication on children's rights and gather children's views on the issues they saw as most important for their rights and which obstacles they face in exercising their rights. Children were also asked to put forward suggestions for overcoming such obstacles and concrete ways how 'the adult world' could do to better protect and defend their rights. Download here: [http://eurochild.org/index.php?id=508#news\\_shortcut1248](http://eurochild.org/index.php?id=508#news_shortcut1248)

#### **CoE: Publication on Nationality of Children**

The Council of Europe has published a new recommendation on the nationality of children, aiming to reduce statelessness of children, to facilitate their access to a nationality and to ensure their right to a nationality. It includes chapters on reducing statelessness, nationality as a consequence of a child-parent family relationship, children born on the territory of a state to a foreign parent, the position of children treated as nationals, the rights of children in proceedings affecting their nationality and registration of birth.

The book can be ordered here (8 Euros):

[http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit\\_aliasid=2550](http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2550)

#### **Eurochild Publication: Valuing Children's Potential**

The book contains case studies chosen as examples of good practice in children's participation and research evidence of experts in the field of young people's participation.

Download the PDF version of the book:

[http://eurochild.org/index.php?id=208&tx\\_ttnews\[tt\\_news\]=950&tx\\_ttnews\[backPid\]=185&cHash=20f85bb68f8d66a4df7cf81858d352b2](http://eurochild.org/index.php?id=208&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=950&tx_ttnews[backPid]=185&cHash=20f85bb68f8d66a4df7cf81858d352b2)

#### **UNICEF Innocenti Research Center: Report Card 9 – The Children Left Behind**

The publication includes presentations and discussions of a league table of inequality in child well-being in the world's rich countries. The league table uses a new method for measuring disadvantage among children. Child well-being in 24 OECD countries is examined by comparing the gap between children in the bottom of the distribution with those at the median. Children are thus compared with what is considered normal in their country.

For more information: <http://www.unicef-irc.org/article/693/>

#### **FRA Publications:**

- Separated, asylum-seeking children in European Union Member States - Comparative Report (November 2010)
- Developing indicators for the protection, respect and promotion of the rights of the child in the EU (November 2010)

See: [http://www.fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/research/publications/publications\\_en.htm](http://www.fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/research/publications/publications_en.htm)

#### **SOS Children's Villages International: Ageing out of Care**

(December 2010) Find out more about the international analysis:

<http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/Focus-areas/Child-rights/Child-rights-issues/Pages/Ageing-out-of-care-international-analysis.aspx>

## Funding/Prizes/Research Opportunities

#### **Call for Papers: Human Rights in Global Perspective**

Howard University, Washington DC, USA, September 30- October 1, 2011.

While the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the UN created the conditions for international mobilization of nation states and organizations to intensify the internationalization of human rights issues, it was not until the 1990s (post Cold War era) that we began to witness sustained efforts by increasing number of local human rights groups for an effective universal human rights agenda. For several decades, the primary focus of human rights has been limited to issues around political prisoners, torture, refugees, and displaced persons. Decolonization and increasing demands for democratization across the developing world and Eastern Europe

accelerated interest among local civil society groups, activists, academics, and human rights groups on broadening and strengthening the debate on the concept of universal human rights to include: the rights to a living income, to health, to food, housing and education, and to live in a world at peace. Thus, today, across cultures around the globe, local human rights groups are pressing demands beyond the narrow confines of human rights definitions to include: child rights; women rights and the elimination of female circumcision; the rights of indigenous populations; the rights of ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities; the rights to shelter and development; and economic and social justice. If human rights are not to become provincial and limited to the mere interests of the state and its organs, human rights dividends cannot occur through monologue, but rather through dialogue among humans across cultures. This conference seeks to examine contemporary human rights issues from across the world and the effects of recent global transformations in strengthening the discourse on human rights.

To this end, we plan to engage in a collaborative effort to present and later publish a comprehensive volume on human rights in global perspective. The first part of the project will be a collaborative conference at Howard University (September 30- October 1, 2011). Second, we will publish selected conference presentations in an edited volume. We invite contributions that will pay particular attention to human rights issues/struggles from across the globe, as well as efforts by local groups especially in the developing world to broaden the focus of human rights beyond limited perspectives and traditional definitions. We welcome contributors from political science, law, social work, history, sociology, African American Studies, Africana Studies, Ethnic Studies, and other scholars of human rights.

Please email a **500-word abstract** for an individual presentation, a short curriculum vitae, including institutional affiliation, mailing address, e-mail address **latest by December 30, 2010** to each of the collaborators below:

Dr. Michael Udo Mbanaso, E-Mail: [mmbanaso@howard.edu](mailto:mmbanaso@howard.edu)

Dr. Chima J. Korieh, E-Mail: [chima.korieh@marquette.edu](mailto:chima.korieh@marquette.edu)

Selected participants will be informed by January 30, 2011.

#### **Call for Papers: The Child Image**

Red Feather Journal ([www.redfeatherjournal.org](http://www.redfeatherjournal.org)), an online, peer-reviewed, international, interdisciplinary journal of children's visual culture, seeks submissions for the spring 2011 issue. Red Feather Journal welcomes submissions that examine the child image from a broad range of media: children's film, Hollywood film, international film, Television, the Internet, print resources, art, or any other visual medium. Some sample topics include, but are certainly not limited to: studies of images of children of color; child as commodity; images of children in international films; political uses of the child image; children in advertising; childhood as myth, visual adaptations of children's literary works; child welfare images; images of children and/in war; the child image in video games; or any other critical examination of the child image, or childhood, in a variety of visual mediums.

Red Feather Journal will also consider submissions of tasteful photo essays or artistic works. Copyright information, including permission for use of each image, must be included with the submission. Red Feather will not use any image without the express written consent of its copyright holder. Submissions to Red Feather Journal are accepted on a rolling basis. Red Feather Journal is published twice a year, in March and September, and adheres to the MLA citation system. Authors are welcome to submit articles in other citations systems, with the understanding that, upon acceptance, conversion to MLA is a condition of publication. Red Feather Journal is indexed through EBSCO host and MLA bibliography.

Interested contributors please submit the full paper and a brief biography (with full contact information) as attachments in Word to: Debbie Olson [debbieo@okstate.edu](mailto:debbieo@okstate.edu)

**Deadline** for submissions for the spring 2011 issue is **January 31, 2011**.

#### **SHCY Panel: Representations of History in Children's Reading**

We are seeking additional papers and possibly a discussant for a session at the 2011 meeting of the Society for the History of Children and Youth in New York (June 23-25). The panel will highlight different ways in which the past is represented and contested in writing intended for children's education & entertainment. We are interested in what a geographic/temporal com-

parison might reveal about how these representations of history have particularly shaped children's reading. One paper considers representations of the Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945) in Chinese graphic novels for youth published 1937-2007. The second paper examines narratives of heroic women in periodicals and world history textbooks published for German children in the late 18th/early 19th centuries. Projects investigating representations of the past for children in fiction, textbooks, folklore, museums, schools, or other genres/sites would fit well with this session. Papers from a range of disciplines and areas are welcome.

Please contact us off-list at:

Emily Bruce [bruce088@umn.edu](mailto:bruce088@umn.edu) and Minjie Chen [mchen6@illinois.edu](mailto:mchen6@illinois.edu).

### **Call for Papers: Write4Children**

This is a call for papers for the next edition of Write4Children which is due to be published on 1st April 2011.

#### *Poetry Debate within the April Edition*

Rachel Rooney will be introducing this with a discussion on the gap between children's and adult's poetry. If you wish to participate in this initial debate on poetry and children we would like to invite you to send articles, discussion papers, or reviews by February (It should be noted that this edition is not to be a special edition on poetry other articles are still welcome.)

#### *Student Review*

Calling all Post Grad and MA students we would like to invite you to submit reviews of books you have engaged with (both creative and critical). This is a good opportunity to publish in a recognised academic journal. Reviews should be no more than 750 words long and should adhere to our submission guidelines (see webpage [www.write4children.org](http://www.write4children.org)).

#### **Submission Deadline 1st February 2011**

Please send enquiries, articles, discussion papers or reviews to [write4children@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:write4children@winchester.ac.uk)

## Upcoming Dates

- **February 2-3, 2011:** Seminar-School Design Futures, University of Loughborough, UK
- **March 9-11, 2011:** Towards an Anthropology of Childhood and Children. Ethnographic Fieldwork Diversity and Construction of a Field. University of Liege, Belgium
- **April 4-6, 2011:** Conference - Quality in Alternative Care, Prague
- **April 7-8, 2011:** International Conference: Early Childhood in Developing World Contexts, Cork, Ireland
- **June 7-9, 2011:** 14. Kinder- und Jugendhilfetag: Kinder. Jugend. Zukunft: Perspektiven entwickeln – Potentiale fördern! Stuttgart, Germany
- **July 4-7, 2011:** Playing into the Future - surviving and thriving, Cardiff, Wales
- **July 10-15, 2011:** IFCO 2011 Conference "Fostering Hope – Together We Can Make a Difference", British Columbia, Canada
- **July 27-29, 2011:** 3rd International Conference of the International Society for Child Indicators Children's Well-Being: The Research and Policy Challenges, NY, USA