



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

### Children's Rights Newsletter (crnews) 7/05

**Dear Network Members and Network Interested,**

We would like to invite you to read this year's seventh edition of crnews. We are happy to inform you, that the formal constitutional process of ENMCR is progressing. We have now a formal statute, in which organisation and structure, members as well as regulations on decision making within the network are anchored. You can have a look at the document on our website [www.enmcr.net](http://www.enmcr.net). As usual, for feedback, criticism and comments as well as any information input, please use the e-mail addresses: [crnews@eufund.de](mailto:crnews@eufund.de) or [info@enmcr.net](mailto:info@enmcr.net). If you do not wish to receive this newsletter any longer, please send a message with the subject "unsubscribe crnews" to either one of the above addresses.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Budde,  
Günter Chodzinski,  
Editors



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## General News:

### Internal

**Statutes ENMCR:** The statutes of ENMCR have been approved by the Directive Committee and are from now on the formal basis for the network. They can be viewed on the network's homepage: [www.enmcr.net](http://www.enmcr.net).

**Next Meeting Directive Committee:** It is planned to have a directive committee meeting in September/October.

### External

#### **International Interdisciplinary Conference on Children's Rights - call for papers**

An "International Interdisciplinary Conference on Children's Rights - An appraisal of the Children's Rights Convention. Theory meets practice", will be held in Ghent, Belgium on 18-19 May 2006. The conference aims at evaluating the progress and achievements of the Convention, and at exploring the challenges ahead in realising children's rights. It will in particular do so by creating an open forum where academics can meet and exchange views with other professionals, dealing with children's rights in a more practical way.

Those who are interested in presenting a paper (in English or French) at one of the workshops during the conference are kindly invited to react to the call for papers on the website:

[http://www.law.ugent.be/pub/iuap/c\\_call.html](http://www.law.ugent.be/pub/iuap/c_call.html). Here the sub-themes:

1. International monitoring of the UNCRC
2. Regional enforcement of the UNCRC
3. Domestic enforcement of the UNCRC
4. The right to (human rights) education
5. Immigrant children/ Refugee children, Minorities/Indigenous children
6. Juvenile justice and detention
7. Right to life, health and health care
8. Children's rights in relation to their family
9. Participation rights of children
10. Exploitation of children
11. Any other subject concerning children's rights.

For more information, contact: Marie Delplace, Human Rights Centre, University of Ghent, Universiteitstraat 4, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium, Tel: + 32 9 264 68 22; Fax: + 32 9 264 69 95, Email: [Marie.Delplace@UGent.be](mailto:Marie.Delplace@UGent.be)

#### **The State of Children's Rights Around the World**

The International Bureau of Children's Rights is publishing a report "Making Children's Rights Work: National and International Perspectives" summarising the views, facts and recommendations expressed by a wide array of distinguished children's rights specialists who spoke at a conference organised by the IBCR last November to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The report is a concise analysis of the implementation of the CRC, with experts weighing in on the progress being made in children's rights on the national and international fronts.

For more information, contact: International Bureau for Children's Rights, 1185, rue Saint-Mathieu, Montréal, Canada H3H 2P7 Tel: + 1 (514) 932 7656 Email: [info@ibcr.org](mailto:info@ibcr.org)

Website: <http://www.ibcr.org>

#### **European Court of Justice confirms special rights of children**

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005 the European Court of Justice confirmed that children victims or testimonies have special rights. According to the judgement of the court, young children may give their testimony on the case outside the court in order to guarantee dignity, privacy and their psychological balance. By this confirmation, the European Court of Justice for the first time implements practically and interprets as legally binding basis a frame decision of the council in the domestic and judicial field.

Official press release: <http://curia.eu.int/en/actu/communiqués/cp05/aff/cp050059en.pdf>

### **Third International Conference on the Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children**

Date: 12-16 February 2006

Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh

The Conference Secretariat for the Third International Conference on the Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children is organising an exchange of knowledge, expertise, and experience on issues relevant to positive and negative effects of globalisation on children and women.

This conference is for individuals from all parts of the world and all walks of life: anthropologists, basic scientists, ecologists, environmentalists, economists, health economists, historians, human rights activists, information technologists, lawyers, nurses, nutritionists, physicians, politicians, sociologists, social workers, etc.

The major themes that will be addressed are: lessons learned from the Tsunami; impact of violence/war/terrorism on children and women; biological health issues; empowerment of children and women; HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis/depression: children and women; prevention/rehabilitation: physical and mental health of children and women; adolescent male/female issues.

Organisers of the Conference are inviting interested parties to submit abstracts relating to one of the 'Theme Categories'. They want to hear about the efforts being made to improve the health and well-being of women and children around the world.

For more information, contact: McMaster University, 1200 Main St W, HSC-3N28, Hamilton, Ontario, CANADA L8N 3Z5 , Tel: + 1 905 525 9140; Fax:+ 1 905 521 8834, Email:

[ic2006@mcmaster.ca](mailto:ic2006@mcmaster.ca) , Website: <http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/slru/ic2006/main.html>,

<http://www.ic2006.info>

### **Children Warn the G8**

Children from 13 African countries, along with ten of the world's largest children's organisations warned last week that unless urgent action is taken at the G8 in July and Millennium Goals summit in September, 300 million children will continue to go to bed hungry every night of this year and for years to come. The report 'But the Children Cannot Wait', published by the Global Movement for Children, states that ending child poverty is not a distant dream but a practical, achievable objective, an economic essential, and a moral imperative. The report, published in advance of the United Nations' General Assembly hearings this month and with only 2 weeks to go until the G8 in Gleneagles, asks that world leaders provide free high quality basic education and health, invest real resources in the wellbeing and capacities of children, drop the debt, double the quantity and improve quality of aid, and ensure trade justice; all 'do-able' achievements for 2005.

For more information, contact: Kate Norgrove, Communications Manager, Global Movement for Children, c/o Plan International, Chobham House, Christchurch Way, Woking GU21 6JG, UK, Email:

[knorgrove@gmfc.org](mailto:knorgrove@gmfc.org) , Tel: + 44 7813 164 160, Website: <http://www.gmfc.org>

### **Child Labour in Colombia**

The University Universidad del Rosario de Bogotá, Colombia has developed a new website on child labour in Colombia. It offers documents of general interest and gives links to other webspaces on child labour.

For more information contact: Leonardo Briceño Ayala, Coordinador Posgrado, Medicina del Trabajo, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá Colombia, Tel: +57 1 3474570 Ext 211, Email: [lbriceno@urosario.edu.co](mailto:lbriceno@urosario.edu.co)

### **Children's Rights Education as a Pathway to Citizenship**

"Empowering Children: Children's Rights Education as a Pathway to Citizenship", by Brian Howe and Katherine Covell, draws on research from around the world to make the case that appropriately educating children about their rights, as described in the UNCRC, empowers children to become rights-respecting citizens in democratic societies. They argue that reforming schools, enhancing teacher education, and appreciating the citizenship status of children are essential to the creation of a rights-respecting culture in schools and in societies.

For more information, contact: Katherine Covell, PhD, Director: Children's Rights Centre, Cape Breton University, Professor: Psychology, Tel: +902 563 1413 Fax: 902 563 1902, Website <http://faculty.uccb.ns.ca/childrensrights>

### **Youth Voice Initiative**

UNICEF UK's Youth Voice initiative and the accompanying website <http://www.therightssite.org.uk> 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 please 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](mailto:rightssite@unicef.org.uk), Website: <http://www.therightssite.org.uk>

### **Participation of Youth in Europe**

The final declaration of a European conference in Hannover in April 2005 »Hanover Declaration on Youth Participation« has been published. The declaration names three main objectives:

- Strengthening Youth participation on a local level,
- Increase their participation in the system of representative democracy and to
- Promote the learning of participation

Further information can be obtained at:

<http://www.jugendpolitikineuropa.de/themen/partizipation/news-168.html>

### **Fight Against Poverty- voices of children join in**

The report "Achieving Our Dreams for 2015" is the result of a unique consultation with more than 4000 poor children and their carers, in 19 developing countries around the world. It was undertaken by the Grow Up Free From Poverty Coalition, made up of 21 NGOs, faith groups and civil society organisations. Coalition members asked children, their parents and grandparents about the reality of their situation, their hopes for the future and what they would like to say to people in positions of power. "Most poor people in developing countries are children and older people," says George Gelber, chairman of the Grow Up Coalition, "but they just aren't being considered and consulted by the western governments trying to help them. In 2015, the target date for our Millennium Development Goals, young people will be young adults. It's only by involving them now, while they have enthusiasm and idealism that they'll be ready and able to contribute to the development of their societies in adulthood."

For more information, contact: Grow Up Free From Poverty, c/o Angela Penrose, Penquite House, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 5AQ, Tel: + 44 1579 347503; Fax: + 44 1579 340154, Email: [angela@penquite.com](mailto:angela@penquite.com), Website: <http://www.grow-up-free-from-poverty.org>

### **News from the Members:**

UCM is planning a research project on

*"Social protection from a generational perspective: the position of children and their contribution to the continuity of the system."*

The project has been presented to the ministry of work and social affairs for funding. In case of it being granted funds, UCM wants to offer those ENMCR members who are interested the possibility to cooperate in the international comparison component of the project.

For more detailed information please contact: Lourdes Gaitán: [mlourdes.gaitan@wanadoo.es](mailto:mlourdes.gaitan@wanadoo.es)

### **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:

**September 19-23, 2005:** Child Welfare Leaders WorldForum 2005 in Tallinn, Estonia.

Deadline for submission of abstracts closed. URL: <http://www.lastekaitseliit.ee>

**September 28, 2005, 17h Brussels time:** Deadline application Marie Curie Research Training Networks

**February 12-16<sup>th</sup>, 2006** Third International Conference on the Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children

Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh <http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/slru/ic2006/main.html>,  
<http://www.ic2006.info>

**May 18-19<sup>th</sup>, 2006.** "International Interdisciplinary Conference on Children's Rights University of Ghent, Belgium

Deadline call for papers: **September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005:** URL:

[http://www.law.ugent.be/pub/iuap/c\\_call.html](http://www.law.ugent.be/pub/iuap/c_call.html)

## Impressum:

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