Dear ENMCR network members and network interested,

As the year is drawing to an end, we wish you a wonderful Season Holidays and a prosperous New Year 2012. If you have any suggestions, comments and / or ideas for improving the newsletter you can use our email address: info@enmcr.net

Sincerely,
Rita Nunes (Editor)

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General News Internal

General Assembly ENMCR 2012

The next General Assembly will be held in Barcelona, Spain on January 12-13, 2012. The European Network of Masters in Children’s Rights brings together universities, institutions and academics dealing with Children’s Rights. Its main objective is to organize and implement Master courses and conduct research in Children’s Rights.

At the General Assembly children's rights courses at the member institutions will be evaluated, the future organization of the network will be discussed, and a workshop on research of children's subjective wellbeing will be held.

Fellowships and other opportunities at University of Edinburgh (EMCR member)

The University of Edinburgh (EMCR member) intends to appoint up to 100 Chancellor’s Fellowships across the University’s 22 Schools as an investment in the future of teaching and research. These prestigious awards are aimed at early career individuals of the highest potential who have begun to establish a reputation for the highest quality research at the forefront of their discipline and who have a commitment to learning and teaching at university level. The Fellowship may be held in any discipline or interdisciplinary area that fits within the strategic aims of the University and the hosting School. It is essential that the successful candidate's research furthers the high international reputation of the School and the University and that she or he has a strong commitment to postgraduate and undergraduate training.

The Fellowship is held for 5 years, subject to satisfactory review at the end of year 3, and the Fellow will then move to a standard University academic open-ended contract. Candidates already holding an externally-funded Fellowship are welcome to transfer this to Edinburgh if the sponsor permits.

International candidates are welcome and will be supported through the process of visa application if required. Applicants wishing to work in interdisciplinary fields are particularly welcome and in such cases the hosting School will be identified by discussion with the School(s) and the candidate. There are opportunities for Childhood Studies within the Fellowships. The opportunity is excellent for those with an interest in children's rights/ international development, which would fit in several of the priority areas in the School of Social & Political Science (Justice and human rights; international development; social policy).

http://www.jobs.ed.ac.uk/vacancies/index.cfm?Fuseaction=vacancies.furtherdetails&vacancy_ref=301515=

This is a new initiative, with the first closing date January 16 January, 2012. For further information about the fellowships opportunities:


Launch of new Diploma in Public Policy and Child Rights in Egypt and Jordan

After a year and a half of joint curriculum development with the support of European universities and UNICEF, the Diploma in Public Policy and Child Rights has been launched this fall semester at Cairo and Asyut University in Egypt and at the University of Jordan and Hashemite University in Jordan.

In total, around 100 students have been enrolled in this unique program offered for the first time in the MENA (Middle East and North African) region.

This Diploma has been established in response to the need for relevant and appropriate child-friendly legislation, policies, budgets and programs that are based on scientific evidence.

It aims to build a cadre of practitioners working with and for children that effectively use their skills and knowledge to influence adequately funded child rights oriented policies and practices. The Diploma is a one year full time study program consisting of eight courses. Human/children’s rights and their core principles determine the overarching approach for the design of this Diploma.

For more information, please visit our blog: http://dppcr.wordpress.com or contact Noemi Pivat (noemi.fivat@fu-berlin.de).

Children rights, wellbeing and protection

The Conference Children rights, wellbeing and protection is organised by BBU Cluj, BECAN, RASSW and ENMCR and will be held in Romania on April 27-29, 2012 at Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca. The conference will cover a large area of subjects in the area of children’s rights, their protection in case of abuse, neglect, trafficking, and exploitation, looked after children, their quality of life and other topics researched by participants. Researchers, social workers, psychologists and other professionals are invited to present papers and propose workshops. Abstracts (maximum 300 words) should be sent to Mihai-Bogdan Iovu (iovu_m@bogdan@yahoo.com) by 15 January 2012.
General News External

Ethiopia National Plan to prevent new HIV infections amongst children

On December 4th, 2011 the National Accelerated Plan for Scaling up Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) in Ethiopia was launched.

Ethiopia is one of 22 sub-Saharan African countries that succeeded in reducing their national rate of new HIV infections by 25% between 2001 and 2009.

According to government estimates, approximately 1.2 million people were living with HIV in Ethiopia in 2010, including about 90,000 pregnant women.

Despite progress in the national HIV response, only 9.3% of pregnant women who are eligible for HIV services are currently receiving them. The overall aim of the plan is to ensure that all pregnant women living with HIV have access to HIV prevention and treatment services, and that new HIV infections among children are eliminated by 2015.


Terre des hommes campaign on environmental children’s rights

"terre des hommes Germany has recently launched a campaign with a view to promoting environmental children’s rights.

Children around the world face the dire consequences of persistent and wide-spread forms of environmental destruction- many of which also threaten their future (climate change, loss of diversity).

Despite the relevance and urgency of the matter, neither human rights nor environmental politics have developed adequate means to safeguard the rights of children against environmental harm. terre des hommes' campaign aims at raising awareness of the links between environmental and child rights protection and advocates for stronger legal and institutional safeguards.

One of terre des hommes major proposals in this context is the creation of ombudpersons for future generations, a demand which is now shared by many other civil society organisations and states.

So far, terre des hommes has published three comprehensive brochures on child rights threats arising from the use of dangerous and toxic pesticides, extractive industries, and climate change.

Early next year, terre des hommes will also issue a conceptual paper that traces the normative roots of environmental child rights protection, explores the links between child rights and the rights of future generations, and offers ways to strengthen environmental child rights at different levels.

In June 2012, a terre des hommes delegation- including youth representatives from Asia, Latin America, Africa and Europe- will travel to Rio de Janeiro to participate in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development and lobby for a stronger role of children and children’s rights in environmental and sustainability politics."

http://www.tdh.de/was-wir-tun/arbeitsfelder/kampagne-oekologische-kinderrechte.html

Working children present bill of rights to improve their working conditions

In Bolivia, children and adolescents have drafted a bill that aims at guaranteeing working children rights and protecting them from discrimination and exploitation.

While the International Labour Organization (ILO) has been trying to prohibit child labour worldwide for decades, the authors of the bill demand recognition of their work and an improvement of their working conditions.

Aside from the legal and social recognition of working children, the drafted bill contains the provision that the right to education should be realized for all working children.

It also disapproves a minimum age of working.

Instead, the bill aims for a legal approach to treating working children and adolescents equally as working adults and grants them the same protection.

Public authorities are requested to prevent and protect children from especially hard tasks and prostitution.

http://www.pronats.de/assets/Uploads/europaNAISpressrelease.pdf

New action plan to end child soldiers in Somalia

The United Nations envoy for children and armed conflict secured a commitment from top officials in Somalia’s transitional government to start a process to end the recruitment and use of children in the country’s armed forces.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Radhika Coomaraswamy urged all UN partners to work closely with the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), African Union peacekeeping mission in Somalia (AMISOM), and donors to step up efforts to prevent the recruitment of children, and to release and reintegrate of those formerly associated with armed forces and groups.

The UN supports programmes for the reintegration of children associated with armed forces and groups. Such programmes promote rehabilitation of children through counselling, back-to-school initiatives and skills-based training, including family reunification.


Children’s Rights Newsletter December 2011
Funding / Prizes / Research Opportunities

Call for papers: 2nd Global Conference The Child: A Persons Project
Saturday 7th July 2012 – Monday 9th July 2012. Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom

This inter and multi-disciplinary conference project seeks to investigate and explore all aspects of childhood. The period of life prior to adulthood is one of dramatic change and development of physical, intellectual, psychological, and many other types of characteristics.

The nature of childhood and its significance as a separate phase of life, however, is viewed quite differently in different cultures and in different historical eras.

This conference will look at all aspects of the experience of childhood as well as the social and cultural perceptions of children and childhood.

We encourage submissions on any theme to do with the nature of childhood, including, but not limited to the ones listed below.

1. Definitions of Childhood
2. Childhood and Development
3. Children and Relationships
4. Perceptions and Depictions of Childhood
5. Other Issues of Childhood

The Steering Group welcomes the submission of pre-formed panel proposals.

300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 13th January 2012.

If an abstract is accepted for the conference, a full draft paper should be submitted by Friday 11th May 2012.

Abstracts should be submitted simultaneously to both Organising Chairs; abstracts may be in Word, WordPerfect, or RTF formats with the following information and in this order:
a) author(s), b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract, e) body of abstract, f) up to 10 key words

E-mails should have as the subject line: CHILD2 Abstract Submission. Please use plain text (Times Roman 12) and abstain from using footnotes and any special formatting, characters or emphasis (such as bold, italics or underline).

Note that a Book of Abstracts is planned for the end of the year.
All accepted abstracts will be included in this publication.

We acknowledge receipt and answer to all paper proposals submitted.

If you do not receive a reply from us in a week you should assume we did not receive your proposal; We suggest, then, to look for an alternative electronic route or resend.

Joint Organising Chairs:
Wendy Turgeon
Project Leader
St. Joseph’s College, New York, USA
Email: turgeon@optonline.net

Rob Fisher
Network Founder and Leader
Inter-Disciplinary.Net
Freeland, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom
Email: child2@inter-disciplinary.net

The conference is part of the Probing the Boundaries programme of research projects.

It aims to bring together people from different areas and interests to share ideas and explore various discussions which are innovative and exciting.

All papers accepted for and presented at this conference will be eligible for publication in an ISBN eBook.

Selected papers maybe invited for development for publication in a themed hard copy volume(s).

For further details of the conference, please visit:
http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/probing-the-boundaries/persons/childhood/call-for-papers/

Call for papers: Celebrating Childhood Diversity

To celebrate the 10th year of the establishment of the Centre for the Study of Childhood and Youth at Sheffield University (CSCY), the 4th International Conference: Celebrating Childhood Diversity addresses the theme of diversity in the lives of children and young people.

Those wishing to organise small symposia around a specific theme are invited to submit a proposal.

Issues to be explored include:

- Children’s and young people’s diverse and cultural worlds
- Understanding identity and difference
- Structures and institutions as indices of childhood diversity
- Time, space and place
- Methodological innovations in childhood research
- Theorising similarity and difference

Abstracts of no more than 200 (for papers) or 400 (for symposia) words should be sent to the conference administrator, Dawn Lessels, by 31st January 2012. Email: d.j.lessels@sheffield.ac.uk.
Call for submissions on child’s right to health

The CRC Committee welcomes inputs on the child’s right to health, in English, French or Spanish, particularly from interested organizations and individuals who have extensive experience or information on the right to health of children under eighteen.

The submissions are invited to address the following questions:

1. What should be the basic premises for the realization of children’s right to health?

2. How can the principles of the CRC, in particular articles 2, 3, 6 and 12, be applied to designing, implementing and monitoring interventions to address child and adolescent health challenges and what aspects are specific to a child’s rights approach to health?

3. What is the normative content of article 24? What are the specific obligations of States under article 24? What are the responsibilities of non-state actors under article 24?

4. What are the priority concerns in general and in particular regions of the world for the implementation of article 24?

5. Which concrete measures should be put in place to implement article 24?

The submissions shall not address the content of Article 24.3, which will be covered by a separate joint General Comment/Recommendation currently being produced by the CRC Committee in collaboration with the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

The submissions should be limited to 5 pages and sent to the following email address in Word format no later than 6 January 2012: crc@ohchr.org. All submissions should be accompanied by a brief presentation (1 paragraph is sufficient) on the experience of the submitting individual or organization on the subject matter.

The submissions received will subsequently be posted on a webpage dedicated to the General Comment. Please note that the United Nations does not offer remuneration of any kind for inputs into General Comments.

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/callsubmissionsCRC_CEDAW.htm

Call for abstracts: Sociology of Childhood – Theorising Childhood

The Research Network, Sociology of Children and Childhood hereby announces the mid-term symposium which will take place in Jyväskylä (Finland) on June 18-20, 2012. The organisation of the symposium will be undertaken at the University of Jyväskylä.

The focus of the symposium will be on theorising childhood.

There are a growing number of empirical sociological and interdisciplinary studies of children in a wide variety of contexts where children live their lives.

This has moved from school-based studies to those of children’s everyday lives in their homes, playgrounds, online.

The overarching approach of the social studies of childhood has been to conceive the actions of children in terms of children’s own competences and this has led to a number of ground breaking insights into the worlds of children and their viewpoints and perspectives on matters that were traditionally deemed ‘beyond children’s understanding’.

However, with a few very notable exceptions, theorising these aspects has not followed to the extent of other sociological fields.

Although the focus of the symposium is around theorising childhood, the papers for the sessions do not have to deal with the overall theme. It is open to all core areas of the sociology of childhood.

We invite experienced and young researchers from various disciplines sensitive to the sociology of childhood to participate.

Although a particular focus to presentations and discussions will centre on theorising, participants are welcome to discuss also their implications for interdisciplinary work on childhood.

Presentations can be related to the following areas:

1. “Sociological classics” (Marx, Durkheim, Weber) - do they still matter?

2. Other classical theories of childhood and generation, such as Mannheim

3. New directions in sociological theory, such as network theories, normalisation processes, or the approaches of thinkers, such as Bourdieu, Foucault, Luhmann, Bauman, amongst others

4. The concept of spatiality in theorising childhood

5. How are rights, inequalities and injustices in childhood theorised?

6. How are theorisations around gender and ethnicity applied to children?

7. What is the role of theory in interdisciplinary work?

8. What are the questions of cultural identity and citizenship for children?

Please note there will be a conference fee to cover services (lunch, drinks, etc.).

The number of delegates will also be restricted to 30 to enable discussion.

The papers will be selected according to relevance to the theme of the symposium.

Instructions

The abstracts must be written in English, maximum of 400 words, and must include 3-5 keywords.

Please submit your abstract and complete contact details no later than February 28, 2012 to Tom Cockburn (t.d.cockburn@bradford.ac.uk).

Notification of abstracts will be March 31, 2012.
Available in digital format:

Children’s social and emotional wellbeing in schools

The new book co-authored by Debbie Watson, Carl Emery, Phillip Bayliss with Margaret Boushel and Karen McInnes challenges the uncritical acceptance of the concept of wellbeing as it is applied to children, particularly in a school-based context. Taking a post-structural approach, it suggests that wellbeing should be understood, and experiences revealed, at the level of the subjective child, rather than children’s wellbeing being reduced to an objective list of things that are needed to live well. The book explores social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB) for children and explores three key propositions: that SEWB is subjectively experienced, situated and contextual and located in children’s relationships with others. The authors deconstruct the concept of wellbeing in order to see it differently and the chapters explore key themes including: revisiting the status of the child, challenging Cartesian dualist ideas of wellbeing, accessing minority voices on wellbeing, not pathologising difference and Othering and new understandings of professionals and professionalism. The book concludes with how SEWB with, and for, children could be differently approached in respect of policy and practice and the implications for theorising child wellbeing. It will be useful for academics and practitioners working directly with children, and anyone interested in children’s wellbeing. Available at: www.policypress.co.uk

Special Issue: Impacts of Economic Crises on Child Well-Being

This issue explores how the impacts of economic crises are transmitted to children’s experiences of poverty and well-being, and how these impacts can be mediated by the policy responses of international and national actors. In this publication the lessons which can be derived from responses to past crises and the extent to which these lessons are being applied are also considered.


World report on disability

Studies have shown that people with disabilities have generally poorer health, lower education achievements, fewer economic opportunities and higher rates of poverty than people without disabilities. This is largely due to the lack of services available to them and the many obstacles they face in their everyday lives. The report provides the best available evidence about what works to overcome barriers to health care, rehabilitation, education, employment, and support services, and to create the environments which will enable people with disabilities to flourish. The report ends with a concrete set of recommended actions for governments and their partners. Special attention is given to children with disabilities in chapter 2 (disability - a global picture), 3 (general health care), 4 (rehabilitation) and 7 (education).


At what age?

At what age?... are school-children employed, married and taken to court? – Trends over time is an updated report of a study published in 2002 entitled: At what age? This study shows the complexity and the challenges of dealing with education, children’s rights and minimum ages.

http://www.right-to-education.org/sites/2e.gn.apc.org/files/At%20What%20Age_.pdf
Upcoming Dates

JANUARY 2012
12/01 to 13/01: ENMCR General Assembly. University of Barcelona, Spain.
20/01: Youngsters and the Internet in Portugal. Biblioteca Lúcio Craveiro da Silva, Braga, Portugal
26/01: Westminster eForum Keynote Seminar: Next steps for protecting children online. Central London. UK

MARCH 2012
12/03 to 14/03: The Second International Conference in Africa on Child Sexual Abuse, Accra, Ghana
28/03 to 31/03: Global Summit on Childhood, Washington D.C., USA
31/03 to 6/04: The Child and the Book Conference Towards Common Ground: Philosophical Approaches to Children’s Literature, Cambridge

APRIL 2012
27/04 to 29/04: Children rights, wellbeing and protection. Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
27/04 to 29/04: International Conference on Global Issues of Early Childhood Education and Children’s Rights. Zirve University’s School of Education and School of Law, Gaziantep, Turkey

MAY 2012
16/05: Workshop: Exploring Childhood Studies in the Global South: Africa in Focus. ICOS, Sheffield, UK
17/05 to 19/05: AFTA Conference-Theme: Family Resilience. San Francisco, USA
26/05 to 27/05: C&K2012 Early Childhood Conference-Children’s Right to Childhood. Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. Australia

JUNE 2012
27/06 to 29/06: International Conference: A Child’s World - Working Together for a Better Future. Aberystwyth University, Penglais Campus, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK

JULY 2012
07/07 to 09/07: 2nd Global Conference: The Child: A Persons Project. Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom
09/07 to 11/07: 4th International Conference: Celebrating Childhood Diversity. University of Sheffield, UK

SEPTEMBER 2012
05/09 to 07/09: Children, Young People and Adults: Extending the Conversation, University of Central Lancashire, UK
13/09 to 14/09: Twenty-first Century Childhood and Youth: Interdisciplinary Debates and Challenges. Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge, UK.
26/09 to 29/06: Child in the City 2012. Zagreb, Croatia

Jánothanks for your wonderful drawings!
Upcoming Dates & ENMCR

OCTOBER 2012
15/10 to 19/10: 5th World Congress on Children's and Adolescents' Rights, San Juan, Argentine

NOVEMBER 2012
26/11 to 30/11: IUAES 2012 Inter-congress – Children and Youth in a Changing World, Bhubaneswar, India

DECEMBER 2012
12/12 to 14/12: Child and Teen Consumption 2012: “Food Consumption, Communication, Life Styles and Fashion”, 5th International Conference on Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Child and Teen Consumption. IULM University, Milan, Italy.

How to join ENMCR

It is possible to join ENMCR as a member at any time. The European Network of Masters in Children’s Rights was established with the support of Save the Children Sweden (SCS). SCS has also been actively supporting and fostering the Latin American Network of Masters in Children’s Rights, which currently comprises nine universities in eight Latin American countries.

Why is it worthwhile joining our network?

We have been cooperating as a network for more than six years and have longstanding experience of loosely cooperating - you will work with children’s rights experts from all over Europe (and Latin America). You will get an insight into children’s rights from a variety of perspectives and will be able to build on longstanding experience of the members. We offer a joint European Master in Children’s Rights at leading universities in Europe - you will have access to knowledge on how to build up and offer a joint European Master study programme and will have access to training. We organize conferences and workshops on children’s rights themes in Europe and in the world; you will have the chance to meet other children’s rights experts, activists, share ideas and thoughts and gain new perspectives. You will receive copies of all materials published in the frame of ENMCR, such as the monthly electronic newsletter Children’s Rights news (CRnews), reports from projects, materials from conferences and workshops, etc.

To become a member of ENMCR, simply send us a letter of intent, in which you should name what you believe you or your institution can contribute to and gain from our network. In addition, please include an outline of your child rights related programme and/or courses. It is important that you name a contact person at your institution for correspondence purposes.

Please send the letter to:

European Network of Masters in Children’s Rights (ENMCR)
c/o European Master in Childhood Studies and Children’s Rights
Freie Universität Berlin
Habelschwerdt Allee 45
D-14195 Berlin, Germany

Save the Children,
Thank you for making this newsletter possible!