

3- 5 September 2008

Conference Programme

Aims of the Conference

- * to facilitate the exchange of information and best practice between Ombudspersons for children in Europe and to provide a vehicle for the network to engage in international level work.
- * to identify tools, strategies and mechanisms to assist individual members of the network to pursue implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at national level, and to enable the Network to pursue such implementation at international level through its international-level work.

Format

The Conference Programme involves 5 main Sessions examining:

- * International level activities aimed at enhancing the implementation of the CRC;
- * European level activities aimed at enhancing the implementation of the CRC;
- * Implementation of the CRC at national level;
- * Using international mechanisms to pursue implementation of the CRC; and
- * A discussion between children and young people and representatives of international organisations.

Arrival of participants

Tuesday 2 September 2008

19.00 – 21.00 Reception at the Ombudsman for Children's Office

Conference Day 1

Wednesday 3 September

8.00 – 9.00 Registration of Participants

9.00 – 10.00 **Opening Session**

Chair: Xavier Bonal Sarró, Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights of Catalonia and Chair of ENOC

Welcome from Emily Logan, Ombudsman for Children, Ireland
Brief updates on activities from ENOC members

10.00 – 10.25 Address by Her Excellency Mary McAleese, President of Ireland

10.25 – 10.45 Coffee break

10.45 – 11.15 Continuation of updates

11.15 – 12.00 Annual review of ENOC activities: Xavier Bonal Sarró

12.00 – 12.30 Key note speech: Yanghee Lee, Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

12.30 – 13.00 Discussion

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.00 **Session 1** **International level activities aimed at enhancing the implementation of the CRC**

Chair: George Moschos, Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights, Greece

UNICEF activities - general measure of implementation of the CRC and preliminary findings of the research on Ombuds for Children
Vanessa Sedletzki, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre

UN Committee on the Rights of the Child activities

Using the CRC as a legal instrument and the current campaign for a complaints/communications system under the CRC
Peter Newell, Adviser to ENOC

15.00 – 15.30 Discussion

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee

- 16.00 – 17.00 **Session 2** **European level activities aimed at enhancing the implementation of the CRC**
- Chair: George Moschos, Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights, Greece*
- Council of Europe activities
Elda Moreno, Programme Manager, "Building a Europe for and with Children"
- Council of Europe Peer to Peer Project and activities of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Julien Attuil, Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
- European Union activities
Anna Zito, European Commission
- ENOC working group on access to international justice for children
Maria Battle, Office of the Children's Commissioner for Wales and Chair of ENOC Working Group
- 17.00 – 17.30 Discussion
- 17.30 Close of first day
- 19.00 Reception and dinner at the State Apartments, Dublin Castle.

Conference Day 2

Thursday 4 September

9.00 – 10.00

**Session 3 Implementation of the CRC at national level
Examples of best practice**

Chair: Emily Logan

Presentation from Office of the French Ombudsperson for Children
The Big National Consultation “Giving Young People a Say”

Presentation from the Ombudsman for Children in Finland
Project by the Finnish, Swedish and Norwegian Ombudsmen to promote the rights of
Sami Children – the participation of children

10.00 – 10.30

Discussion

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee

11.00 – 12.30

Parallel Workshops 1
Focussing on best practice relating to the core principles of the CRC

Workshop A	Best interests of the child
Workshop B	Non-discrimination
Workshop C	Right to participate

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch

13.30 – 15.00

Parallel Workshops 2
Focussing on best practice relating to the core principles of the CRC

Workshop A	Right to life, survival and development
Workshop B	Best interests of the child
Workshop C	Right to participate

15.00 – 15.30

Coffee

15.30 – 17.00

Chair: Kathleen Marshall, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Scotland

Feedback from Workshop Rapporteurs

17.00

Close of Day

19.00

Evening free

Conference Day 3

Friday 5 September

9.00 – 10.00

Session 4 Using international mechanisms to pursue implementation of the CRC

Chair: Emily Logan

How to get the most out of Council of Europe mechanisms
Elda Moreno Programme Manager, “Building a Europe for and with Children”

Recent National experience of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Reporting Procedure
Kathleen Marshall, Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People

10.00 – 11.00

Session 5 Discussion between children and young people and representatives from International Organisations/Ombudsman Office

Council of Europe	Elda Moreno
UNICEF	Vanessa Sedletzki
Ombudsman	George Moschos
Current and former members of the Ombudsman for Children’s Office Youth Advisory Panel (YAP)	
Louise-Marie Byrne, Mícheál Callaghan, Graham Dillon, Ben English, Shauna Watson	

11.00 – 11.30

Coffee

11.30 – 12.00

Closing Session

Presentation of initial results from the internal ENOC survey on Legal Action and the CRC, Peter Newell, Advisor to ENOC

12.00 – 13.00

ENOC business meeting

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 18.00

ENOC business resumes with break for coffee mid-afternoon

19.00

Hooley night – Purty Kitchen Pub, Temple Bar

Saturday 6 September

Optional social programme – half day trip to Co. Wicklow