

20 – 21 September 2016  
**ENOC 20th Annual Conference**

„EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR ALL CHILDREN IN EDUCATION“



22 September 2016  
**ENOC 20th General Assembly**

Location: Kempinski Hotel Cathedral Square,  
Universiteto str. 14, Vilnius

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## *Word of welcome*

*Dear colleagues, dear friends,*

I would like to thank every one of you for attending ENOC 20th Anniversary Conference. It is a great pleasure and honour to host this event.

Every year we have an opportunity to discuss problems of mutual interest and this year's central theme – Equal opportunities for all children in education.

Education is the key. It opens doors for children of all backgrounds and expands their minds with knowledge which are essential for the development of prosperous societies.

Ensuring free and equal access to education for all children, involving children in the education process, improving laws and public policies on education - it is a continuous process from setting right goals to making them reality.

I wish all of us a successful and inspiring conference and fruitful discussion.

Have a pleasant stay in Vilnius!



***Edita Žiobienė***

*ENOC Chairperson ad interim, Lithuanian Ombudsperson for Children's Rights*

## About ENOC

The European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) is a not-for-profit association of independent children's rights institutions (ICRIs).

ENOC mandate is to facilitate the promotion and protection of the rights of children, as formulated in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child:

ENOC aims are:

- to encourage the fullest possible implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the child,
- to support collective lobbying for children's rights,
- to share information, approaches and strategies,
- to promote the development of effective independent offices for children.

ENOC was established in 1997 and as of 2008 has an independent Secretariat in Strasbourg, with office accommodation provided by the Council of Europe. Since 2008, ENOC is financially supported by the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship programme of the European Commission.

ENOC adopted Standards for Independent Children's Rights Institutions at its annual meeting in Paris.

At a special members' meeting held in Dublin in 2006, it adopted statutes (see Annex) with strict criteria for membership. Since then the Statutes have been revised twice, in 2011 in Warsaw, and in 2012 in Nicosia.

ENOC wants to establish links and share information and strategies with independent children's rights institutions – children's ombudspersons, commissioners for children, or focal points on children's rights in national human rights institutions or general ombudsman offices.

ENOC holds an annual meeting each year.

By 2016 ENOC had grown to include 41 institutions in 34 countries within the Council of Europe, 23 of which EU countries. Membership is limited to institutions in the 47 member states of the Council of Europe.

## ENOC Bureau composition (2015-2016):

- The current Chairperson (ad interim): Ms. Edita Žiobienė (Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania)
- The Chairperson-elect: Ms. Edita Žiobienė (Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania)
- The Past Chair: Mr. Tam Baillie (Commissioner for Children and Young People, Scotland)
- Past Chair ad interim: Mr. Bernard De Vos (Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, French community-Belgium)
- The Secretary: Ms. Maria J. Larios (Deputy Ombudsperson for children's rights, Catalonia)
- The Treasurer: Mr. George Moschos (Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights, Greece)

The ENOC Secretariat can be contacted at:

Council of Europe, "Agora" Building

Office n B5 07V

67075 Strasbourg Cedex

Tel : +33 3 90 21 54 88

Email: [secretariat@ombudsnet.org](mailto:secretariat@ombudsnet.org)

For further information on ENOC: [www.enoc.eu](http://www.enoc.eu)

# *Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania*

The Ombudsperson for Children's Rights is an independent human rights institution established under the Law on the Ombudsman for Children, 2000.

The Law establishes the legal basis and powers of the Ombudsperson as well as the status and organizational structure of the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights.

The purpose of activities of the Ombudsperson is:

- to improve legal protection of children,
- to defend the rights and legitimate interests of children,
- to ensure implementation of the rights and legitimate interests of children provided for in international and national legal acts,
- to exercise supervision and control of the implementation and protection of the rights of children in Lithuania.

The activities of the Ombudsperson are based on the following principles:

- priority of the rights and legitimate interests of children;
- participation of a child and listening to a child;
- freedom, independence and autonomy of the activities;
- accountability;
- legitimacy, justice and impartiality;
- publicity.

The Ombudsperson for Children's Rights is appointed by the Seimas (Parliament), upon recommendation of the Speaker of the Seimas.

Requirements for the Ombudsperson for Children:

- A citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania,
- Good repute,
- Acquired degree in law,
- Period of employment in legal or pedagogical work – at least 10 years.

The current Ombudsperson for Children's Rights is Ms. Edita Žiobienė (2010 – to date).

The Office of the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights  
(Vaiko teisių apsaugos kontrolieriaus įstaiga)

Plačioji street 10, LT-01308 Vilnius

Tel. +370 5 210 7176

Fax. +370 5 265 7960

Email: vaikams@lrs.lt

# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Day 1

Tuesday, 20 September 2016

<b>08:15 – 09:00</b>	<i>Registration, Tea/Coffee</i>
<b>Moderators:</b>	
<b>Edita ŽIOBIENĖ</b> , ENOC Chairperson ad interim, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania	
<b>George MOSCHOS</b> , ENOC Treasurer, Deputy Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Greece	
<b>09:00 – 09:25</b>	<b>Welcome addresses:</b>
	Dalia GRYBAUSKAITĖ, President of the Republic of Lithuania Edita ŽIOBIENĖ, ENOC Chairperson ad interim, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania
<b>09:25 – 09:45</b>	<b>20 years of ENOC</b>
	George MOSCHOS, ENOC Treasurer, Deputy Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Greece
<b>09:45 – 11:00</b>	<b>Equal opportunities for all children in education</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• European Network of Young Advisors (ENYA) video project David LALLEMAND, General Coordinator of ENYA video project; Communication advisor / Project manager, Office of the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Belgium (French community)</li><li>• Prof. Xavier BONAL, expert advisor to ENOC</li></ul>
	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
<b>11:30 – 13:15</b>	<b>Equal educational opportunities: making rights a reality</b>
	Justine SASS, Chief of the Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality, UNESCO
	<b>Ending school segregation and moving towards inclusion in education; the work of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights</b>
	Françoise KEMPF, Adviser to the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe
	<b>Education for evolution</b>
	Prof. Dr. hab. Stanislaw DYLAŁ, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland
	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>13:15 – 14:15</b>	<i>Lunch</i>



**Moderators:**

**Tam BAILLIE**, ENOC Past Chairperson, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Scotland  
**Bernard De VOS**, ENOC Past Chairperson ad-interim, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Belgium (French community)

**14:15 – 15:45 Advancing health-related human rights of children: global and regional opportunities and challenges**

Prof. Dr. Dainius PŪRAS, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, former member of United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child

**Minority children and education in the work of the Advisory Committee**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petra ROTER, President ad interim, Council of Europe Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

**Education rights of minorities and integration of diverse societies: experience of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**

Jennifer CROFT, Senior Adviser of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

**Discussion**

**15:45 – 16:15** *Tea/Coffee break*

**16:15 – 17:20 Presentation of ENOC Task force on Children on the Move report and follow up actions**

George MOSCHOS, ENOC Treasurer, Deputy Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Greece

Edita ŽIOBIENĖ, ENOC Chairperson ad interim, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania

Bernard De VOS, ENOC Past Chairperson ad interim, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Belgium (French community)

**Film screening on Children on the Move**

David LALLEMAND, General Coordinator of ENYA video project; Communication advisor / Project manager, Office of the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Belgium (French community)

**Discussion**

**17:20 – 17:30 Conclusions on day 1**

*Social evening programme*

**19:00** *Dinner*

## Day 2

### Wednesday, 21 September 2016

#### Moderators:

**Maria J. LARIOS**, ENOC Secretary, Deputy Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Catalonia

**Tam BAILLIE**, ENOC Past Chairperson, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Scotland

**09:00 – 10:15**

#### **Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights in Children's Rights Matters: overview**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Danutė JOČIENĖ, Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania, former Judge of the European Court of Human Rights

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#### **European Commission activities related to equal opportunities for all children in education**

Margaret TUIE, European Commission Coordinator for the rights of the child

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#### **The Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child: Equal opportunities for all children**

Regína JENSDÓTTIR, Head of the Council of Europe Children's Rights Division

**10:15 – 10:45**

*Tea/Coffee break*

**10:45 – 11:20**

#### **FRA activities related to vulnerable children**

Dr. Astrid PODSIADLOWSKI, Head of Sector Rights of the Child, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

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#### **Discussion**

**11:30 – 12:30**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Breakout Session Presentations and discussions on Conference Theme**

*(3 parallel workshops)*

#### **Workshop (1): Achieving equality in minority children education**

Moderator: Jennifer CROFT, Senior Adviser of the High Commissioner on National Minorities OSCE

#### **Workshop (2): A school for everyone**

Moderator: Pauline MICELI, Commissioner for Children, Malta

#### **Workshop (3): Children's participation and role in school / education process**

Moderator: Tuomas KURTTILA, Ombudsman for Children, Finland

**12:30 – 13:15**

*Lunch*

**13:15 – 14:15**      **2<sup>nd</sup> Breakout Session:**  
**Presentations and discussions on thematic activities of the ENOC members**

*(3 parallel workshops)*

**Workshop (1): Children's participation**

Moderator: Sally HOLLAND, Children's Commissioner for Wales, UK

**Workshop (2): Children in care**

Moderator: Ivana MILAC KLARIC, Ombudsman for Children, Croatia

**Workshop (3): Children in health system**

Moderator: Andres ARU, Head of Children's and Youth Rights Department, Office of the Chancellor of Justice, Estonia

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**14:15 – 15:15**      **3<sup>rd</sup> Breakout Session:**  
**Presentations and discussions on thematic activities of the ENOC members**

*(3 parallel workshops)*

**Workshop (1): Children and digital communications**

Moderator: Per LARSEN, Chairman of Danish National Council for Children, Denmark

**Workshop (2): Child-friendly justice**

Moderator: Juris JANSONS, Ombudsman, Latvia

**Workshop (3): Children in / in post / from conflict society**

Moderator: Margret Maria SIGURDARDOTTIR, Ombudsman for Children, Iceland

**15:15 – 15:45**      *Tea/Coffee break*

**Moderators:**

**Maria J. LARIOS**, ENOC Secretary, Deputy Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Catalonia

**George MOSCHOS**, ENOC Treasurer, Deputy Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Greece

**15:45 – 17:00**      Reporting from the workshop sessions  
Closing of ENOC 20th Conference

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## Closed session (only for ENOC members)

**Moderators:**

**Edita ŽIOBIENĖ**, ENOC Chairperson ad interim, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania

**Tam BAILLIE**, ENOC Past Chairperson, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Scotland

**17:00 – 18:00**      1st roundtable discussion on the draft ENOC Equal Opportunities for all Children in Education

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROGRAMME

**09:00 – 09:30** | *Registration, Tea/Coffee*

Moderator:

**Tam BAILLIE**, ENOC Past Chairperson, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Scotland

**09:30 – 09:45** | **Election of the new ENOC Bureau**

**09:45 – 10:00** | **Presentation of ENOC annual activities**

**Edita ŽIOBIENĖ**, ENOC Chairperson, Ombudsperson for Children Rights, Lithuania

**10:00 – 10:15** | **Presentation and approval of ENOC accounts**

**George MOSCHOS**, ENOC Treasurer, Deputy Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Greece

**10:15 – 11:00** | **Discussion and adoption of ENOC statement "EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CHILDREN IN EDUCATION"**

**11:00 – 11:30** | *Tea/Coffee break*

Moderator:

**Edita ŽIOBIENĖ**, ENOC Chairperson, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania

**11:30 – 12:00** | **Discussion on ENOC's 2017 thematic programme, activities and future of ENOC**

**12:00 – 12:30** | **Open discussion - other issues raised by ENOC Bureau or by ENOC members**

**12:30 – 12:40** | **End of ENOC 20th General Assembly**

**12:40 – 14:00** | *Lunch*

# Breakout sessions

## Wednesday 21st September

### Registration

Conference participants may register for one workshop of their choice in each session on first day of the conference - 20th September.

There are three rounds of 1 hour breakout sessions with 3 parallel workshops (each lead by a moderator). The format of the workshops - presentations and questions and discussions after. Representatives of children's organisations will attend each workshop.

### 11.30 – 12.30

on 1st Breakout session the conference participants will have the opportunity to discuss a particular subject within the conference theme in more depth.

- Workshop (1): Achieving equality in minority children education
- Workshop (2): A school for everyone
- Workshop (3): Children's participation and role in school / education process

### 13.15 – 15.15

on 2nd and 3rd Breakout sessions the conference participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the activities of the ENOC members.

### 2nd Breakout session:

- Workshop (1): Children's participation
- Workshop (2): Children in care
- Workshop (3): Children in health system

### 3rd Breakout session:

- Workshop (1): Children and digital communications
- Workshop (2): Child-friendly justice
- Workshop (3): Children in / in post / from conflict society



## Speakers of the Conference



### **Dalia GRYBAUSKAITĖ**

*President of the Republic of Lithuania*

Dalia Grybauskaitė serves as the president of Lithuania since July 12, 2009. Social justice and solidarity is one of the key priorities of President Dalia Grybauskaitė. “A society of solidarity without marginalized and rejected people.

Social exclusion is a shameful public vice. The aim of the State is to provide social security for all.” In order to achieve these objectives, President

Dalia Grybauskaitė has launched a long-term national campaign “For a Safe Lithuania” that brings together the people of Lithuania to reduce violence and addictions, to prevent suicides and to encourage adoption. Using her right of legislative initiative, the President has already initiated and intends to further initiate changes in national legislation, which will help to take children out of care homes, promote foster parenting and adoption. The President places special focus on restructuring the childcare system in order to phase out Soviet-type care homes and give every child an opportunity to have a loving family.



### **Edita ŽIOBIENĖ**

*ENOC Chairperson ad interim,  
Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania*

Edita Žiobienė graduated in Sociology and Law and Doctor of Social Sciences (Law) and is Assoc. Prof. for constitutional law and human rights at Institute of Constitutional and Administrative Law in the Mykolas Romeris

University.

She is a member of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. She was Board member of European Network against Racism and Xenophobia, member of EU Net-

work of Legal Experts in Non-discrimination Field; EU Network of Independent Experts on Fundamental Rights; EU Agency for Fundamental Rights and the Central Electoral Commission; Chairperson of the Ethics Commission of Journalists and Publishers and member of Ethics Commission of Journalists and Publishers.



### **George MOSCHOS**

*ENOC Treasurer, Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights, Independent Authority "The Greek Ombudsman"*

He studied Law in Athens and Criminology (M.Phil) in London and was trained in the fields of adult education, youth work, self-awareness and drama for children. Since 1984 he has been working in Greece for the defence of children's rights, prevention of young persons' social exclusion, youth empowerment and children's expression through drama. In 2003 he was appointed as the first Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights in Greece and was re-appointed twice in this position. In 2006 he was elected Chairman of the European Network of Ombudsmen for Children. He meets continuously with children and professionals working with them, trying to promote understanding and respect of children's rights.



### **Xavier BONAL**

*Professor of Sociology at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) and Special Professor of Education and International Development at the University of Amsterdam (UvA).*

He is the director of the research group Globalisation, Education and Social Policies (GEPS) at the UAB and director of the GLOBED Project, an Erasmus Mundus Master on Education Policies for Global Development. He has been member of the EU Network of Experts in Social Sciences and Education (NESSE) and is member of the Editorial Board of several international journals of education policies and edu-

cational development. Professor Bonal has widely published in national and international journals and is the author of several books on sociology of education, education policy and globalisation, education and development. He has worked as a consultant for international organisations such as UNESCO, UNICEF, the European Commission, and the Council of Europe. Between 2006 and 2010, he was Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights at the Office of the Catalan Ombudsman.

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### **Bernard De VOS**

*ENOC Past Chair ad interim, General Delegate of the French Community for the Rights of the Child, Belgium*

Since March 2008, Bernard De Vos is the General Delegate (Ombudsman) for Children's Rights in the French Community of Belgium. He chaired of ENOC, the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children last year (September 2013- September 2014). Bernard De Vos has been

Director of a special service provided to young people in Brussels during more than 15 years. He has also created several innovative services in the field of youth protection and assistance and he is the author of several books and articles on childhood and youth issues.

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### **David LALLEMAND**

*Communication advisor/Project manager, Office of the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Belgium (French community)*

Before his work at the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, he was in charge of production, editing and hosting of «Quand les jeunes s'en mêlent», a radio program of La Première (RTBF public radio) which aimed to create a dialogue between young people

and adults. David taught radio training courses at the Institut supérieur de Formation sociale et de Communication for six years in Brussels. He also worked as Associate Press Officer at the Department of Public Information of the United Nations.





## **Justine SASS**

*Chief of the Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality, UNESCO*

Justine Sass, currently Chief of Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality at UNESCO, is an international development specialist with 20 years' experience working on gender, sexual and reproductive health, education and adolescent/youth issues. She has worked in more than 15 countries in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe, and has a strong commitment to social justice, rights-based programming and community engagement for sustainable results. She has Masters level (MPH and msc) training in public health and gender and development studies (University of Paris VI, and the London School of Economics) and BA from Princeton University.



## **Françoise KEMPF**

*Adviser to the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe*

Françoise Kempf has been working in the Council of Europe since 1994. Since 2012, she is an adviser to the Commissioner for Human Rights. Her portfolio includes, in particular, monitoring developments regarding children's rights, as well as national and religious minorities, Roma and statelessness-related issues.



## **Stanisław DYŁAK**

*Professor at Adam Mickiewicz University at Poznan*

Stanisław Dylak is Professor and Head of Department of Research on Teacher education and Teacher Professional Development at Faculty of Educational Studies of Adam Mickiewicz University at Poznan, Poland.

His interests include teacher's professional development, information technology in teacher education, media studies, multimedia and language

learning for children, theory and practice of primary science teaching and learning, curriculum development, online teaching.

Mr. Dylak is an author of numerous books, publications and articles mostly covering the ideas of teacher education, research on teacher professional development, educational technology, media studies (media and future education, violence in television), communication in education, primary science teaching and preparation of primary science teachers, etc.

Mr. Dylak is a member of Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT, USA), Polish Association of Educational Technology and Media and Ministry Consulting Group on Media and Information Technology.



## **Dainius PŪRAS**

*United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health*

Dainius Pūras is Professor and Head of the Centre of Child Psychiatry and Social Paediatrics at Vilnius University, Lithuania.

In 2014 Dainius Pūras was appointed by UN Human Right Council as a UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health.

Among positions he was holding, he was President of Lithuanian Psychiatric Association, Dean of Medical Faculty of Vilnius University, chair of the Board of Human Rights Monitoring Institute.

In 2007-2011 Dainius Pūras was member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Prof. Pūras has been and remains actively involved in national and interna-

tional activities in the field of developing and implementing evidence-based and human rights based health policies and services, with special focus on child health and mental health.

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### **Petra ROTER**

*President ad interim, Council of Europe Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities*

Petra Roter holds a Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge.

She has been a member of the Advisory Committee of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities since 2014, and is now its President ad interim.

She is an Associate Professor of International Relations at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences, and a senior research fellow at the Centre of International Relations at the same faculty.

She is Slovenia's national director for the European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation (Venice; EMA) and a co-ordinator of the master programme in International Relations (in English) at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences.

Her research interests include minority protection, minority rights, conflict management and post-conflict reconstruction.

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### **Jennifer CROFT**

*Senior Adviser of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe*

Jennifer Croft has worked as a Senior Adviser to the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities since 2010.

In this position, based in The Hague, she supports the work of the High Commissioner to provide early warning and early action to address potential interethnic tensions in OSCE participating States.

Previously she worked for the U.S. State Department in Washington, DC and for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Kyrgyzstan, focusing on human rights and democratization issues. She also served as a human rights officer for OSCE in Kazakhstan and as an outreach and communications specialist for USAID in Bulgaria.

She holds a bachelor's degree in anthropology from Columbia University and a master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University.



### **Danutė JOČIENĖ**

*Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania, former Judge of the European Court of Human Rights(2004-2013)*

Danutė Jočienė was born in 1970. In 1994, she graduated cum laude from the Faculty of Law of Vilnius University. In 1999, she defended her PhD thesis at Vilnius University "Application and Implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights in Foreign States and Lithuania" (Ph.D. Vilnius University, Faculty of Law). In 1994–2003,

she was an assistant, an associate professor, and a vice-dean of the Faculty of Law of Vilnius University.

In 2003–2004, she was a representative of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania at the European Court of Human Rights and the Human Rights Committee of the United Nations, and an Expert in the Committees of the CDDH and DH – PR, Council of Europe (Strasbourg, France).

In 2004 she was elected as a judge of the European Court of Human Rights in respect of the Republic of Lithuania. In 2011 elected the Vice-President of Section II of the European Court of Human Rights, Acting President for Rule 39 requests (Interim measures).

She is an author of several books as well as of numerous articles dealing with the issues of human rights, constitutional law issues, etc.

She is an associate professor at Mykolas Romeris University and holds a PhD in law.

In March 2014, Ms Danutė Jočienė was appointed a justice of the Constitutional Court.



## **Margaret TUIE**

*Coordinator on the Rights of the Child, European Commission*

Margaret Tuite has been the European Commission coordinator for rights of the child since 1 November 2011 in the unit responsible for fundamental rights and the rights of the child of DG Justice and Consumers, where the focus is on implementation of the EU Agenda for the rights of the child. Margaret and a small but dedicated team ensure proactive coordination within the Commission and also with external stakeholders.

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## **Regína JENSDÓTTIR**

*Head of the Council of Europe Children's Rights Division*

Regína Jensdóttir holds a law degree from the University of Iceland where she specialised in human rights and has obtained a post graduate degree (D.E.A.) from the University of Strasbourg in international public law. Since 2010, she has been the Council of Europe Co-ordinator for Children's Rights and is currently heading the Children's Rights Division. In these capacities she follows the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016-2021).



### **Astrid PODSIADLOWSKI**

*Head of Sector Rights of the Child, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights*

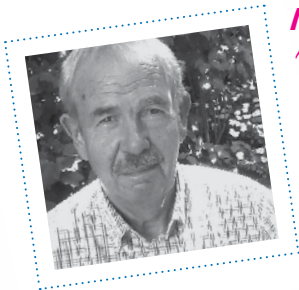
Dr. Astrid Podsiadlowski is Head of Sector on Rights of the Child in the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights.

Her areas of expertise include child-friendly justice, child poverty, discrimination and social inequalities (multiple discrimination, ageing, ethnicity and national origin, gender and LGBTI),

migration and integration and research methodologies (both

quantitative and qualitative, including fieldwork research with children).

She is a psychologist by education and has previously held academic research and teaching positions in Europe as well as New Zealand and the USA.



### **Michel KLEUTERS**

*Ambassador of the Hospital Organisation of Pedagogues in Europe (H.O.P.E)*

Since 2013 Mr. Michel Kleuters is an Ambassador of the Hospital Organisation of Pedagogues in Europe (H.O.P.E). Earlier Mr. Kleuters held position as a Coordinator/ Manager of the National Network for Consultants educational support sick children and adolescents (ZIEZON) in the

Netherlands, for four years (2004 – 2008) he has

been a Boardmember of H.O.P.E.. He was also a Head of Educational Service centre in the Academic Hospital St Radboud in Nijmegen, the Netherlands and Head of the Hospitalschool St. Radboud in de Academic Hospital and Children's wards in 9 peripheral hospitals. Mr. Kleuters also has longterm pedagogic experience (working as a teacher of Dutch language, music, also special education teacher for children with behaviour and learning problems).

## Evening programme

### **Tuesday 20th September 2016** **19.00 Conference dinner**

All conference attendees are invited to the Annual 20th Conference dinner and a concert.

The dinner will take place in a former theatre hall in an outstanding XIX century neo-gothic building which was rebuilt after the WW II.

At dinner you will also have an opportunity to see the performance of an exceptional Lithuanian *a cappella* vocal group. When performing, musicians like to improvise and add a different hue to the song every time. „There is no such song that we wouldn't be able to sing exclusively with our voices“ – they say.

**Address:**  
**Vaidilos' Theatre**  
**9, A. Jakšto street, Vilnius**  
(about 15 min walking distance from the conference venue)



### **Wednesday 21st September 2016** **Optional evening programme**

Guided walking tours in Vilnius Old town

In small groups up to 20 persons you will walk with an experienced guide through the Vilnius' old town. This is the best way to get a perfect introduction to the city and its many years of powerful history and visit well-known sites that every tourist has to see.

The guided tour through the old town will start from the Cathedral Square at 18.30

# ENOC Statutes

The European Network of Ombudspersons for Children

Statutes as approved May 2006 Dublin and amended in September 2011 in Warsaw & in October 2012 in Nicosia

## Article 1: Creation and name

1.1 The European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) is a not-for-profit association of independent children's rights institutions (ICRIs). Its mandate is to facilitate the promotion and protection of the rights of children, as formulated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

1.2 While encouraging understanding and mutual support, ENOC respects the free and open exchange of ideas in the framework of different national or regional policies. ENOC does not, in any way, assume the responsibilities of its members, but supports its members in executing their proper mandates within their respective country or region. ENOC has adopted Standards for independent children's rights institutions which its members agree to aspire to respect. (See annex 1)

1.3 The office of the Network is established in the headquarters of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.

## Article 2: Objectives of ENOC

ENOC has no profit-making intentions and its objectives are:

2.1 to promote and safeguard children's rights and to work on strategies for the fullest possible implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

2.2 to serve as a forum of colleagues for the exchange of information, capacity-building and professional support among the members;

2.3 to promote the establishment of independent children's rights institutions (ICRIs) in countries worldwide and offer support to such initiatives;

2.4 to stimulate contacts and support with and among other ICRIs worldwide and their networks.

## Article 3: Organisation of ENOC

3.1 ENOC has a General Assembly, a Bureau, and a Secretariat (see Articles 10, 11 and 12).

3.2 The General Assembly consists of all full members. While members are in fact the independent institutions for children, they are represented within ENOC by the person who holds the mandate or their delegated representative. Both the General Assembly and the Bureau have decision-making powers within ENOC. The General Assembly can delegate decision-making to the Bureau in conformity with article 11.3.7.

3.3 The Bureau consists of five persons, the past and current Chairperson and Chairperson-elect and the Secretary and Treasurer of the Network.

3.4 The Secretariat assists the Bureau in carrying out its responsibilities.

## Article 4: Membership

There are two categories of membership of ENOC – full and associate. Full membership of ENOC is open to inde-



pendent children's rights institutions within Council of Europe member-states which meet all of the following criteria:

- The institution is established through legislation approved by parliament, which provides for its independence.
- The institution has the function of protecting and promoting children's rights. This function is established through legislation.
- There are no provisions in the legislation which limit the institution's ability to set its own agenda in relation to this function, or which prevent it carrying out significant core functions suggested in the Paris Principles and ENOC's Standards (see annex 1).
- The institution must include or consist of an identifiable person or persons concerned exclusively with the protection and promotion of children's rights.
- Arrangements for appointment of ombudspersons, commissioners and members of a commission must be established by legislation, setting out the term of the mandate and arrangements for renewal, if any.

Institutions may be constituted separately or may form part of an independent national or regional human rights institution. In all cases they must meet the above criteria.

### **Article 5: Applications for membership**

5.1 Requests for membership are addressed to the Bureau of ENOC. Applications will only be considered for full membership. Where the Bureau decides that the criteria in article 4 are not met, the institution may be

considered for associate membership, if it demonstrates it is actively seeking to meet these criteria.

5.2 Applications should contain the law establishing the institution and other information relevant to the criteria set out in article 4. The Bureau reviews all applications, requests additional information if necessary and circulates a recommendation, made on the basis of the criteria in article 4, to all full members. Any full member may request that the recommendation be referred to the General Assembly for further discussion. If there are no such requests, the Bureau will inform the institution either that it is accepted as a full member or, where it is considered not to meet the criteria in article 4, may invite it to become an associate member. If an institution is informed that it does not meet the criteria for full membership, and/or is not invited to become an associate member of the Network, it may appeal in writing to the General Assembly.

5.3 The membership status of those accepted as associate members will be reviewed by the Bureau every three years.

### **Article 6: Rights and responsibilities of full members**

6.1 All full members have equal status within ENOC. All have the right to fully participate in the work and decision-making of the Network.

6.2 All full members have the right to submit a proposal or a request related to the work of ENOC to the General Assembly and/or the Bureau.

6.3 All full members have the right to present themselves as a candidate for the position of Chairperson, Secretary

or Treasurer of ENOC or to propose another full member as a candidate for these positions.

6.4 All full members of ENOC are expected to attend the annual meeting of the General Assembly.

6.5 All full members undertake to submit an update on their activities for the annual meeting of the General Assembly and to provide updated information as necessary for ENOC's website.

6.6 Full members are expected to promote ENOC and its aims in all appropriate activities. They may only represent ENOC with the prior agreement of the Bureau.

6.7 Full members are required to inform the Bureau immediately of any changes in the legislation establishing the institution or other developments that may affect their fulfillment of the criteria for full membership as set out in Article 4.

### **Article 7: Associate members**

7.1 Associate members may attend ENOC meetings and participate in ENOC activities and information-sharing. At the discretion of the Bureau, certain meetings, parts of meetings or other ENOC activities may be open only to full members.

7.2 Associate members are invited to submit an update on their activities for the annual general meeting of the General Assembly and to provide updated information as necessary for ENOC's website.

### **Article 8: Resignation and dismissal**

A full or associate member of ENOC can resign at any time by submitting a letter of resignation to the Bureau.

The General Assembly, after having given to the concerned institution the opportunity to be heard, may dismiss:

- a full member, if the institution no longer meets the criteria for full membership set out in article 4;
- a full or associate member, if the institution has brought or may bring ENOC into disrepute;
- a full or associate member if the institution has not attended three consecutive annual meetings;
- a full or associate member, if the institution has not paid fees for 2 consecutive years

### **Article 9: Resources**

To carry out its activities and finance its operations, ENOC is authorised to draw on the following resources:

- Contributions from members, to be determined by the General Assembly;
- Grants, donations or other contributions from governmental, inter-governmental or other philanthropic bodies, subject to approval by the Bureau after consultation with the General Assembly.

### **Article 10: General assembly**

10.1 The General Assembly consists of all full members and is the highest authority of ENOC.

10.2 The General Assembly holds an annual general meeting. During the annual general meeting, the General Assembly approves the accounts and budget of the association. The General Assembly can decide to establish temporary working groups on specific Network issues.

10.3 Upon request of two thirds or more of the full members, an additional extraordinary general meeting of the General Assembly may be called.

10.4 At its meetings, the General Assembly follows a decision-making process based on the principle of consensus. No decisions shall be made at a meeting of the General Assembly unless a quorum is present. The quorum is two thirds of the full members of ENOC. In instances when it is not possible to reach a consensus, a vote can be held, requiring a two thirds majority of those full members present and voting. As regards decisions concerning policy statements to be issued by ENOC, dissenting members may always register a reservation.

10.5 The ENOC Statutes can be amended by decision of an annual general meeting or extraordinary general meeting of the General Assembly, on the proposal of any full member.

10.6 If an extraordinary general meeting of the General Assembly decides to dissolve the network, any remaining assets of ENOC shall be transferred to a not-for-profit children's rights organisation to be determined by the meeting.

### **Article 11: Bureau of ENOC**

11.1 ENOC is managed by a five-person Bureau, consisting, as noted in article 3.3, of the current and past Chairperson, the Chairperson-elect, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Network. Whenever the current chair is unable to carry out his/her function, for whatever reason, the chairperson-elect will take over the function of chairperson.

11.2 The Chairperson-elect, Secretary and Treasurer of ENOC are elected by the General Assembly during its annual

general meeting. The Chairperson-elect is elected for a non-renewable one-year term and begins his/her functions at the beginning of the following annual general meeting of the General Assembly. The Secretary and Treasurer are elected for a one-year term and may be re-elected for a maximum of two further consecutive terms (three years in all). They take up their post immediately following election. Where a member of the Bureau is unable for whatever reason to carry out his/her functions, the Bureau may fill the post until the next annual meeting with a former member of the Bureau.

11.3 Under the leadership of the Chairperson, the Bureau is collectively responsible for:

11.3.1 co-ordinating the Network and keeping full and associate members informed of its work,

11.3.2 Ensuring relations with other relevant bodies and organisations in the field of children's rights on the international level,

11.3.3 Organizing the annual meeting of the General Assembly,

11.3.4 Reviewing and making recommendations to the General Assembly on applications for membership,

11.3.5 Developing strategies to further strengthen ENOC and increase its visibility,

11.3.6 Overseeing the administration of any funds or assets of the Network,

11.3.7 Carrying out any other mandate given by the General Assembly,

11.3.8 The representation of ENOC in cases before the court as either plaintiff or defendant.

## Article 12: Secretariat

12.1 The Secretariat is appointed by the Bureau based on criteria set by the General Assembly. The Secretariat is guided by the Bureau.

12.2 Its functions include the following:

12.2.1 facilitating the networking activities of ENOC's full and associate members,

12.2.2 assuring the availability of information about ENOC and ENOC member institutions, including the maintenance of the ENOC website,

12.2.3 daily management of the financial operations of ENOC, including the preparation of regular statements of accounts for the Bureau and annual accounts for the General Assembly, as well as arranging for independent auditing of accounts,

12.2.4 supporting the organisation of the annual general meeting and any extraordinary general meetings and preparing reports on them.

12.2.5 maintaining a register of decisions of the General Assembly and the Bureau.

## Article 13: Approval of Statutes

These Statutes were approved by an extraordinary founding general meeting of the General Assembly held for this purpose in Dublin, Ireland on May ... 2006. The Statutes have been subject to amendments by the General Assembly held in Warsaw, Poland on September 15, 2011 and in Nicosia on October 12, 2012.

## Article 14: Applicable law

These statutes were drafted according to the Alsatian law on associations –

Code Civil Local, art. 21-97 III – which will serve as the reference for any matters not explicitly mentioned in these statutes.

## ANNEX 1

### ENOC's Standards for independent children's rights institutions

These Standards are aspirational; not all ENOC member-institutions meet all of the Standards. But its members agree that parliaments and governments should be encouraged to review the status of existing institutions in the light of the Standards and to ensure that the design of new institutions conforms with the Standards and with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

ENOC believes that in order to be effective in monitoring, promoting and protecting the human rights of children, a human rights institution must conform with the Paris Principles, the CRC and the European Convention on Human Rights. The full text of the Principles is reproduced in Annex A below. The following is an unofficial summary of the key implications of the Principles, relating them, where appropriate, to children's human rights in particular:

### Competence and responsibilities

An independent institution set up to monitor, promote and protect the human rights of children must:

- be established by legislation;
- have as broad a mandate as possible in relation to the monitoring, promotion and protection of children's human rights, based on the CRC;
- have the right to provide and to publicise opinions, recommendations,

proposals and reports on its own initiative or at the request of other authorities on any matter concerned with the promotion and protection of children's human rights, including:

- o legislative or administrative provisions and provisions relating to judicial organisation, intended to preserve and extend the protection of human rights. The institution will consider legislation, etc., in force and proposed and when necessary recommend adoption of new legislation, etc., or amendment;
- o any violation of children's human rights which it decides to take up;
- o preparation of reports on human rights in general, or on more specific matters;
- o drawing the attention of the Government/Parliament to violations, making proposals for remedies and when necessary commenting on the position and reaction of Government/Parliament.
- promote and ensure harmonisation of national legislation with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and all other international human rights instruments relevant to children's rights to which the state is a party, and promote their effective implementation;
- encourage ratification of or accession to any such instruments;
- contribute independently to the monitoring and reporting process under the CRC and other relevant instruments;
- co-operate with the United Nations and with UN and other agencies,

regional institutions and national institutions of other states competent in the promotion and protection of children's rights;

- assist in formulating and executing programmes for the teaching of and research into human rights;
- publicise human rights and efforts to combat all forms of discrimination, in particular racial discrimination, by increasing public awareness, through information, education and making use of the media.

### **Composition, independence**

The institution must have adequate funding to enable it to have its own staff and premises in order to be independent of Government. It must not be subject to financial control which might affect its independence.

Arrangements for appointment of ombudspersons, commissioners and members of a commission must be established by an official act, setting out the duration of the mandate and any arrangements for renewal. The composition and methods of appointment of the institution must be appropriate to enable effective co-operation with, for example, appropriate NGOs and professional organisations, universities, Parliament and Government departments.

### **Methods of operation**

The institution must be able to:

- o freely consider any questions falling within its competence, whether submitted by Government or taken up on its own initiative;
- o hear any person and obtain any information and any documents necessary for assessing situations falling within

its competence;

- speak freely to the public, directly or through any media;
- meet regularly and whenever necessary in the presence of all its members duly convened;
- establish working groups and set up local or regional sections to assist it in discharging its functions;
- maintain relationships with other bodies responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights including with a broad range of non-governmental organisations.

### **Hearing and considering complaints**

Some institutions will be authorised to hear and consider complaints from individuals or groups. If this is the case, additional principles are proposed to base such functions on. Without prejudice to the other principles, the institution may:

- seek an amicable settlement through conciliation, or through binding decision within limits prescribed by law; or, where necessary, on the basis of confidentiality;
- inform the complainant of his rights and of available remedies and promote access to them;
- hear complaints or transmit them to any other competent authority within the limits prescribed by the law;
- make recommendations, in particular for changes in law, regulations and administrative practice which might have remedied the situation complained of.

Designing human rights institutions for children

In addition to conforming, as above, with the Paris Principles, ENOC believes that the design and development of the institution must take full account of the special status of children and the particular difficulties for children in exercising their rights.

The legislation establishing the institution must be linked explicitly to promoting implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child - thus covering children's economic, social and cultural rights as well as civil and political rights. Conformity with the Paris Principles requires the institution to consider all other relevant human rights instruments which the state has ratified or acceded to.

The legislation must include provisions setting out specific functions, powers and duties relating to children and their rights, linked to the Convention. "Children" should be defined as in Article 1 of the CRC. For example:

- duties to pay particular regard to the views of children, to take active steps to maintain direct contact with children, organisations of children and organisations established to promote children's rights; and to promote respect for the views of children throughout society;
- the institution must be readily accessible to children and able to respond to any individual communications from children.
- powers to have regard to the situation of children in the family, in schools and in all other institutions;
- powers to consider the promotion and protection of children's rights in relation not only to government but also to private bodies;

- o the right to have access to children in all forms of alternative care and all institutions which include children;
- o the right to report freely and separately on the state of children's human rights.

The institution must review whether children have access to advice and advocacy and complaints procedures and services, and make appropriate recommendations.

The institution must seek to ensure that children and adults are aware of the principles and provisions of the CRC.

The institution must include or consist of an identifiable person or persons concerned exclusively with the promotion of children's human rights - a Children's Ombudsman, Children's Rights Commissioner or Children's Rights Commission. This should be a person/people who can bring status and public and political respect to the office. They should have a high public profile and so enhance the status and visibility of children. The institution will need to ensure awareness of its existence and mandate amongst children, using appropriate channels including for example schools, other institutions which accommodate children, youth organisations and media used by children.

The institution needs to have appropriate, multi-disciplinary staffing dedicated to the promotion and protection of children's human rights and a ring-fenced minimum budget to enable it to work effectively.

A transparent procedure for appointments should be established, for example including advertising the appointment publicly and/or establishing an

appointments committee including, eg, children, children's NGOs, governmental representatives, etc.

### **Responding to complaints from children and their representatives**

If an institution includes in its mandate considering and responding to complaints from children it will need to take account of the particular difficulties for children in making complaints. Complaints procedures designed with adult complainants in mind are most unlikely to be used significantly by children. The institution will need to ensure, for example:

- o that its mandate and powers are well and appropriately publicised to children and their representatives throughout the jurisdiction in a form and language they can understand, with special attention to very young children, disabled children, children in difficult circumstances and in all institutions;
- o that children have free and easy access to the institution, for example through free telephone lines, e-mail access and local offices;
- o that it is able to give advice and refer children to appropriate bodies;
- o that there are clear confidentiality policies, explained to children and others before they use the institution's services.

Children themselves should be involved in the design and review of complaints procedures and advice and advocacy systems.

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