



ENOC/UNICEF

Capacity Building Seminar

(for Independent Children's Rights or similar Institutions in Europe and beyond)

16 May 2017

Sofia, Bulgaria

Seminar venue: Office of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria

[George Washington str. 22, 1202 SOFIA](#)

Final Programme

9h00 -9h15	<p>Welcome address by Ms. Edita ZIOBIENE, ENOC Chair, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania, Ms. Maya MANOLOVA, Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria, and Ms. Lesley MILLER, UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia</p> <p><u>Moderator: Ms. Vanessa Sedletzki (independent expert)</u></p>
9h15-10h15	<p>1. Role of ICRI's (Independent Children's Rights Institutions). Independence. Relations with different sectors and institutions.</p> <p><i>Ms. Vanessa Sedletzki, independent human and children's rights expert</i></p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> <i>How ICRI's operate in an independent manner and deal/interact with legislative, judiciary and executive powers?</i></p>
10h15-11h15	<p>2. Mandate: Monitoring, Advocacy, Investigative powers, Handling individual complaints.</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> <i>How do you organise field visits - and interviews with children/young people (different children settings such as care centres, care institutions, hospitals, schools and etc.), how to ensure complaints mechanisms are "friendly" and accessible to children?</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Niall Muldoon, Ombudsman for Children, Ireland</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Anna Karin Hildingson-Boqvist, Director of Program and Research, Ombudsman for Children's Office, Sweden</i></p>
11h15-11h45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11h45-13h00	<p>3. Promotion of children's voice and their direct contact with Ombudspersons for Children's Offices.</p>



	<p><i>Ms. Stamatia Papadimitriou, Senior Investigator, Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights, Greece</i></p> <p><i>Mr. George Moschos, Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights, Greece</i></p> <p><i>Discussion: How do you consult children and/or involve children in your daily activity or what kind of Projects do you implement with and for children?</i></p>
13h00-14h15	Lunch
14h15-15h15	<p>4. Collaborating with civil society, international partners and Treaty Bodies.</p> <p><i>Ms. Edita Ziobiene, Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, Lithuania</i></p> <p><i>Discussion: What is the added value and how do you collaborate with civil society, international partners and treaty bodies, including in the context of monitoring and advocating for children's rights?</i></p>
15h15-15h45	Coffee/tea break
15h45-16h45	<p>5. How to secure and improve visibility of ICRI's?</p> <p><i>Dr. Niall Muldoon, Ombudsman for Children, Ireland</i> <i>Mr. Marek Michalak, Ombudsman for Children, Poland</i></p> <p>General Discussion</p>
16h45-17h15	<p>Other questions and concluding remarks <i>[Identification of key questions to be addressed at the Round Table the day after]</i></p> <p>Field Visit to observe Bulgarian Ombudsman's Office monitoring of children's rights in institutions (timing to be confirmed, field visit may be shifted to Wednesday)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>End of DAY 2</i></p>



Wednesday 17 May (9.30 am-12.00)

A Round Table for exchange of experience between Ombudspersons

This will be an opportunity for Ombudspersons to exchange experience and lessons learned amongst each other and build networks.

9h00 -9h30	<p>Introduction to the roundtable: Review of key issues raised during the capacity-building seminar and brainstorming on key outstanding challenges</p> <p><u>Moderator: Ms. Vanessa Sedletzki</u></p>
9h30-10h30	<p>Group work session : 3 priority themes selected by participants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the specific challenges faced in this area? - What are good practices to overcome them? - What type of support would ICRIIs need to support them in addressing these challenges?
<i>10h30-10h45</i>	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10h45-11h30	<p>Plenary session</p> <p>Reporting from working groups & discussion</p> <p>Summary of key lessons learnt and action points</p>
11:30-12:00	<p>Plenary Discussion: Planned UNICEF booklet for NHRIs on child-friendly complaints and working with children (UNICEF Regional Office)</p>
12h00-12h30	<p>Concluding Remarks and Next Steps</p>
<i>12h30</i>	<i>Lunch</i>