

AUGUST
2022



European Network of Ombudspersons for Children

02 EDITION
2022

IN THIS ISSUE

ENOC News	P.1
EU and International Activities	P.2
ENOC members' activities	P.3
Publications	P.4

ENOC NEWS

ENOC STATEMENT ON THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN FLEEING THE WAR IN UKRAINE

In the context of the escalation of the military invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, ENOC issued a [Statement](#) which contains specific recommendations addressed to EU institutions and governments. The Statement is informed by the expertise and national experiences of the Independent Children's Rights Institutions members of the Network who identified particularly sensitive junctures for the protection of the rights of children fleeing the war in Ukraine. Among others, the recommendations address the following issues: Emergency Response for Unaccompanied/Separated Children, Guardianship, Reception & Living conditions and Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking.

ENOC OBSERVER STATUS - CHILD'S RIGHTS CONNECT

In June 2022, [Child Rights Connect](#) granted ENOC observer status. ENOC will closely follow Child Rights Connect's work and broaden its network, given the close collaboration between Child's Rights Connect and the UNCRC Committee.

ENOC SPRING SEMINAR

As part of its 2022 Annual work, ENOC organised the first round of discussion on the issue of "Climate Justice" in the format of a Spring Seminar that took place in Warsaw, Poland, on 8th - 10th of June 2022. The Seminar provided ENOC Members with the opportunity to share their knowledge, discuss and prepare the basis of ENOC 2022 Statement on Climate Justice. The Seminar also included an extraordinary session on the Ukraine crisis and reflections on the current challenges faced by Children's Rights Institutions in Europe. For more info on the Seminar, click [here](#).

ENYA 2022 FORUM "LET'S TALK YOUNG, LET'S TALK ABOUT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS & CLIMATE JUSTICE"

As part of the ENYA (European Network of Young Advisors) child participation project 2022, children and young people from across Europe have been working on Climate Justice to formulate action-oriented recommendations addressing national and supranational law, policy and decision-makers. The ENYA 2022 project involved young people from 17 countries/regions (Albania, Andalusia/Spain, Basque country/Spain, Belgium/Flanders, Catalonia/Spain, Croatia, Estonia, France, Greece, Italy, Jersey/UK, Malta, Northern Ireland/UK, Poland, Slovakia, Scotland/UK, and Wales/UK). Between February and June 2022, the Young People participating in ENYA conducted several activities related to the annual theme (i.e., meeting with experts and academics on children's participation in environmental decisions, consumption and carbon footprint, sustainable mobility). Continues at Page 2...

To provide young people with the opportunity to present the outcomes of their domestic activities, and discuss various issues related to Climate Justice, an ENYA Forum was held on 28th - 30th of June 2022 in Bilbao, Basque country, Spain. For more info on the the Forum, read [here](#). Young people representing ENYA will also take active part in the upcoming ENOC Annual Conference in September 2022 in Reykjavik where they will, among others, present and disseminate their recommendations on Climate Justice to a wider audience.

LAUNCHING EVENT - JOINT ENOC/UNICEF INITIATIVE

On the 1st of June, ENOC and UNICEF held the launching event of the outcome of the joint ENOC/UNICEF initiative on assessing the impact of COVID-19 State measures on children's rights. On the occasion of the event, which saw the active involvement of the UNCRC Committee, ENOC experts Véronique Lerch and Vanessa Sedletzki presented the final findings of the multi-country impact assessment which have been summarised in a [Synthesis report](#). The report identifies major concerns around decision-making and scrutiny in 13 countries, highlighting the way in which COVID-19 responses have affected children and young people's rights. Among others, the report found that children have been largely absent from the decision-making processes that have had such a profound impact on their lives. It concludes that the successful implementation of a CRIA as a tool to promote children's rights depends on the existing level of child rights awareness, as well as access to information and the quality of data concerning children and their rights.



EU & INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CHILDREN'S RIGHTS FIELD

ASSOCIATION DES OMBUDSMANS ET MEDIATEURS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE (Association of Ombudspersons and Mediators of the Francophonie)

In October 2019, the Association des Ombudsmans et Médiateurs de la Francophonie published a Framework for self-assessment by ombudsmen and mediators of their work on children's rights, available [here](#). This tool responds to a need identified in a State of Play report published in 2018 on children's rights and ombudsmen and mediators in the Francophonie. The report noted the lack of tools to guide ombudsmen and mediators in their work in the field of children's rights, both in terms of approach and content, and to measure their progress in this area. The framework contains 32 indicators covering different aspects of the structure and mandate of ombudspersons aiming to assess the extent to which institutions integrate the child rights dimension.

EU COMMISSION - 14th EU Forum on the Rights of the Child

The 14th European Forum on the Rights of the Child will take place from the **27th to the 29th of September** and will be dedicated to "*Bringing children to the centre: Empowering, protecting and including children*". ENOC Elect-Chair, Salvör Nordal, will participate as a speaker in the High Level Session 2, Towards Integrated Child Protection systems. More info to be shared soon by the European Coordinator for the Rights of the Child.

SAVE THE DATES!

Reykjavik

ENOC ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 19th-20th September 2022 & 26th GENERAL ASSEMBLY 21st September 2022

Brussels/Online

EU COMMISSION - 14th EU Forum on the Rights of the Child - 27th-29th September 2022

Brussels

DCI & CFJ-EN ANNUAL SEMINAR "A 360° view on Child Friendly Justice", 14th October 2022

COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

On 6th of June 2022, nine new members of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child were elected to replace members whose terms are expiring on 28th February 2023. Below, the list of newly elected members and their resume:

- **Suzanne AHO, Togo** – re-elected, [English](#) | [Français](#)
- **Thuwayba Ahmed Issa AL BARWANI, Oman** – first term, [English](#)
- **Aïssatou ALASSANE MOULAYE SIDIKOU, Niger**– re-elected, [English](#) | [Français](#)
- **Hynd AYOUBI IDRISSE, Morocco** – re-elected, [Français](#)
- **Mary BELOFF, Argentina** – first term, [English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#).
- **Rosaria CORREA, Panama** – first term, [English](#)
- **Bragi GUDBRANDSSON, Iceland** – re-elected, [English](#)
- **Philip D. JAFFÉ, Switzerland** – re-elected, [English](#) | [Français](#)
- **Faith MARSHALL-HARRIS, Barbados** – re-elected, [English](#)



UPDATE ON ENOC MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

LATVIA

On July 20th, the Ombudsman's Office of Latvia launched its new website www.tiesibsargs.lv. The website is more accessible to people with disabilities, and more user-friendly for every visitor of the website. It was developed in cooperation with digital accessibility experts and users. On the occasion, the Ombudsman Juris Jansons commented: *"We are happy, because we can proudly say that we are changing with the times. After a 7-month long intense developing process, we have now put our website (...). In cooperation with specialists, we have paid close attention to ensuring that the website is user-oriented, intuitive, as well as compliant with modern-day requirements."*

ALBANIA. BULGARIA, CYPRUS, GEORGIA, GREECE, IRELAND, MOLDOVA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA, TAJIKISTAN, UZBEKISTAN

As part of ENOC and UNICEF 2021 project on a multi country Impact Assessment of COVID-19 related state measures on children's rights conducted by 13 Ombudspersons for Children's offices from across Europe and Central Asia, *Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan* published their CRIA national Reports (available on ENOC website, [here](#)).

UNITED KINGDOM

In June 2022, the Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, published "[Voices of England's Missing Children](#)". The report identifies the key reasons why children are not in school and puts forward a blueprint to help make sure all children attend school. The report presents the findings of the deep-dive analysis conducted by the Commissioner into local authority areas, and sets out six ambitions to make sure we account for, and support, every child. *"(...) I want to see 100% attendance on the first day of the September term. That is why I will be running a campaign of engagement over the summer to ensure that children are confident to return to school in September."*

WELCOME TO THE NEW COMERS!



Mr. Jozef Mikloško, the new Commissioner for Children of Slovakia.



Ms. Esther Giménez-Salinas i Colomer, the new Catalan Ombudsman.



Ms. Gordana Rajić, the new Ombudsman for Children of the Republic of Srpska.



Ms. Alta Oliaj, new Commissioner for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of the Child in Albania.



Mr. Dmytro Lubinets, the new Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights in Ukraine.

PUBLICATIONS ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

CSO/IOs

[Fundamental Rights Report 2022](#)

FRA's Fundamental Rights Report 2022 tackles major developments in the field of human rights in 2021, including on support for human rights systems and defenders, Asylum, migration and borders, Data protection, privacy and new technologies, identifying both achievements and areas of concern.

[Missing Children in Ukraine during the first 60 days of the war](#)

During the first two months of the war on Ukraine, NGO Magnolia, the 116000 hotline operator in Ukraine, recorded an enormous increase in the reports of missing children. Missing Children Europe launched a report on children reported missing in Ukraine during the first 60 days of the war, calling on the EU and Member States to provide support and protection to all children (at risk of) going missing due to the war.

[Toolkit "Ending Deprivation of Liberty of Children: Migration" by Elisa Klein](#)

This publication builds on the findings and recommendations of the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty. It provides examples of promising practices in six action areas with the aim of guiding States and other relevant actors to implement them. The first key action area focuses on the legal prohibition of migration-related detention of children and illustrates how countries enshrined this prohibition in their national legal frameworks. The other key action areas focus on the use of non-custodial measures, procedural rights and actions that ensure the protection of the best interests of the child.

ACADEMIA

[Katharina O Cathaoir, CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND FOOD MARKETING](#)

This book provides a thorough account of states' obligations to prevent childhood obesity under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, focusing on restricting unhealthy food marketing to children. It also examines state obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights and EU law.

[Charlotte Mol, THE CHILD'S RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN FAMILY LAW PROCEEDINGS](#)

In family law proceedings, such as divorce, children are afforded the right to express their views and these must be considered seriously during the deliberation by the decision-maker. This book examines the international and European human rights frameworks through the lens of the child's right to participate.

[Julia Sloth-Nielsen, CONSTITUTIONALISATION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS](#)

This book looks at the domestication of children's rights through the means of constitutionalisation. Constitutionalised, children's rights become an important frame of reference for the formulation and implementation of legislation and strengthen children's standing before the courts. However, many leading constitutional developments remain inaccessible due to language barriers. This book is a first effort to make developments and case law more accessible.

ENOC Secretariat

Council of Europe « Agora Building »
Office n° B5 07V
67075 Strasbourg Cedex
Web: www.enoc.eu
Tel: +33 3 90 21 54 88
e-mail: secretariat@ombudsnet.org



ENOC is co-funded by the European Union's Citizenship, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme. The content of this publication represents only the views of ENOC and is its sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

If you have any suggestions or if you would like to include any information or upcoming events in our newsletter, please send the details to secretariat@enoc.eu

**TO READ MORE
FROM THE
ACADEMIA**

[CLICK HERE](#)