

March 25-27, 2009 International  
Symposion: Child Protection in Europe

Day 1: March 25, 2009	
11.30	Registration/Fingerfood
12.30	Opening
	Minister Armin Laschet (Ministry of Generations, Family, Women and Integration of North Rhine-Westphalia)
	Ursula Nelles (Vice Chancellor Westphalian Wilhelms University of Münster)
	Erwin Jordan (Chairman, Institute for Social Work e.V.)
13.30	Child Protection in Europe: Managing the risk - philosophies, strategies and perspectives of national and transnational initiatives on child protection Heinz Kindler, German Youth Institute
14.30	Break
15.00	Standards in discussion I
	Neuvola – Learning from Finland? Past and present of the nationwide service network Neuvola in Finland, a local, free institution for families from birth to school enrollment. Petra Linderoos, Neuvola Expert and lecturer at Jyväskylä University, Finnland
16.00	Standards in discussion II
	The best start into life? Safeguarding as part of the British Sure Start Program. Karen Clarke, Senior Lecturer in Social Policy Politics, School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester, UK

17.00	Break
17.30	Standards in discussion III
	Mapping out short routes: Child protection and specialisation in the Netherlands Adri J. van Montfoort, University of Leiden, The Netherlands
18.30	Finish

Day 2: March 26, 2009	
09.00	Child protection in practice: What makes a case a case for child protection?
	Presentation of two case vignettes and presentation of different professional approaches through experts from:
	Hungary Mércse István, Fióka Child Welfare Center, Budapest
	Belgium Sandra Stoffels, Nadine Fatzinger, Mosaik-Centre, Eupen
	Israel Miriam Ben Attar, Rami Ben Benishty, Bar Ilan University, Ramat-Gan
	Switzerland Esther Studer, Markus Brühwiler, Department of Family and Youth, Canton of Zurich
	The Netherlands: Adressing diversity in child protection Lineke Joanknecht, Eigenkracht, Zwolle
10.30	Break
11.00	Working with case vignettes part II

12.30	Lunchbreak
14.00 Fora	Strengthening the Links – Research, Policy and Practice
Forum A	Research: Effectiveness of current models of prevention and intervention
A 1	Evaluation of early warning systems Wolfgang Böttcher, University of Münster Holger Ziegler, University of Bielefeld
A 2	Abuse and Neglect: A meta-analysis of the effects of Early Prevention Programmes for Families with Young Children at Risk Hans Grietens, Catholic University, Leuven, Belgium
Forum B	Policy/Law Turning Private Passion into Public Responsibility
B 1	Creating public responsibility to prevent child abuse Phillip Noyes, Director of Public Policy with the NSPCC, London, UK
B 2	Steps of child abuse prevention in Estonia during the last decade Ruth Soonets, MD, Head, Tartu Child Support Center for Abused Children, Tartu, Estonia
15.30	Break
16.00	Practice Fora
Forum C	Cooperation for Prevention and Intervention in Practice
C 1.1	AMK Gelderland: Public instiution for counselling and reporting in cases of child abuse Anita Kraak, Suus Mijland, The Netherlands

C 1.2	Professionals in child protection: Training and practice of professionals of the child protection Michaela Hinterwälder, Vanessa Schnorr, University of Koblenz, Johannes Schnurr, ISA Münster
C 2.1	Prevention in local practice: The early warning system in Gütersloh Heinz Haddenhorst, Gütersloh
C 2.2	College of Fam: Providing quality in child protection within organisations Rosa Heim, Wels, Austria, (-confirmed)
17.30	Finish
Day 3: March 27, 2009	
09.00	Child protection from children’s perspectives Andreas Polutta, University of Bielefeld
10.00	Facing failures in the child protection system of the UK Judith M. Masson Professor of Socio-Legal Studies, University of Bristol, UK
11.00	Break
11.30	Children’s rights in the UN Convention and the juris diction of the European Court of Human Rights - tensions of and prospects for a European system of Child Protection Josep Ferrer i Riba, University of Barcelona, Spain
12.30	Finish/snack

Child Protection in Europe:  
Learning from the neighbours – Improving  
Child Protection

During the last years many reports in the media pointed to tragical cases of mistreatment and neglect of children in Germany. As a consequence, a variety of programmes and measures was initiated by politics and practice. The ministry of generations, families, women and integration of North Rhine-Westphalia (MGFFI) supports these efforts to strengthen child protection and to encourage “social early warning systems” by a package of measures and offers – actually especially in the context of the “concept to act” of the government of North Rhine-Westphalia for a better and more effective child protection.

The actually activated initiatives and programmes quite often follow examples from European or American countries. While in Germany only limited systematic knowledge exists about the prospect of success or possible pitfalls of such initiatives, English-speaking or Scandinavian countries already possess some experience, which is of great interest for the situation in Germany as well. These experiences for instance concern the design of low-threshold, non-discriminating admission to certain measures as well as forms of organization or terms of cooperation, which have proven practical and promising. For this reason a view over Europe is worthwhile because of the research results as well as concerning the forms of organization and expertise-concepts for child protection in other countries. These aspects will be discussed on the international convention “Child Protection in Europe”, which will be conjointly organised and arranged by the Institute for Social Work (ISA) and the department of pedagogy of the university of Münster. The question of an appropriate relationship between prevention and intervention and tensions between partial help and legal control in educational measures will be an important topical focus of the convention. Besides the view upon the empiric



effectiveness of measures and arrangements of “help in early infancy” user-oriented perspectives and questions of the appropriateness of professional acting will be of equal interest.

A second focus refers to the “philosophy” of the measures and programmes and their legal context. In this bearing questions of the adequate relationship between children’s rights and parents’ right, who find different answers – each of them well justified – in different countries will be discussed.

Other vital aspects, that will be discussed to achieve an international exchange, are the possibilities and limits of low-threshold, easy accessible, “universalized” approaches on the one and measures who focus on certain user-groups or special interests or risks on the other hand.

The convention “Child Protection in Europe” gives the frame for a necessary debate about these questions. In order to enable a mutual exchange, international essential, subject-specific, legal and political positions as well as conceptional-practical approaches will be introduced and discussed with regards to their application-oriented implications. In an exchange with notable scientists and representatives of the practice from English-speaking and Scandinavian Countries contemporary approaches and tendencies in the field of child protection will be analysed and discussed with regards to their consequences, potentials and risks for a modern and suitable social work.

General information



Venue:	Westfälisch-Lippische Sparkassenakademie, Bröderichweg 52/54, 48159 Münster, Germany, www.wlsgv.de
Date:	March 25 – 27, 2009
Target group:	Academics, specialists from social work, stakeholders in politics and administration
Total cost:	100 € (incl. conference material, drinks and snacks lunch). A registration confirmation/invoice will be issued after your registration
Conference language:	German/English (Simultaneous translation available)
Registration:	www.isa-muenster.de
Organizer:	<div><div></div><div><b>Institut für soziale Arbeit e.V.</b> Stuttstraße 20, 48149 Münster, Germany, Dr. Dirk Nüsken, Tel. +49 251 92536-0 info@isa-muenster.de</div></div> <div><div></div><div><b>Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster</b>, Schlossplatz 2, 48149 Münster</div></div>

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Münster/Germany