



FONDATION SUISSE DU SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL
SCHWEIZERISCHE STIFTUNG DES INTERNATIONALEN SOZIALDIENSTES
FONDAZIONE SVIZZERA DEL SERVIZIO SOCIALE INTERNAZIONALE
SWISS FOUNDATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE



Children in street situations. Prevention, intervention, rights-based approach

Seminar

organized by

The International Institute for the Rights of the Child (IDE)

in collaboration with

International Social Service (ISS)

Terre des hommes – child relief (Tdh)

Programme

- Course Director:** Prof. Irene Rizzini, Director of the International Center for research and policy on childhood (CIESPI), Rio de Janeiro
- Dates:** From 16th to 20th October 2007 (Tuesday-Saturday)
- Location:** Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch (IUKB)
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- Languages:** French and English with simultaneous translation throughout the plenary sessions

With the sponsorship of the

International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates

With the support of the

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (Swiss Confederation)

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ARGUMENT

Children for whom the street is a space where they live or survive do also have rights. However they are up to now victims of abuse of all kinds. The social, economical and political factors contributing to their marginalization are also maintaining prejudices labelling them "street children" and stigmatizing them with all dangers associated to the street in the social imaginary. It is not enough to bring a certain number of children out of the street to put an end to such discrimination and violence. A rights-based approach is necessary and essential.

The problem is not the child living in the street, but the street situation itself when it derogates to the child's fundamental rights. Yet, degrees of protection, participation and development of children vary according to the situations. Their specific needs and capacities require that we develop appropriate tools to favour practices of listening to the child and child participation. Intervention must above all favour the development of acting capacities for the respect of the rights of these children.

By considering children as social actors, with variable capacities and potentialities, one thus sees that the diversity of "street situations" emerges at the crossroads between individual strategies and institutional rules. Intervention shall therefore link practices of listening to these children with the adjustment of institutions in conformity with the fundamental rights contained in the CRC. One must consider these children as witnesses of multiple and diverse "street situations", and, together with them, search for appropriate and personalised solutions that are situated, like their problems, in the interactions with their immediate social environment.

The 13th International Sion Seminar, organised by the International Institute for the Rights of the Child, wants to identify ways allowing to better articulate interventions based on individual listening attitudes with global approaches more respectful of the principles of the CRC. This seminar thus intends to open new ways for a General Comment of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, contributing to a movement of international scope in favour of the respect of the rights of "children in street situations" (CSS).

OBJECTIVES

Through confrontations between theory / practice, legal framework / reality in the field, the seminar intends to:

- **give a clear picture of the problems** (presentation of the reality experienced by children in street situations, sharing of tools favourable to listening attitudes and participation, knowledge of the main international texts, reference texts regarding research and intervention, ...);
- **evoke the situations** that are most critical and define the causes;
- **underline best practices**, through exchange of experiences among international organisations, NGOs, state officials, fieldworkers...;
- **specify possible synergies** among all the actors and identify potential partners...;
- **come up with conclusions that allow a strong and concerted action at international level.** In particular, contribute to the preparation of a General Comment dedicated to "children in street situations" by the **Committee on the Rights of the Child**.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Members of NGOs active in the field, social workers, sociologists, psychologists, judges, lawyers, policemen, heads of institutions and anyone else concerned (media, politicians); researchers and final-year students are also welcome.

PROGRAMME

Tuesday October 16th 2007

05:30 p.m. Registration and distribution of documents at the IUKB

06:00 p.m. Opening Ceremony: Opening speech
Mr Jean Zermatten, Director of the IDE, Switzerland

Film : « La vie est un jeu de cartes », and debate with Director Philippe de Pierpont

08:00 p.m. Welcome Cocktail

Wednesday October 17th 2007

Session chairperson: Mr Jean Zermatten (IDE)

Part I: General Panorama

- 09:00 a.m. Opening Speeches
Mr Christophe Darbellay, Member of Parliament, IDE Foundation President, Sion
Prof. Francis Leonard, ISS Swiss Foundation President, Geneva
Mr Peter Brey, General Secretary of Terre des hommes – child relief, and Vice-president of the International Federation of Terre des hommes, Lausanne
Prof. Irene Rizzini, Course Director, CIESPI, Rio de Janeiro
- 09:45 a.m. Introduction conference **Dr Judith Ennew**, Head of Programme Development, Knowing Children, Thailand
- 10:30 a.m. *Break*
- 11:00 a.m. The Committee on the Rights of the Child: practices towards CSS **Mr Lothar Friedrich Krappmann**, Member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, UN, Germany
- 11:30 a.m. Listening to children in street situations and participation **Dr Daniel Stoecklin**, Scientific Collaborator, IDE, Switzerland
- 12:00 noon *Lunch*
- 01:30 p.m. to 03:00 p.m. **Good practices by ISS and Tdh (panel)**
Mrs Bernadette Ouedraogo, GRADE FRB, Burkina Faso (ISS)
Mrs Françoise Correvon, Brasil (Tdh)
Mr Seckna Bagayoko, Enda, Mali (ISS)
Mr John Orlando, Switzerland (Tdh)
- 03:00 p.m. *Break*
- 03:15 p.m. Workshops
- 05:45 p.m. End of the day
- 08:00 p.m. *Valaisanne Evening*

Thursday October 18th 2007

Session chairperson: Mr Bernard Boëton (Tdh)

Part II: Specific Issues

- 09:00 a.m. Health (practices and challenges of medical intervention with CSS) **Dr Frank Doerner**, Deputy Program Manager Desk 4, MSF-Suisse
- 09:40 a.m. Education (practices and challenges of schooling for CSS) **Mrs Savina Geerinckx**, Consultant CREATE, UK
- 10:20 a.m. *Break*
- 10:40 a.m. Migrations (practices and challenges regarding displaced children) **Mrs Anna Maria Libri**, Deputy Director, ISS, Italy
- 11:20 a.m. Exploitation through work **Mr Michel Grégoire**, Principal Technical Advisor, Focal point of ILO, Mali

12:00 noon	Juvenile Justice	Mrs Renate Winter , President of the International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates (IAYFJM), Austria
12:45 p.m.	Lunch	
02:15 p.m.	Departure for the visit of the Gianadda Foundation exhibition "Marc Chagal – Between Heaven and Earth"	
05:30 p.m.	End of the day	

Friday October 19th 2007

Session chairperson: Mr Olivier Geissler (ISS)

Part III: ways to work out

09:00 a.m.	Social representation	Mr Oussoumana Sawadogo , Coordinator of the KEOOGO Project
09:40 a.m.	The judicial way	Mrs Andressa Curry-Messer , Jurist University of Fribourg, Switzerland
10:20 a.m.	Break	
10:40 a.m.	Educative innovations	Mr José Cândido Boff , Coordinator, Circo Baixada Fluminense (Rio de Janeiro), Brasil
11:20 a.m.	CSS, parental responsibility and community dynamics	Mr Ishtiaque Ahmed , Director, Aparajeyo-Bangladesh, Bangladesh
12:00 noon	Conditions of efficient child participation to own reinsertion	Mr Thierno Diallo , Protection Project Manager, Terre des hommes – child relief, Guinea
12:45 p.m.	Lunch	
01:45 p.m.	Workshops	
03:00 p.m.	Break	
05:30 p.m.	End of the day	

Saturday October 20th 2007

Session chairperson: Dr Daniel Stoecklin (IDE)

09:00 a.m.	Workshops Reports	Group rapporteurs
09:45 a.m.	Conclusion	Prof. Irene Rizzini , Course Director, Director, CIESPI, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil
10:30 a.m.	Break	
10:00 a.m.	Round Table	Prof. Riccardo Lucchini , Professor Emeritus, University of Fribourg, Switzerland, with the speakers of the seminar
11:45 a.m.	End of Seminar and Announcement of the 2008 Seminar	Mr Jean Zermatten , IDE Director, Switzerland
12:00 noon	Lunch	

Workshops

Wednesday October 17th 2007 – 03:15 p.m. to 05:45 p.m.

and

Friday October 19th 2007 – 01:45 p.m. to 05:30 p.m.

Workshop 1: Competences of CSS

- **Mrs Andressa Curry-Messer**, Jurist, University of Fribourg, Switzerland
- **Dr Daniel Stoecklin**, Scientific Collaborator, IDE, Switzerland

Workshop 2: Response through networking

- **Mr Ishtiaque Ahmed**, Director of Aparajeyo-Bangladesh, Bangladesh
- **Mr Bernard Boëton**, Resource Person, Tdh, Switzerland

Workshop 3: Social sensitization and advocacy

- **Mrs Judith Ennew**, Head of Programme Development, Knowing Children, Thailand
- **Mr Ignacio Packer**, Head of Programme News and Advocacy, Tdh, Switzerland

Workshop 4: Prevention

- **Mrs Renate Winter**, President of the International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates (IAYFJM), Austria
- **Mr Pierre Marie Koulibaly**, Coordinator, Enda (SSI), Sénégal

Workshop 5: (Re)integration

- **Mrs Savina Geerinckx**, Consultant (CREATE), UK
- **Mr Olivier Geissler**, Project Officer, SSI, Switzerland