

**“Right to Education:
Solution to all Problems or
Problem without Solution?”**

Seminar from October 19th to 23rd 2005 Sion – Suisse

Programme of the seminar	Application form
Seminar's documents - Links	Grants

The grant application will not be anymore considered from the 3rd of Septembre 2005

Organized by : The International Institute for the Rights of the Child (IDE)

Partnership :

- Institut Universitaires Kurt Bösch (IUKB)
- Direction du Développement et de la Coopération (DDC)

Dates : 18 au 22 octobre 2005

Location : Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch (IUKB), Sion/Suisse

Fee : Informations in the application form

Deadline for registration : 16th of Septembre 2005

Languages : English and French

Informations :

Institut international des Droits de l'Enfant (IDE)

CP 4176 / CH-1950 SION (Suisse)

Phone : +41 27 205 73 03 Fax: +41 27 205 73 02

Website : <http://www.childsrights.org>

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Arguments

The right to education for all children is stipulated by art. 28 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, that states clear rules: compulsory and free primary education, non-discrimination, elimination of illiteracy and ignorance, easier access to secondary and higher education. This article is completed by art. 29, that sets the aims of education, and especially child's healthy development, respect of human rights and preparation of exerting civic rights. All this seems crystal-clear.

Although generally agreed upon, homogeneous, efficient and universal implementation of these principles is still far out of reach. Compulsory and free available primary education is not accessible everywhere. What is the situation in the most deprived countries? Where are priorities set and what are the amounts allotted to teaching? Not to mention secondary education. And what about girls, there again blatantly deserted by human rights? As for ethnic minorities and physically challenged children, common speech is at the verge of being provocative.

The right to education issue must be seriously rethought: is it the State's duty to offer this service (public and made compulsory), or is it a right attached to every individual including a child, to demand the ensuing provision from the State? Neo-liberal, "globalised" views could lead to think that education is no task of the State, but rather could be provided by private enterprises against payment. Enterprises would thus engage in the private business of compulsory education...

The ideal of preparing the child for responsible life in a free society has its price: what is observed is a widening North-South divide, showing without any possible doubt that the objectives set by international bodies (Dakar EFA Declaration) are far from reach, and continually postponed. And yet education is always presented as the solution to all problems: to child labour, to child trafficking, to child soldiers enrolment, to young girls' exploitation in prostitution. .. Although we believe that education, i.e. access to knowledge and elimination of ignorance in all its forms, really brings progress, what we unfortunately observe is that education in itself is a problem, and the right to education is not guaranteed. In spite of all the texts.

Objectives

By confronting theory/practice, legal frame/field reality, the Seminar aims at

- giving a clear view on the problems (definition of the right to education and its contents, knowledge of main international standards...)

- bringing up especially blatant situations and identify causes
- singling out best practices, by exchanges of experiences between international organisations, NGOs, professionals
- concerned by education, State officials, field workers...
- identifying possible synergies and partnerships between the various stakeholders
- reaching a conclusion allowing for strong and concerted international action

Target Audience

Members of NGOs active in the field, people responsible for education issues, doctors, lawyers, teachers (any level), head of teaching establishments, psychologists, sociologists, social workers and anyone else concerned (media, politicians); researchers and final-year students are also welcome.



Right to Education: Solution to all Problems or Problem without Solution?

Seminar

organized by

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

Draft Programme

- Course Director :** Ms. Martine A. PRETCEILLE,
Professor Université Paris VIII, France.
- Dates:** From Tuesday 18th to Saturday 22nd October 2005
- Location:** Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch (IUKB)
P.O. Box 4176, CH-1950 SION 4
Tel. ++41-27-205.73.00 - Fax ++41-27-205.73.02
e-mail : ide@iukb.ch
web : www.childsrights.org
- 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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DRAFT PROGRAMME

Tuesday October 18th 2005

- 05:30 p.m. Registration and distribution of documents at the IUKB
- 06:00 p.m. Opening Ceremony : Opening speech of **Mr Claude Roch**, Canton Minister of Education, Culture and Sport, Valais
- Cultural Event
The Rights of the Child and Education
- 08:00 p.m. Cocktail to welcome participants

Wednesday October 19th 2005

Session chairperson: Mr Jean Zermatten

Part I: General Panorama

- 09:00 a.m. Opening Speeches
Mr Bernard Comby, Former Education Minister, President of the IDE Foundation, , President of the Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch, Sion
Mr Vernor Muñoz, United Nations Special Rapporteur for Education Issues
- 10:15 a.m. The Right to Education : Definition, Content and Challenges **Ms. Angela Melchiorre**, Consultant, « The Right to Education Project », Denmark
- 11:00 a.m. *Break*
- 11:20 p.m. Education versus Up-bringing ? Equity of the systems in the world **Mr Elie Jouen**, Assistant Secretary-General, International Education, Belgien
- 12:00 a.m. *Lunch*
- 01:30 p.m. Human/Children's Rights Education Intervention **Mr Vernor Muñoz**, UN Special Rapporteur for the Right to Education, Costa Rica
- 02:15 p.m. Questioned Educational Systems : 4 Scenarios **Ms Marie-Claire Tabin**, Teachers' Union President (SER), Switzerland, **Mr Jacques Daniélou**, President of the Pedagogical Society (Canton of Vaud), Switzerland and **Mr Georges Pasquier**, SER ,Vice President and Chief Editor of *L'Educateur*, Switzerland
- 03:00 p.m. Workshops
- 05:30 p.m. End of the Day
- 08:00 p.m. *Valaisan Evening*

Thursday October 20th 2005

Session chairperson: Ms Renate Winter

Part II: Specific Issues

- 09:00 a.m. The Issue of Girls **Ms Lucy Lake**, Director of CAMFED International, (Campaign for female education), UK
- 09:45 a.m. Physically/Mentally Challenged Children and their Inclusion in mainstream schools **Ms Sonja Pillet**, Pedagogic Consultant in specialized teaching, Valais, Switzerland
- 10:15 a.m. The Issue of Formal/Non-Formal Education **Mr Moacir Gadotti**, General Director Paulo Freire Institute, Brazil
- 11:00 a.m. *Break*
- 11:30 a.m. Qu'est-ce qui est rentable... **Prof. Pierre-Philippe Bugnard**, University of Fribourg, Education Sciences, Education History, Didactics of Education, Switzerland
- 12:15 a.m. Education for Rural People **Ms Lavinia Gasperini**, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, programme assistant ERP (Education for rural population)

- 01:00 p.m. Lunch
- 02:30 p.m. Opening of the Children's Rights didactic path:
A tool for Children's Rights Education
- 05:30 p.m. End of the Day

Friday October 21st 2005

Session chairperson: Ms Paola Riva Gapany

Part III : Perspectives

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|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09:00 a.m. | Alternative Basic Education among Children in Need of Special Protection | Ms Teresita L. Silva , Executive Director, Childhope Asia Philippine, The international Movement on Behalf of street children |
| 09:30 a.m. | CPA – SER : Quality Education for All | Ms Juliane Corboz , CPA (Coopération Pédagogique en Afrique), Committee President,
Ms Josy Marti , CPA, vice president, Switzerland |
| 10:00 a.m. | Creciendo: offer educational space | Ms Thérèse Pittet Rueda , Teaching Specialist
Founder of Creciendo, Tarija, Bolivie |
| <i>10:30 a.m.</i> | <i>Break</i> | |
| 11:00 a.m. | Minorities: the example of ROMS (Eastern Europe) | <i>(speaker to be confirmed)</i> European Roma Rights Center, Roma Education Initiative (REI), Hungary |
| 11:30 a.m. | New Family Relationship by Educating Parents | Mr Gabriel Nicole , Founder of EMIDA (Individual Welfare and Development in Africa), Yaounde, Cameroon |
| 12:00 a.m. | School free of tax in Uganda | Ms Christine Eggs , Director of Communications Officer, AFXB (Association François-Xavier Bagnoud) |
| <i>12:30 a.m.</i> | <i>Lunch</i> | |
| 01:45 p.m. | Workshops | |
| 05:15 p.m. | End of the Day | |

Saturday October 22nd 2005

Session chairperson : Mr Michel Lachat

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09:00 a.m. | Workshops Reports | Reporters |
| 10:00 a.m. | Conclusion | Ms Martine A. Pretceille , Course Director
Professor Université Paris VIII, France |
| <i>10:30 a.m.</i> | <i>Break</i> | |
| 11:00 a.m. | Final Lecture | Ms Renate Winter , Member of the Appeals chamber of the Special Court of Sierra Leone |
| 11:45 a.m. | End of Seminar and announcement of the 2006 Seminar | |
| <i>12:15 p.m.</i> | <i>Lunch</i> | |

Workshops

Wednesday October 19th 2005 – 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

and

Friday October 21st 2005 – 1:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Workshop 1: Children's Rights Education: Education and Development

- **Mr Charly Maurer**, Regional Officer, Foundation Education and Development, Switzerland
- **Ms Renate Winter**, Member of the Appeals chamber of the Special Court of Sierra Leone

Workshop 2: Formal/Non-formal Education

- **Mr Moacir Gadotti**, General Director, Paulo Freire Institute, Brazil

Workshop 3: Parents' education

- **Ms Thérèse Pittet Rueda**, Teaching Specialist, Founder of Creciendo, Tarija, Bolivie
- **Mr Gabriel Nicole**, EMIDA, Yaoundé, Cameroun

Workshop 4: Varying Scénarios : pour l'avenir de l'école

- **Mr Jacques Daniélou**, President of the Pedagogical Society (Canton of Vaud, Switzerland)
- **Ms Marie-Claire Tabin**, Teachers' Union President, Switzerland

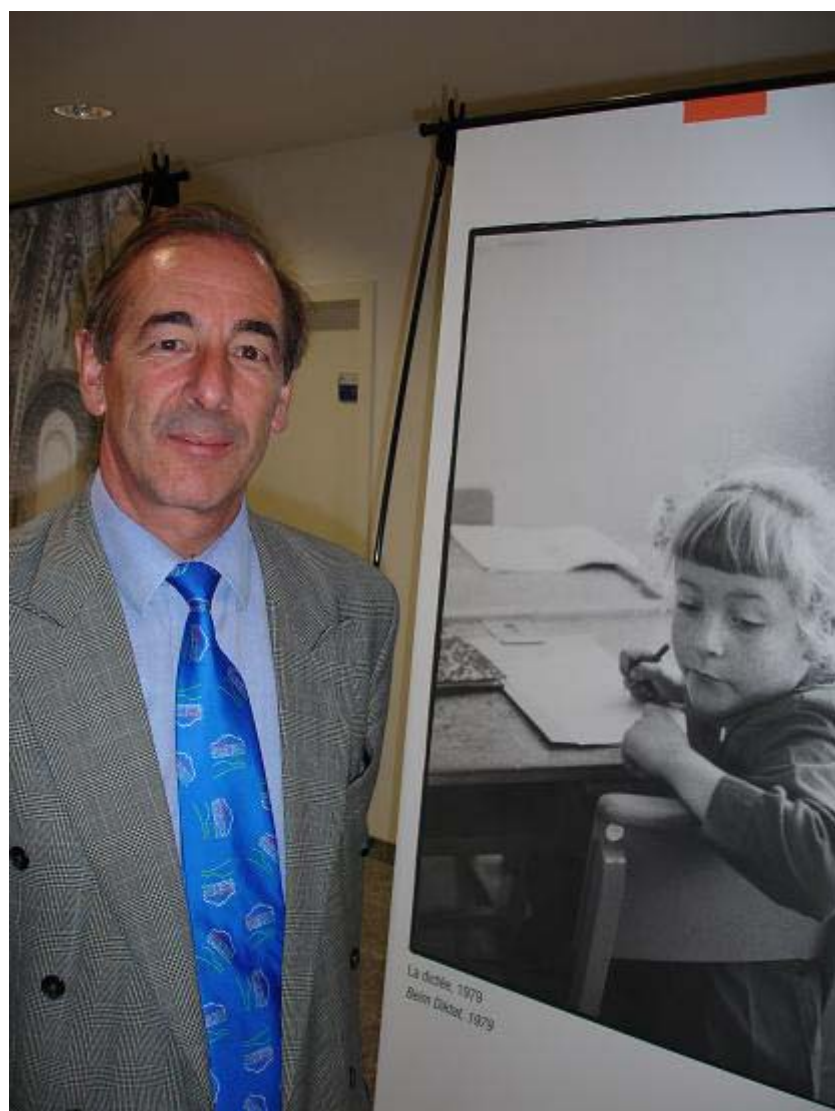
Workshop 5: Girls' Education

- **Ms Lucy Lake**, Co-Director of CAMFED

International Seminar : Tuesday October 18th

The 2005 edition of our international Seminar, dealing with "The Right to Education : Solution to all Problems or Problem without Solution ?" opened on Tuesday October 18th.

After participant registration in the IUKB premises, the official opening speech was pronounced by Mr Claude Roch, Head of the Government of Valais.



Mr Roch

To introduce this year's theme, the Director of the Médiathèque du Valais, Mr Jean-Henri Papilloud, commented the Exhibition "Education in images".



Seminarists visiting the exhibition

The Exhibition's pictures are displayed in the IUKB building, and shows the changes occurred in Education since the 50ies.

Mr Muñoz, special reporter of the United Nations for the Right to Education took part as a speaker to the seminar. Find here after the interview of Mr Muñoz



Mr Muñoz, special reporter of the United Nations



Miss Teresita L. Silva, Childhope Asia, Philippinia

International Seminar : Wednesday October 19th

Speeches by Mr Dr Bernard Comby, IDE President, by Mr Vernor Muñoz, UN Special Rapporteur for the Right to Education, and by Ms Martine A. Pretceille, Professor, University Paris VIII, France, and Seminar 2005 Director, paved the way to thematic speeches.



M. Jouen, Internationale de l'Education, Belgique

In order to sketch a general panorama of the phenomenon, Mrs Angela Mechiorre, Consultant for "The Right to Education Project" (UN), gave a precise definition of the content and challenges of the right to education.



Miss Angela Melchiorre, "Projet Droits à l'éducation", Danemark/UK

International and local (Swiss Teachers' Union) specialists completed this panorama until mid-afternoon.



Workshop animated by Mr Maurer, "Fondation Education et Développement"

The audience then spread to various workshops. After workshops, the participants set out to a remote village in order to share a

typical local speciality : the raclette.



Typical local meal

International Seminar : Thursday October 20th

The morning debate was devoted to the various aspects of the right to Education : it started by a lecture by Ms Lucy Lake, the very committed Director of the Campaign for female Education (CAMFED).



Miss Lucy Lake, CAMFED

Freire Institute in Brazil, Mr Moacir Gadotti. The right to education of rural people and children with disabilities were two more issues dealt with in the debate.



Mr Moacir Gadotti, Paulo Freire Institute, Brazil

In the afternoon, our Institute celebrated its tenth birthday, in presence of the Seminar participants, of officials and of the local population. Our latest project : a Didactic Path on the rights of the child, has been officially opened and introduced by shows preformed by local primary school pupils.



Mr Comby et Mr Zermatten inaugurating the "Didactic Path on the Right of the Child"

The Didactic Path illustrates twelve of the Convention's 54 articles, and stages animals in a symbolic and playful way. Dr Bernard Comby, IDE President, addressed the audience and deplored the precariousness and poverty often depriving children of their basic rights, but stressed the hope given by solidarity and cooperation initiatives.



Exhibitions created by childrens of the local primary school of Bramois

International Seminar : Friday October 21st

Education is a human right.

Its implementation worldwide is the fruit of infinite creativity : this third Seminar day was meant to exemplify it.



Mrs Teresita Silva, Childhope Asia Executive Director, expounded this organization's work, consisting in provide informal and non-formal education to children in need of special protection, in four Asian countries.

Examples from Africa, Bolivia, and Eastern Europe were then pointed out. A precise action promoting Education : school free of tax in Uganda, was finally dealt with by Ms Christine Eggs, from Association François-Xavier Bagnoud.



Miss Thockchom Nandini, "Forum for Indigenous Perspectives & Action", India



Miss Marguerite Yoli Bi Kone, Teacher, Ivory Coast

International Seminar : Conclusion

Having come to our Seminar's final day, the audience was addressed by the Course Director and the organisers.



Miss M. Pretceille, Paris VIII University, Course's Director

In her conclusion, Prof. Pretceille presented education as belonging to the sphere of positive law, and stressed that education questioning and improvement deal (and must deal with) this sphere. On the ethical point of view, the right to education is supra-social. It is an ideal opposable to laws set by societies. In the dynamics of time and space, this ideal situates action in a future non-ascribable to present conditions, and extends this right to various culture settings. Prof. Pretceille then steered the audience into a reflection on the implementation of the right to education: does individual or does society benefit from it? It is located in the irreducible tension linking the former and the latter: according to circumstances, either individual, either society is stressed.

No political, economic or social right can be enforced by an individual deprived of all kind of education: this observation is the concrete illustration of the paradigm right/origin versus right/horizon.

Finally, apprehending the right to education as a utopia does not mean undermining it: could society go without a global symbolic system, and remain stuck in parcelled out ideas? The right to Education makes up a highly attractive utopia, all along fortified.



Mr Olivier van Riet Paap, Child Savings International, Netherlands

After a warmly applauded speech by Mrs Judge Renate Winter, and the 2006 Seminar announcement by Mr Jean Zermatten (Children with Disabilities: What about their Rights?), lunch came as the conclusion of this unforgettable meeting.



Photo of the seminarists 2005