2014 ACTIVITY REPORT
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1. DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Sir or Madam,

Several events shone a global spotlight on children’s rights in 2014. The international community celebrated the 25th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the 14th ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure, which entered into effect on 14 April 2014. In addition, we were all thrilled to witness two emblematic children’s rights leaders win the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts in the equally symbolic fields of education and the prevention of the economic exploitation of children. And just before Christmas, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a resolution demanding a global study on the highly sensitive issue of deprivation of liberty as it affects children.

It was also an eventful year for the Institut International des Droits de l’Enfant (IDE), as we progressed in the area of governance and implemented significant institutional changes. For instance, the IDE joined the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) Institutional Partnership Division, signed a collaboration framework agreement with the University of Geneva (UNIGE) and entered into a new convention with the University Institute Kurt Bösch (IUKB) Foundation. A flurry of activity accompanied the transformation of our long-standing partner, the IUKB Education and Research Unit for Children’s Rights, into the Interdepartmental Centre for Children’s Rights (CIDE), placed under the remit of the UNIGE Rectorate.

The IDE also assessed its internal operations and governance during the first half of 2014. This decision was spurred by the announcement of Director Jean Zermatten that he would be stepping down on 31 December 2014, as well as the Board of Trustee’s desire to safeguard the IDE’s long-term future. The assessment led to several recommendations, which will be implemented progressively throughout 2015 and 2016. The IDE’s Board of Trustees consequently decided on a series of pressing issues, for instance appointing Paola Riva Gapany as IDE Director starting January 2015. Mr Zermatten, who was a founding member of the IDE, will continue to contribute at a lower level.

We would like to thank John Orlando for guiding us through the self-assessment phase, Sybille Heunert for leading the external assessment and the Board of Trustees for their support. We are also grateful to the Oak Foundation, which prompted and aided in the process.

Despite all these operations-related activities in the background, our IDE employees continued to deliver a host of outstanding services, which are detailed in the rest of this report. Special recognition goes to the fruitful efforts in several countries such as Algeria, Bulgaria, Senegal, the Czech Republic, Tajikistan and Tunisia, where we set up training programmes for professionals dealing with juvenile delinquency at its various stages.

Far from idle, the IDE’s Geneva office contributed significantly to the organisation of the Geneva Summer School as well as the coordination of Human Rights Week, which highlighted children’s rights, in conjunction with the UNIGE. It also assisted the City of Geneva in administering a questionnaire to over 1,000 children, investigating how they view their rights as a child.
The IDE remains dedicated to its guiding principles – to train, raise awareness and act – which shaped its progress throughout the year. In autumn of 2014, the IDE set out its strategy for 2015 to 2018.

The IDE has embraced an ambitious strategy for the future:

**TO TRAIN**

*Abroad* by developing a Certificate in Children’s Rights in China, West Africa and Southeast Asia, as well as an online Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Juvenile Justice in South America in co-operation with Terre des hommes; by continuing to meet the numerous requests for custom training by different partners, whether governmental or NGO.

*In Switzerland* by working closely with the CIDE and the UNIGE to promote existing further education programmes and to launch a myriad of new projects.

**TO RAISE AWARENESS**

The IDE plans to pursue and expand on various activities, such as publications, symposia, seminars, study days and more, either by itself or in conjunction with trusted partners such as the CIDE, the Sarah Oberson Foundation, the Veillard-Cybulski Fund Association, the Swiss Foundation of the International Social Service (ISS), the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights (SCHR), the Child Rights Network Switzerland, Terre des hommes and others.

**TO ACT**

Through training and awareness-raising activities, the IDE is taking action to close the training gap. It cannot be emphasised enough that governments and large UN and international organisations must train and equip their human resources, and share a common language and universally recognised values in order to fulfil effectively their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Last year may have highlighted children’s rights and the Convention, but the task of enforcing them in a thorough, judicious and respectful manner remains a challenge for governments, NGOs, adults and even children, who play an important role in shaping their own future. The change in directorship will not diminish the IDE’s commitment to its mission in the least. We will continue to work with any and all willing partners, because nothing of significance is ever done alone.

In 2014, the IDE once again enjoyed the support of countless partners who helped us, to various degrees, accomplish our objectives:

- The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- The City of Sion
- The Western Swiss Lottery (Lotterie Romande)
- The Les Enfants d’abord Foundation
- The Oak Foundation
- The Nicolas Puech Foundation
- The University Institute Kurt Bösch (IUKB)
- The A Deux Mains Foundation
- The Swiss Foundation of International Social Service (ISS), Geneva
- Friends of the IUKB Association

**OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE GOES OUT TO ALL.**

Director
Jean Zermatten
2. TRAINING ABROAD

CHINA
A report was published on the initial further education module implemented in partnership with the China Welfare Institute and the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (more specifically the Institute of Youth and Juvenile Studies). Thirty early-childhood professionals participated.

Professors Yang and Cheng participated in the Human Rights Week in Geneva. Discussions were held and agreements reached on the 2015 programme as well as plans to progress towards a Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) or even a Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) in Shanghai.

The Chinese version of www.childrights.org was also redesigned.

NEPAL
The current political and economic climate in Nepal is hampering efforts to launch a Certificate in Children’s Rights in Southeast Asia. However, the IDE is still in talks with its local partner, Creating Possibilities, to organise a module in Kathmandu covering juvenile justice for local professionals.
3. TAILOR-MADE TRAINING

(1) ALGERIA
On behalf of Algeria’s judicial training school (the Ecole Supérieure de la Magistrature - EMS) and UNICEF-Algeria, the IDE developed a four-module training course for 25 professionals, including police officers, prosecutors, magistrates, social workers and psychologists. Training took place between May 2014 and January 2015. The participants are expected to become instructors themselves.

MODULE I
- Location: Algiers, Algeria (EMS)
- Date: 25 to 29/5/14
- Participants: 25

MODULE II
- Location: Algiers, Algeria (EMS)
- Date: 28/9/14 to 2/10/14
- Participants: 25

MODULE III
- Location: Algiers, Algeria (EMS)
- Date: 23 to 27/11/14
- Participants: 25

(2) SENEGAL
Continued training for magistrates, prosecutors, lawyers, police officers, prison officers and social workers on behalf of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), conducted as part of the human rights dialogue between Senegal and Switzerland.

MODULE V
- Location: Sion, Fribourg and Geneva, Switzerland
- Dates: 28/4/14 to 2/5/14
- Participants: 16
End of programme; participants are now instructors themselves.
Follow-up scheduled for 2015.

(3) BULGARIA
Specialised children’s rights training for 22 lawyers held for the first time. Training was conducted on behalf of the NGO PDJS with funding from Switzerland.

MODULE I
- Location: Borovets, Bulgaria
- Dates: 14 to 18/7/14
- Participants: 22

MODULE II
- Location: Hisarya, Bulgaria
- Dates: 20 to 24/10/14
- Participants: 22
(4) TAJIKISTAN
Training course on juvenile justice for a delegation of Tajikistani magistrates, prosecutors and lawyers. Customised training held at the behest of UNICEF-Tajikistan.
- **Location:** Sion, Switzerland
- **Dates:** 21 to 25/1/14
- **Participants:** 14

(5) TUNISIA
As part of a large-scale project to improve the juvenile justice system in Tunisia, the IDE organised specific training on international standards for members of the project’s steering committee. Training was conducted at the request of UNICEF-Tunisia.
- **Location:** Sion, Switzerland
- **Date:** 2 to 6/6/14
- **Participants:** 13

(6) CZECH REPUBLIC
Conference held in Brno (Czech Republic) on the general principles of the protection and institutionalisation of children’s rights. This was the last phase of the programme co-led with the NGO Klokanek.
- **Location:** Brno, Czech Republic
- **Date:** 6 to 7/5/14
- **Participants:** 80

(7) TRAINING AT THE ST RAPHAËL INSTITUTE
- **Topic:** Children’s rights: an educational leitmotiv for institutions
- **Dates:** 13 to 14/3/14, 20 to 21/3/14, 2 to 3/10/14 and 13 to 14/11/14
- **Participants:** 80
  (4 modules of 20 each)
- **Location:** Champlan, Switzerland
- **Follow-up:** evaluation of speakers and participants

Decision taken to offer a follow-up course in 2016.
4. TRAINING IN SWITZERLAND IN COLLABORATION WITH THE IUKB

CERTIFICATE IN "CHILD VICTIMS, CHILD WITNESSES: THE TESTIMONY OF CHILDREN BEFORE THE JUSTICE SYSTEM"
Interdisciplinary training for magistrates, lawyers, police officers, child protection specialists, specialised educators and psychologists on how to gather and interpret children's testimony; touches on various issues regarding child victims and witnesses.

CERTIFICATE WITH 15 ECTS CREDITS (BOLOGNA SYSTEM) / THIRD GROUP
- Dates: 20/9/13 to 8/11/14
- Collaboration: Oak Foundation and IUKB
- Participants: 11 certificate participants and 2 without academic credit
- Location: Sion, Switzerland
- Medium: www.childsrights.org
- Follow-up: publication of a manual planned for 2015

German-language training in conjunction with a university in German-speaking Switzerland is planned for 2016 onwards.

A day-long promotional event is scheduled in June 2015.

CERTIFICATE IN "VIOLENCE, CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT AND CHILDREN’S RIGHTS: INTERVENTION STRATEGIES"
This training reinforces the conflict management skills of education professionals, teaches them how to encourage children to participate actively in the realisation of their rights and obligations, and prepares teachers to become a go-to resource for information on children’s rights in their schools.

CERTIFICATE WITH 12 ECTS CREDITS (BOLOGNA SYSTEM) / SECOND GROUP
- Dates: 8/7/13 to 31/10/14
- Collaboration: Education 21 Foundation and IUKB
- Participants: 13
- Location: Sion, Switzerland
- Medium: www.childsrights.org

Group 3 postponed until 2015.
MASTER IN CHILDREN’S RIGHTS
SEVENTH MCR GRADUATING CLASS
- **Collaboration:** IUKB, Faculty of Law and Institute for Family Law and Counselling, University of Fribourg
- **Participants:** 15
- **IDE role:** instruction, guidance

Participation on Academic Committee

DIPLOMA IN PSYCHO-LEGAL EXPERTISE FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS
FOURTH GRADUATING CLASS
- **Collaboration:** IUKB, Universities of Geneva, Lausanne and Fribourg
- **IDE role:** instruction

Instruction in German currently under consideration
Chair of the Academic Committee

SWISS CENTRE OF EXPERTISE IN HUMAN RIGHTS
- **IDE–IUKB collaboration** with the SCHR
- **IDE role:** research on new developments regarding the Child and Adult Protection Authority (APEA), various contributions to the 2014 newsletter, co-organisation of theme days

Participation in heading the Children and Youth Policy thematic cluster.
5. RAISING AWARENESS

WEBSITE WWW.CHILDSRIGHTS.ORG
The website was entirely redesigned to align it with the IDE’s communication strategy. While formerly a document repository, it now serves to convey key IDE information and raise awareness. The new website, which features a more structured, condensed design, was launched in March 2014 in French, English and Spanish. A Chinese version based on the same principles has been available since November 2014.

The transition to a new website makes it difficult to evaluate the number of site visitors. Nevertheless, the monthly average reached some 2,200, with a maximum of 3,581 in April and a minimum of 1,444 in June. As the statistical tracking system Google Analytics was not installed until July 2013, conclusions on the increase or decrease of traffic will only become available in July 2015.

In addition to the website, the IDE is also broadening its internet footprint on social media, with 350 more “likes” on Facebook for a total of 900, and 290 followers on Twitter.

Lastly, weekly editorials published on the website are publicised regularly in a newsletter published in three languages and sent to some 940 subscribers worldwide.

FUNDRAISING GALA
The IDE was selected as the fourth beneficiary of the fundraising gala held by the association A Deux Mains on 10 May 2014 in Monthey, Switzerland. The event was a resounding success, thanks to Roger Morisod and his team. We would like to thank all of the event volunteers as well as the 360 attendees.

SPECIAL PROJECT / ÉTOILE 2015
A project competition was held as part of the bicentennial festivities celebrating Valais canton’s entry into the Swiss Confederation. The IDE–IUKB project selected – which explores the changing nature of childhood in Valais canton from 1815 to 2015 – was organised in 2014, and the different sub-projects and research contributions assigned. A chronological and iconographical database was also set up.

Visible results will begin to take shape in 2015, starting with a workshop exploring the topic on 6 and 7 May 2015.

In November 2015, initial programme results will be presented at a major international seminar.

Research will continue until 30 April 2016, culminating in the publication of a book.
VEILLARD-CYBULSKI ASSOCIATION FORUM

- **Topic:** A shared secret: from protecting the personality to building dreams together
- **Date:** 8/4/14
- **Participants:** 60
- **Directed by:** Xavier Lavanchy and Olivier Boillat, juvenile magistrates in Valais and Geneva cantons
- **Location:** Lausanne, Switzerland (CHUV, Charlotte Olivier Auditorium)
- **Follow-up:** working report

The 2014 Veillard-Cybulski Award was presented on 20 November in Geneva by Xavier Lavanchy, president of the charity, during the colloquium marking the 25th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The award was won jointly by the Arte Libera Association for publishing cartoonist Trinco’s comic book on children's rights in connection with sport, and Numa Graa for his doctoral thesis on the history of juvenile criminal law in Vaud canton from 1803 to 1942.

INTERNATIONAL IUKB-IDE COLLOQUIUM

- **Topic:** Children, families, governments: Are children’s rights at risk?
- **Dates:** 22 to 23/5/14
- **Collaboration:** Valais University of Teacher Education (HEP-VS) and Valais University of Health and Social Sciences (HES-SO), University of Geneva
- **Participants:** 130
- **Location:** Sion, Switzerland
- **Follow-up:** editorial on www.childsrights.org, article in the IDE newsletter

Publication printed in December 2014.

GENEVA SUMMER SCHOOL

- **Topic:** Children at the heart of human rights
- **Date:** 16 to 24/7/14
- **Collaboration:** IUKB and University of Geneva (UNIGE)
- **Participants:** 22
- **Location:** University of Geneva, Switzerland
6. IDE OFFICE IN GENEVA

THE SILENT REVOLUTION: 25 YEARS OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
- **Topic:** 25 years of children's rights
- **Collaboration:** City of Geneva, IUKB and ISS
- **Participants:** 700
- **Location:** Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), Switzerland
- **Follow-up:** working report, publication of an editorial on www.childsrights.org

All presentations to be published in the spring of 2015.

COLLABORATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY OFFICE
- **Topic:** Planned training in West Africa
- **Collaboration** with the Geneva Office of International Solidarity and the ISS regarding the training curriculum and budget. Project postponed until 2015.

HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK
Together with the IUKB and the UNIGE (in particular the Global Studies Institute), the IDE organised a Human Rights Week, which took place from 7 to 10 October. Symposium with 40 top experts.

The IDE also organised a big celebration on 9 October to mark the 25th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The week ended with the traditional ceremony commemorating the foundation of the University of Geneva, during which IDE Director Jean Zermatten was presented with an honorary doctorate.
7. GOVERNANCE

ASSESSMENT
The IDE assessed its mode of operation and governance during the first half of 2014.

Self-assessment from 1/1/14 to 31/3/14 with the help of John Orlando. Publication of a report with 13 appendices. Participation by employees and the Board of Trustees.

External assessment from 1/4/14 to 30/6/14, led by Sybille Heunert, through meetings with employees and individual members of the Board of Trustees. Report late June 2014, submitted to and accepted by the Board of Trustees, presented to employees and primary IDE partners.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE DECISIONS
The Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of founding director Jean Zermatten and appointed Paola Riva Gapany as IDE Director, effective 1/1/15.

Mr Zermatten will continue as project manager on three projects.

The Board of Trustees decided to reinforce payroll and bookkeeping by hiring an administrative manager to start on 1/1/15.

In the same vein, the IDE will also be hiring a training specialist.

CONVENTIONS
The IDE signed a collaboration framework agreement with the UNIGE to regulate co-operation with the future CIDE and various UNIGE departments such as the one in charge of continuing education and international relations.

The IDE also signed a convention with the new IUKB Foundation covering office leases in Bramois and various logistical services.

Lastly, the IDE signed a co-operation convention with Terre des hommes, Lausanne, to launch an online CAS in Juvenile Justice.

8. COLLABORATION WITH THE SDC

In 2014, the IDE and the SDC’s Institutional Partnership Division defined the scope of their collaboration and met several times to discuss the 2015-2018 strategy and 2015-2016 budget. The IDE is delighted with the team spirit that has arisen from these sessions and looks forward to working closely with its assigned contacts at the SDC.

The IDE would like to take this opportunity to thank the SDC for its support and expert advice.
9. PERSONNEL

The following people worked for the IDE in 2014:

- **Ms Paola Riva Gapany**  
  Deputy Director (80%)

- **Ms Alexandra Prince**  
  Head of Administration (100%)

- **Ms Evelyne Monnay**  
  Web Content Manager (50%)

- **Ms Fanny Balmer**  
  Web Administrator for the Kindernetzwerk’s French site (20%), until June 2014

- **Ms Stéphanie Geiser**  
  Web Administrator for the Kindernetzwerk’s French site (20%), from July 2014

- **Ms Elvira Fischer**  
  Webmaster (50%)

- **Mr Daniel Stoecklin**  
  Joint Head of the China Project (30%)

- **Ms Andressa Curry Messer**  
  Scientific Collaborator (20%)

- **Ms Vivianne Michellod**  
  Coordinator of CAS “Children’s rights and education” (20%), until June 2014

- **Mr Mieszko Marchon**  
  Trainee, until August 2014

- **Ms Audrey Parvey**  
  Trainee, from 1 August 2014

- **Ms Julie André**  
  Head of CAS “The testimony of children before the justice system” (20%)

- **Mr Frédéric Darbellay**  
  Academic Director of CAS “The testimony of children before the justice system”

- **Ms Zikreta Ukic**  
  IDE administration (50%) and CAS “The testimony of children before the justice system” (20%)

- **Ms Corinne Bruttin**  
  IDE administration from 1/5/14-26/8/14 (to cover Ms Ukic’s maternity leave) (50%)

- **Ms Céline Morisod**  
  Head of Project and Instructor for CAS “Children’s rights and education” (20%), until July 2014; Head of Project for instructional material, from 1 October 2014

- **Mr Daniel Burnat**  
  Manager of Geneva office

- **Ms Clara Balestra**  
  Coordinator of Sarah Oberson Foundation

- **Ms Ana Miras, Ms Linda Rodriguez and Ms Olga Lucia Poretti**  
  Spanish translators

- **Ms Diana Volonakis, Ms Dania Marti, Ms Manuela Berger and Mr Lucas Imhof**  
  English translators

- **Ms Marina Stoffel**  
  German translator

- **Ms Bizheng Lin and Ms Liu Zhan**  
  Chinese translators

Members of the Board of Trustees, unpaid position:

- **Mr Christophe Darbellay**  
  Chairman

- **Mr Michel Lachat**  
  Vice Chairman

- **Mr Philip Jaffé**  
  Treasurer

- **Ms Catherine Biner Bradley**  
  Member

- **Mr Frédéric Darbellay**  
  Member

- **Mr Jean Zermatten**  
  IDE Director

NOTHING WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOU!
2014 Geneva Summer School, 16 June - 4 July 2014
Children at the Heart of Human Rights

Brno Seminar, 5-6 May 2014
Participation and cooperative approach in the work with the children at risk and their families

Symposium on "The silent revolution: 25 years of children's rights"
20-21 November 2014