10th European Forum on the rights of the child
The protection of children in migration

PARALLEL SESSIONS
30 November 2016

Albert Borschette Conference Centre
Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels

Draft Programme

SESSION I - Identification and protection
(e.g. identification of child and assessment of needs, registration, prevention of trafficking and of sexual and other forms of exploitation, abuse and violence, missing children, follow-up, traceability)

Chair: Martin Schieffer, Head of Unit, Migration Management Support, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs
Co-chair: Irina Todorova, Migrant Assistance Specialist, Brussels International Organisation for Migration Regional Office

Room 0A. Coffee break at 11:00-11:20

Panellists

1. Major Jos Klappe, Commandant Border Security Team, Chief of Intelligence, Royal Marechaussee, Ministry of Defence, the Netherlands (The practice on Identification and protection of children in the migration situation at Chios)

2. Kostas Simitopoulos, Coordinator for Unaccompanied Children, Reception and Identification Service (RIS) in Moria, Lesvos island, Greece (Hosting unaccompanied children in the Moria Centre in Greece)

3. François Bienfait, EASO Liaison Officer to the EU Institutions in Brussels (Identification of vulnerability)
4. **Athanasia Retinioti**, Manager of the Accommodation Centre for Unaccompanied Children of Doctors of the World – Greece (*access to healthcare*)

5. **Amir Hashemi-Nik**, Development Manager, County Administrative Board of Stockholm, Sweden (*missing unaccompanied children*)

6. **Swati Pande**, Assistant Team Manager, Child Trafficking Advice Centre, UK

7. **Chris Nash**, Director and co-founder of the European Network on Statelessness (*‘Born in exile – The risk of statelessness faced by refugee and migrant children in Europe’*)

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**SESSION II – Reception**

(e.g. reception conditions for children (unaccompanied or with families), quality of care, full access to education, right to adequate standard of living, healthcare, prevention of deprivation of liberty and treatment in cases thereof)

**Chair:** Ellen Gorris, Assistant Policy Officer, Rights of the child team, Fundamental Rights Policy, DG Justice and Consumers  
**Co-chair:** Ester Asin, Director and EU Representative, Brussels Advocacy Office, Save the Children

Room 0B. Coffee break at 11:20 - 11:40

**Panellists**

1. **Christos Hombas**, Head of the Division for Social Interventions, National Centre for Social Solidarity – EKKA, Ministry of Labour, Greece (video message)

2. **Litsa Arsenopoulou**, Decentralised Administration of Aegean, Head of Department of Civil status, Migration and Social Integration of Prefecture of Chios, Greece (*The life of a refugee child on Chios*)

3. **Ben Lewis**, Advocacy Coordinator, International Detention Coalition (*Understanding the rights of the child in relation to immigration detention, and an introduction to the Community Assessment and Placement (CAP) model*) – **start with video**

4. **David Lowyck**, Director, Minor-Ndako, Brussels (*The shift from residential care to foster-care for unaccompanied minors: review after one year work on this transition in Flanders*)

5. **Vega Velasco Sampredo**, Secretary General of Integration of Migrants, Directorate General of Migration, Spain (*Reception of children within families in Spain*)

6. **Bernadette Kumar**, Director, Centre for Migrant and minority health, Norway (*Access to healthcare*)
7. Benoit Van Keirsbilck, President, Defence for Children-International (Using the collective complaint mechanism to improve the reception conditions of children and families)

SESSION III - Access to asylum procedures and procedural safeguards

(e.g. appointment of a guardian; information to children, legal advice and assistance, access to the asylum procedure, child-sensitive assessment of protection needs taking into account persecution of a child-specific nature, age assessments)

Chair: Stephen Ryan, Deputy Head of Unit, Asylum, DG Migration and Home Affairs
Co-chair: Rebecca O'Donnell, Co-founding Director of Child Circle

Room 0C - Coffee break at 11:40 – 12:00

Panellists

1. Maria Dapena-Vilario, Centre for Training, Quality and Expertise, European Asylum Support Office (EASO) (Procedural safeguards in the age assessment process and interviewing children)
2. Anja Dewilde, Co-ordinator Unaccompanied and Separated Children, Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons, Belgium (Best interests of the child determination)
3. Elena Rozzi, Social Researcher and Legal Adviser, Associazione per gli Studi Giuridici sull'Immigrazione – ASGI, Italy (Unaccompanied children in Italy, between rights violations and good practices)
4. Charlotte Kilroy, Public Law Practitioner, Doughty Streets Chambers, United Kingdom (Legal assistance)

SESSION IV - Durable solutions including integration

(integration, return to country of origin)

Chair: Michael Teutsch, Head of Unit, Country Analysis, Directorate-General for Education and Culture
Co-chair: Verena Knaus, Senior Policy Advisor, UNICEF Brussels Office

Room 1B. Coffee break at 11:00-11:20

Panellists
1. Andrea Vonkeman, Senior Policy Officer, UNHCR Brussels Office (Safe and Sound – durable solutions)

2. Fanny Bertrand, Mission Lead for Unaccompanied Foreign Minors, Pas-de-Calais County Council, France

3. Luisa Malhó, Director Choices Programme, Office of the High Commissioner for Migration, Portugal (Programa Escolhas - Social inclusion of children and young people: the contributions based on 16 years of intervention)

4. Christiane Timmerman, CEMIS, Centre for migration and intercultural studies at the University of Antwerp, Belgium (early school leaving)

5. Stefania Congia, Head of Department for Policies of Social Inclusion and Employment of Migrants and Protection of Foreign Children, Directorate-General for Immigration and Integration Policies, Ministry of Labour, Italy (unaccompanied children turning 18; youth inclusion in labour market)

6. Mónica García, Director, RED ACOGE, Spain (Regularisation and access to education/healthcare regardless of status)