

CRIN Survey Results 2011

The purpose of the survey was to offer CRIN members, and wider users, the opportunity to tell us how you find our services and to identify areas in need of attention. CRIN would like to thank all those who took the time to contribute to the survey.

This short document includes the following: 1) A brief summary of the responses received from **242 organisations** who completed the questionnaire, and 2) An overview of existing areas of work CRIN is carrying out in response to requests from the child rights community, and areas we are looking to work on in the future.

About the respondents

Do you work?

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Nationally | 63.6% |
| Regionally | 26.7% |
| Internationally | 37% |

Survey respondents came from a variety of organisations: State Ministries, Ombudspersons, UN bodies, international and national NGOs, and educational / academic institutions. A broad geographical representation was also evident.

CRIN SERVICES

Which services do you use most?

| | |
|--|-------|
| CRINMAIL | 66.5% |
| Website | 42.4% |
| info@crin.org | 7% |

Sixty per cent of survey respondents stated that they use CRIN's services at least once a week.

CRINMAILs

Which are the most read?

| | |
|--|---|
| English (weekly) | Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) |
| Child Rights at the Human Rights Council | Violence |

Did you know we also have a “Children in Court” CRINMAIL (formerly named “Strategic Litigation”), and a “Children in Armed Conflict” CRINMAIL? In addition, we produce Arabic, French and Spanish CRINMAILs. You can subscribe to all of the above, for free, on our [subscription page](#).

How could the CRINMAILs be improved?

Respondents generally liked the new CRINMAIL format, however many requested more concise news items with a broader geographical focus. A number of respondents made reference to the need for a more comprehensive follow-up on news items and editorials.

Website

Most read sections on the website

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| News and Reports | CRIN reports daily on news and events from around the world |
| CRC Documentation | Includes news of CRC sessions, Alternative Reports and updates on the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) |
| Microsites | Discrimination, Violence and Rights-based programming |
| Toolkits | Recent toolkits include: Child-friendly justice and an advocacy toolkit on ending inhuman sentencing of children |

CRIN recently revamped certain sections of the website to make it easier for users to find their way around, for example our [information pages](#) on the UN system. We will continue to make it easier for users and we are planning changes to the website sometime next year.

Contributing to CRIN

Over 50% of respondents said they never contributed to CRIN, with less than 3% contributing regularly. Furthermore, more than half of the respondents said they didn't know how to submit information, with others saying they had found the process difficult.

When asked what would encourage contributions, responses included:

1. Guidelines on when and how to contribute, including regular reminders through CRINMAILs.
2. More specificity from CRIN on the type of information that is useful and relevant.
3. Seeing the resource posted on the website, and receiving notification once submitted.

You can contribute to CRIN by clicking on the '[submit resources](#)' page of the website. In addition, CRIN recently launched a "[Children's Rights Wiki](#)" to bring all information together in one place. The Wiki is an interactive portal and we urge NGOs to contribute news on child rights campaigns in their own country. Find out how to contribute, [here](#) or e-mail us at info@crin.org.

Campaigns

Few organisations answered this question, suggesting many were unaware of the campaigns CRIN has been involved in. Of those respondents aware of the campaigns, less than 30% had signed up to the various campaigns listed. Significantly, a high number of respondents had difficulty following our coverage of the campaigns.

Did you know that last year CRIN launched a campaign for the prohibition and elimination of inhuman sentencing of children, selecting an initial 40 target States? Learn more about the [campaign](#) on our website.

How has CRIN helped advocacy efforts?

Respondents shared examples of where CRIN's services have helped their own advocacy efforts. Here are a select few:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| NGO | "CRIN's transparency campaign helped our organisation run a transparent general election in our community". |
| NGO | "CRIN's child rights reference report, and broader guidance on advocacy towards the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), helped us participate in Sierra Leone's review". |
| Academic Institution | "I use CRIN's resources for teaching law students about children's human rights issues (For example, Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act)". |

What would you like CRIN to do more of?

At the end of the survey, we asked respondents what they would like CRIN to do more of. The table below lists the most popular requests, broken down by type of work / issue. The right hand column outlines the work CRIN is currently doing in each of these areas, together with our future plans.

| Type of work requested most | CRIN's current work and future plans |
|--|---|
| Share examples of good and bad practice | CRIN encourages examples of successful and less successful advocacy undertaken, and has in the past called for contributions but with minimal take-up. Please do share your experiences with us by e-mailing info@crin.org . |
| Provide more information on child rights in legal systems | Our legal database includes judgements and commentary on case law from national, regional and international courts, where judges have used the CRC in their decision-making process. We have also published a guide to making complaints in the UN system , and a plain English guide to strategic litigation . |
| Provide more toolkits | Recent additions have included a toolkit on child-friendly justice and an advocacy toolkit on ending inhuman sentencing of children. We have plans to develop more in the new year, including a legal advocacy toolkit. |
| Provide more information on advocacy | In addition to our toolkits, our guide to child rights mechanisms (recently updated) presents a guide to approaching different mechanisms. We also have information on advocacy opportunities concerning particular mechanisms, such as the UPR, Special Procedures and the UN system in general. For information on all our campaigns and how to get involved, go to our ' Take Action ' page. |
| Analysis of country CRC implementation and incorporation into national law | The newly-launched ' Children's Rights Wiki ' contains a 'national law' page for each country, including information on the status of the CRC in national law, the judicial system's compliance with the CRC and case law examples. We are building this information and encourage contributions. |
| More strategic analysis on how to combat violations rather than just denouncing them | CRIN will soon be publishing a “mapping document”, highlighting the range of advocacy opportunities available to tackle violations of each of the articles of the CRC. A legal advocacy template will also shortly be released, based on the findings of a recent pilot workshop undertaken by CRIN in Turkey. |
| Conduct more analysis of children's rights issues | Our editorials (found on the website and in CRINMAILs) provoke discussions on specific children's rights issues, particularly neglected issues. We also identify gaps in how children's rights are being addressed in the UN system. Visit our Children's Rights Wiki . |
| More information on Ombudspersons | CRIN currently hosts the website for the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC), where you can find information on 29 Ombudspersons offices across Europe. The site also includes a global page. |

| Thematic areas | |
|------------------------|--|
| Child participation | In our CRINMAILs and news items, we try to highlights stories involving children taking the lead in advocacy. You can also visit our 'For Children' page on the website. |
| Children and the media | Some of our existing work includes: a page on ' Discrimination and the Media ', an editorial on ' Children's rights and freedom of expression ', and a report assessing the extent to which children's rights are addressed by the Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression. Further analysis of this issue is planned for next year. |

Conclusion

In comparison to [CRIN's 2007 survey](#), where requests for information sharing and networking activities featured prominently in the responses, along with information on thematic issues such as children and the business sector, the 2011 survey revealed an appetite for more information on legislation, guidance on how to do advocacy – including legal advocacy, and key issues such as child participation and children and the media.

We have taken on board all comments and views in the completed surveys and hope that this document provides some guidance to existing areas of work being carried out and also areas we are planning to focus on more in the future.

Once again, many thanks to all those who contributed to the survey. We look forward to working with you in 2012 and beyond.