Aims of the Conference

- to facilitate the exchange of information and best practice between Ombudspersons for children in Europe and to provide a vehicle for the network to engage in international level work.

- to identify tools, strategies and mechanisms to assist individual members of the network to pursue implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at national level, and to enable the Network to pursue such implementation at international level through its international-level work.

Format

The Conference Programme involves 5 main Sessions examining:

- International level activities aimed at enhancing the implementation of the CRC;
- European level activities aimed at enhancing the implementation of the CRC;
- Implementation of the CRC at national level;
- Using international mechanisms to pursue implementation of the CRC; and
- A discussion between children and young people and representatives of international organisations.
12th ENOC Annual Conference 2008, Dublin Castle, Ireland
Towards Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Arrival of participants 
Tuesday 2 September 2008
19.00 – 21.00 Reception at the Ombudsman for Children’s Office

Conference Day 1 
Wednesday 3 September
8.00 – 9.00 Registration of Participants
9.00 – 10.00 Opening Session
Chair: Xavier Bonal Sarró, Deputy Ombudsman for Children’s Rights of Catalonia and Chair of ENOC
Welcome from Emily Logan, Ombudsman for Children, Ireland
Brief updates on activities from ENOC members
10.00 – 10.25 Address by Her Excellency Mary McAleese, President of Ireland
10.25 – 10.45 Coffee break
10.45 – 11.15 Continuation of updates
11.15 – 12.00 Annual review of ENOC activities: Xavier Bonal Sarró
12.00 – 12.30 Key note speech: Yanghee Lee, Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
12.30 – 13.00 Discussion
13.00 – 14.00 Lunch
14.00 – 15.00 Session 1 International level activities aimed at enhancing the implementation of the CRC
Chair: George Moschos, Deputy Ombudsman for Children’s Rights, Greece
UNICEF activities - general measure of implementation of the CRC and preliminary findings of the research on Ombuds for Children
Vanessa Sedletzki, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre
UN Committee on the Rights of the Child activities
Using the CRC as a legal instrument and the current campaign for a complaints/communications system under the CRC
Peter Newell, Adviser to ENOC
15.00 – 15.30 Discussion
15.30 – 16.00 Coffee
16.00 – 17.00  
**Session 2**  
**European level activities aimed at enhancing the implementation of the CRC**

*Chair: George Moschos, Deputy Ombudsman for Children’s Rights, Greece*

Council of Europe activities  
Elda Moreno, Programme Manager, “Building a Europe for and with Children”

Council of Europe Peer to Peer Project and activities of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Julien Attui, Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights

European Union activities  
Anna Zito, European Commission

ENOC working group on access to international justice for children  
Maria Battle, Office of the Children’s Commissioner for Wales and Chair of ENOC Working Group

17.00 – 17.30  Discussion

17.30  Close of first day

19.00  Reception and dinner at the State Apartments, Dublin Castle.
Conference Day 2  
Thursday 4 September

9.00 – 10.00  
Session 3  
Implementation of the CRC at national level  
Examples of best practice

Chair: Emily Logan

Presentation from Office of the French Ombudsperson for Children  
The Big National Consultation “Giving Young People a Say”

Presentation from the Ombudsman for Children in Finland  
Project by the Finnish, Swedish and Norwegian Ombudsmen to promote the rights of Sami Children – the participation of children

10.00 – 10.30  Discussion

10.30 – 11.00  Coffee

11.00 – 12.30  Parallel Workshops 1  
Focussing on best practice relating to the core principles of the CRC

Workshop A  Best interests of the child
Workshop B  Non-discrimination
Workshop C  Right to participate

12.30 – 13.00  Lunch

13.00 – 15.00  Parallel Workshops 2  
Focussing on best practice relating to the core principles of the CRC

Workshop A  Right to life, survival and development
Workshop B  Best interests of the child
Workshop C  Right to participate

15.00 – 15.30  Coffee

15.30 – 17.00  Chair: Kathleen Marshall, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Scotland

Feedback from Workshop Rapporteurs

17.00  Close of Day

19.00  Evening free
Conference Day 3  Friday 5 September

9.00 – 10.00  
**Session 4**  Using international mechanisms to pursue implementation of the CRC

*Chair: Emily Logan*

How to get the most out of Council of Europe mechanisms  
Elda Moreno Programme Manager, “Building a Europe for and with Children”

Recent National experience of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Reporting Procedure  
Kathleen Marshall, Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People

10.00 – 11.00  
**Session 5**  Discussion between children and young people and representatives from International Organisations/Ombudsman Office

- Council of Europe  
- UNICEF  
- Ombudsman  
- Current and former members of the Ombudsman for Children’s Office Youth Advisory Panel (YAP)
- Louise-Marie Byrne, Micheál Callaghan, Graham Dillon, Ben English, Shauna Watson

11.00 – 11.30  Coffee

11.30 – 12.00  
**Closing Session**  
Presentation of initial results from the internal ENOC survey on Legal Action and the CRC, Peter Newell, Advisor to ENOC

12.00 – 13.00  
**ENOC business meeting**

13.00 – 14.00  
Lunch

14.00 – 18.00  
ENOC business resumes with break for coffee mid-afternoon

19.00  
Hooley night – Purty Kitchen Pub, Temple Bar

**Saturday 6 September**

Optional social programme – half day trip to Co. Wicklow