



COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



*Chairmanship of the Russian Federation
of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe*

“OMBUDSWORK FOR CHILDREN”

Athens, 29-30 September 2006

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Conference organised jointly by

the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe,

the Commissioner for Human Rights
of the Russian Federation

and

the Greek Ombudsman



Venue: Holiday Inn Hotel, 50 Michalacopoulou St, Athens

Friday, 29 September 2006

9.00 – 9.30 *Participants' registration*

9.30 – 10.00 **Opening Ceremony**

Yannis Valinakis, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece *tbc*

Yorgos Kaminis, Greek Ombudsman

Vladimir Lukin, Russian Federal Ombudsman for Human Rights

Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

10.00 – 11.00

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

“To what extent do European and global instruments rely on ombudspersons for the protection and the promotion of children’s rights?”

Chair: Vladimir Lukin

- “European instruments”
Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General, Council of Europe (15 minutes)
- “Global instruments”
Marta Santos-Pais, Director, UNICEF Innocenti Centre, (15 minutes)

Discussion (30 minutes)

11.00 - 11.30 *Coffee break and “family picture”*

11.30 – 13.30

OMBUDSPERSONS DEALING WITH CHILDREN’S RIGHTS

“Establishing independent offices for children’s rights: the different models”

Chair: George Moschos,
President of ENOC, Greek Deputy Ombudsman for Children’s Rights

Nikiforos Diamandouros, European Ombudsman

Ankie Vandekerckhove, Children’s Rights Commissioner of Flemish Parliament

Tone Dolčič, Deputy Slovenia Human Rights Ombudsman

Alexei Golovan, Ombudsman for Children in the City of Moscow

“Impact of the model chosen on the various interactions: between the general ombudsperson and the children’s rights department, between the general and the specialised children ombudsperson, between those in charge of children’s rights and the authorities” – Discussion (90 minutes)

13.30 - 15.00 Lunch

15.00 – 17.00

CHILDREN PARTICIPATION

“Listening to children, involving them and strengthening their voices”

Chair: Trond Waage
Special Adviser, UNICEF Research Centre, Florence
Former Norwegian Children’s Ombudsman

- “How does the Greek Ombudsman access and listen to children?” Children and young persons from Greece (30 minutes)
- *Peter Clarke*, Children’s Commissioner for Wales (15 minutes)
- *Susann Olsson*, Save the Children - Sweden (15 minutes)

(Examples of issues to be dealt with: Listening to children whose rights are violated (receiving complaints, communicating through telephone lines, reporting children’s views before issuing recommendations); reaching out to children (advertisements, discussions in schools and youth clubs, visits of schools, care institutions, hospitals and detention centres etc.); usefulness of children’s advisory boards and panels, ...)

Discussion

17.00 - 17.30 Coffee break

Resuming of the discussion

17.30 – 19.00

Good practices, results of ENOC annual meeting - open discussion

Chair and introductory statement: Xavier Bonal
Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights of Catalonia

20.00

Dinner hosted by Mr. Vladimir Lukin, Russian Federal Ombudsman for Human Rights, in the name of the Chairmanship of the Russian Federation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

Saturday, 30 September 2006

9.30 – 11.15

CHILDREN’S RIGHTS IN THE DAILY OMBUDSWORK

“How can an ombudsperson benefit from the work done on and with children by intergovernmental organisations and NGOs?”

Chair: Yorgos Kaminis

- *Paulo Sergio Pinheiro*, UN Secretary General’s Independent Expert on violence against children (20 minutes)
- *Brent Parfitt*, Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (20 minutes)
- *Veronica Yates*, Child Rights Information Network (CRIN) (15 minutes)
- *Peter Newell*, Co-ordinator of the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment to Children (15 minutes)

Discussion

11.15 – 11.45 *Coffee break*

11.45 – 12.30

CONCLUSIONS

Chair: Yorgos Kaminis

Presentation of the draft Conference Conclusions by the General Rapporteur

Vladimir Lukin

(30 minutes)

Adoption of the Conference’s Conclusions

(15 minutes)

Close of the Conference

by Thomas Hammarberg

(15 minutes)

13.00

PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE THREE CO-ORGANISERS
