Preventing sexual abuse of children

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Conference
with the support of CaixaForum

Madrid
10-11 December 2013
According to estimates, one child in five would be a victim of sexual violence. Many cases could be averted if adequate prevention policies and measures were established. The Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to stop sexual violence against children has two main goals:

- to achieve further signature, ratification and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (the Lanzarote Convention);
- to equip children, their families, carers and societies at large with the knowledge and tools to prevent and report sexual violence against children, thereby raising awareness of its extent.

The Lanzarote Convention was conceived to end the impunity of sexual offenders, protect child victims and prevent sexual violence. This Convention is the international community’s most consummate response to the phenomenon of sexual violence against children. The Convention has been signed by 46 States out of which 29 have ratified it and are therefore legally bound by its provisions.

In order to ensure monitoring of its implementation, the Convention set up a body called the Lanzarote Committee. As well as assessing the situation in each State Party to the Convention, the Lanzarote Committee acts as a forum for examining problems common to several countries and for pooling solutions which have yielded positive results (good practices).
AIM OF THE CONFERENCE

- The aim of this Conference is to enable the 47 Council of Europe member states to address the issue of preventing sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children by taking the provisions of the Convention as a starting point.

- Built upon the principal challenges of prevention, the Conference will serve to present an overview of the various problems and discuss the solutions applied in Europe. It will also permit recognition and promotion of the role of the various policies (on education, social services, communication, justice and health), the national, regional and local authorities, civil society, the private sector, families and children in developing and implementing actions and policies of prevention.

- Organised by the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Spanish Government (in particular with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality), and with the support of Fundación “La Caixa”, the Conference will give pride of place to a selection of good practices identified in Spain.

PARTICIPANTS

- The Conference will bring together some 180 participants from about fifty countries. Besides the members of the Lanzarote Committee (representing their respective governments), we await numerous experts in the fields of justice, education, child welfare, social and family policies, health, research and communication. These experts represent governments, international organisations, independent institutions, the private sector and civil society.
WORKING METHODS

To derive maximum benefit from the potential of the Conference as a forum for pooling good practices, the working methods envisage:

- Informal presentation of good practices during the coffee and lunch breaks, in a specially arranged area (“Good practice circuit”)
- Formal presentation of good practices at each of the round tables on the Conference programme.

In order to garner a maximum amount of experience, the Lanzarote Committee has issued an open call for good practices which should enable us to build up a worthwhile database and to illustrate the wealth of measures to prevent sexual violence taken at the international, national, regional and local level.

The Programme is built on five plenary working sessions, each introduced and moderated by an expert who will invite the public to put questions and make remarks and suggestions.

The presentations and conclusions will subsequently be made public and posted on the Council of Europe website, and will serve as a guide to its future work.

The working languages of the Conference will be English, French and Spanish; simultaneous interpretation between these languages will be provided.
Conference on “Preventing sexual abuse of children”

The Conference will be preceded on Monday 9 December 2013 (19.00 – 21.00) by the screening of “No tengas miedo” (Don’t be afraid) in Spanish with English subtitles, followed by a debate with the film’s director (Montxo Armendáriz), in Cine Doré, Calle de Santa Isabel, 3, Madrid.

Participants in the Conference willing to attend this screening are warmly encouraged to request an invitation at lanzarote.committee@coe.int.

Tuesday, 10 December 2013

9.00 Registration of participants
   “Good Practice circuit”

10.00 Opening session

   Welcome addresses by:
   Mr Alberto Ruiz Gallardón, Minister of Justice of Spain
   Ms Marja Ruotanen, Director of Justice and Human Dignity, Council of Europe

10.30 Coffee break and “Good practice circuit”
11.15  **Session 1: Policy and legal tools to prevent sexual abuse of children**  

**Moderator:** Ms Salomé Adroher Biosca, Director General of Services for Family and Children, Spanish Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality

- Council of Europe guidelines on integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence, **Ms Elda Moreno**, Head of the Gender Equality and Human Dignity Department, Council of Europe
- The Lanzarote Convention and the prevention of sexual abuse, **Mr Eric Ruelle** (France), Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee
- The Parliamentary Network to stop sexual violence against children, **Mr Valeriu Ghiletchi** (Moldova), First Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly
- Combating child sex tourism: The Dutch multiyear, multi-angle approach, **Mr Lennert Branderhorst**, Ministry of Security and Justice (The Netherlands)

**Debate**

13.00  Lunch break (CaixaForum) and “Good practice circuit”
Session 2: Awareness-raising campaigns for the general public and participation of children, the private sector, the media and civil society in the elaboration and implementation of policies to prevent sexual abuse of children

Moderator: Ms Elda Moreno, Head of the Gender Equality and Human Dignity Department, Council of Europe

- The “ONE in FIVE Campaign” in Spain, Mr Tomás Aller, General Coordinator, Federation of Associations for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment (Spain)
- Engaging the experts: The importance of working with young survivors of sexual violence in prevention efforts, Ms Claire Cody, The International Centre: Stopping the Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Children (United Kingdom)
- Framework sexuality and policy: The Flag system “Nothing wrong?”, Mr Joost Van Haelst, Children’s Rights coordinator, Agency for Socio-Cultural Work for Youth and Adults, Flemish Ministry of Culture, Youth, Sports and Media (Belgium)
- The code of conduct for the protection of children from sexual exploitation in travel and tourism, Mr Theo Noten, program manager of End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography & Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT) – The Netherlands
- The Prevention Project Dunkelfeld (PPD) – Proactive Strategies reaching out perpetrators and potential perpetrators to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Child Pornography Offences, Mr Klaus M. Beier, Director of the Institute of Sexology and Sexual Medicine, Charité-University of Medicine of Berlin (Germany)

Debate
16.30 Coffee break and “Good practice circuit”

17.00 Session 3: Focused prevention: empowering parents and persons working in contact with children in preventing sexual abuse

Moderator: **Ms Pepa Horno**, Consultant in childhood, affectivity and protection in Espirales Childhood Consultancy

▷ Sexuality education in schools, **Mr Dhianaraj Chetty**, Section on HIV and Health Education, Division of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development, UNESCO

▷ The NSPCC Underwear Rule Campaign – Encouraging and enabling parents to talk with children to help keep them safe, **Mr Jon Brown**, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (United Kingdom)

Debate

18.00 End of the first day
9.00 Arrival of participants
“Good Practice circuit”

10.00 Session 4: Focused prevention: empowering children in preventing sexual abuse

Moderator: Mr Kieran McGrath, Child Welfare Consultant (Ireland)

- Zero Tolerance for violence, Ms Elena Saura, Department of Social Integration, La Caixa Foundation (Spain)
- National dissemination of information about the dangers of cyber-crime in schools, Mr Carlos Igual Garrido, Captain of Civil Guard, Criminal Police Technical Unit, Crimes against Children Group (Spain)
- Preventing sexual abuse of children with disabilities, Ms Laia Alamany Ferré, Program on Sexual Abuse and Disabilities, Vicki Bernadet Foundation (Spain)
- Get a ‘Yes’: Explaining how and why Iceland made a short film about the boundaries between sex and violence, Ms Jóna Pálsdóttir, Head of Division, gender specialist, Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (Iceland)

Debate

11.00 Coffee break and “Good practice circuit”
Session 5: Focused prevention: intervention programmes with perpetrators and potential perpetrators

Moderator: Mr Santiago Redondo, Professor of Psychology and Criminology, University of Barcelona (Spain)

- From sexual thoughts to sexual offenses, Ms Tamara Turner-Moore, Senior Lecturer, Leeds Metropolitan University (United Kingdom)
- Intervention programmes with young sexual offenders, Mr Luis González Cieza, Head of research, programs and training, Community of Madrid Agency for the re-education and reintegration of young offenders (Spain)
- Intervention programmes with young sexual offenders - The ATURA'T Programme, Mr Kieran McGrath, Child Welfare Consultant (Ireland)
- Helping employers to make safer recruitment decisions: Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), Ms Shernett Ranson, Senior International Partnerships Officer, National Crime Agency (NCA), (United Kingdom)
- NSPCC safer recruitment policy, Mr Jon Brown, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (United Kingdom)

Debate
13.00 Conclusions and closing remarks

**Mr D. Fernando Pastor**, Head of Institutional Relations, CaixaForum

**Ms Salomé Adroher Biosca**, Director General of Services for Family and Children, Spanish Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality

**Ms Alejandra Frías López**, Senior Judge and Advisor of the Technical Secretariat General, Spanish Ministry of Justice

**Mr Eric Ruelle** (France), Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee