

World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse 19 November

Impact 2001

Activities and events organized by international
NGOs coalition members



Women's World Summit Foundation
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March 2002

**Activities and events
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members**

Europe

AUSTRIA

PRÄVENTION VON SEXUELLEM MISSBRAUCH UND GEWALT

To mark the Day,

Together with the organization SELBST-LAUT and 19 other organizations and groups which comprise the Vienna Network against sexual abuse of girls, boys and youth, they organized an expert group meeting/conference as well as workshops on different themes. It was a **first** Austrian event that dealt with the topic of **Prevention**. Among the more than 250 participants were social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, teachers, doctors and lawyers. Most of them were women who work with abused children.

WWSF representative Ilse Moser explained the rationale behind the creation of the World Day, and presenters and speakers underlined the importance of sexual child abuse prevention and addressed education in gender and prevention, information sharing, presentation of facts and reports) etc.

Prävention von Sexuellem Missbrauch und Gewalt
Raina Ruschmann, Psychologist
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CROATIA

NGO MIRTA, SPLIT

To mark the Day,

MiRTa organized a press conference during which press members were provided information on the importance of the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse, as well as on MiRTa's activities, specially in the field of sexual child abuse, domestic violence and violence against women.

MiRta also celebrated the anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 20 November.

MiRTa is a non-governmental and non-profit Association of citizens founded in 1994 by professionals (psychologists, social workers, pedagogues), joined by lawyers, artists, economists and scientists.

It designs and implements activities for children, young people, women and the family with the purpose of improving the quality of life and protection of mental health in the community; preventing behavioral disturbances and failure in schools, improving quality in family relationships, promoting non-violent behavior and a better quality of protection for victims of abuse, etc.

Since 1996, MiRTa is active in dealing with child abuse. Its projects and programs focus on primary and secondary prevention.

NGO MiRTa, Split
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Website: www.pujanke.hr/mirta/index.htm

CZECH REPUBLIC

STREDISKO POMOCI DETEM A RODINAM (STREP)

To mark the Day,

STREP organized a press conference and seminars for experts and the public. It presented pilot projects of primary and secondary prevention measures such as syndromes of child abuse and focused specially on neglect problems.

Local and national authorities as well as other NGOs participated.

STREP is a non-profit NGO and has as its mission to protect and help children endangered by the breakdown of their families. It offers an alternative program to conventional state administrative procedures.

Stredisko Pomoci detem a rodinam (STREP)
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FRANCE

ANGE BLEU - ASSOCIATION NATIONALE DE PREVENTION ET D'INFORMATION CONTRE LA PEDOPHILIE (ANCIP)

To mark the Day,

Latifa Bennari, President of the Association, joined WWSF events organized in Geneva on the Day, took part in the manifestation in front of the United Nations, in the press conference where she presented her prevention program, and in the evening commemoration with speakers and music at the Temple de Fusterie.

The Association organizes national activities to develop information on and prevention of pedophilia, and stays in touch with concerned individuals and organizations (specialized teams, scientists, social affairs, national educators, justice, etc.).

It provides listening, information and counsel:

- Reception (phone, e-mail, agency) to collect sexually abused victims or outsiders' revelations and testimonies.
- Permanent office for moral and psychological support, aid and therapeutic accompaniment for victims and relatives.
- Listening and active, anonymous and discreet dialogue with persons in a pedophile fantasy situation.
- Support for sexual offenders and ex-prisoners.
- Socio and legal services.

L'Ange Bleu

Latifa Bennari, President

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Website: www.ange-bleu.com

FRANCE

ASSOCIATION LA MOUETTE

To mark the Day,

the Association joined the WWSF in front of the United Nations in Geneva.

Created in 1984, the Association's main objectives are child defense and protection, victims' family support and aid, and the fight against pedophilia and pornography. The Association is a member of the European Federation for missing or sexually exploited children based in Brussels.

Association la Mouette
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FRANCE

FEMMES ET ENFANTS DU MONDE

To mark the Day,

Femmes et Enfants du Monde launched a campaign in schools, organized radio and television programs and took part in an event called “It’s about Children’s Rights” in the Mogador Theatre in Paris under the patronage of Jacques Chirac, President of the French Republic.

It also prepared materials on prevention of child abuse to be presented at the Second World Congress Against the Commercial Exploitation of Children (Yokohama, Japan, 17-20 December).

Femmes et Enfants du Monde
Jacqueline Grevy, President
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FRANCE

INNOCENCE IN DANGER

To mark the Day,

IED joined the Women's World Summit Foundation in front of the United Nations in Geneva to demonstrate against the increasing danger of sexual child abuse especially on the Internet. IED members and other concerned individuals and parents holding up cases of abused and missing children came from all over Europe to Geneva to join in the manifestation that was followed by a press conference and an evening commemoration with speakers and music at the Temple de Fusterie.

Following the Expert's meeting on sexual abuse of children, child pornography and pedophilia on the Internet (18-19 January 1999), Innocence In Danger was created by a citizens group who met at UNESCO to form an international action committee to ensure coordinated follow-up to the Action Plan to protect children on the Internet and support the work of UNESCO in this field.

Innocence In Danger seeks to:

- Group together Internet professionals and jurists, child protection specialists, personalities and political leaders in national action groups
- Sensitize world opinion on the need to actively combat child pornography and pedophilia on the Internet as well as all kinds of sexual abuse of children on the net
- Mobilize human, technical and financial resources in order to support professionals and NGOs in their work of protecting children and safeguarding their rights.

Innocence In Danger
Homayra Sellier, President
Website: www.innocenceendanger.org

GERMANY

LOBBY FÜR MENSCHENRECHTE

To mark the Day,

The Lobby für Menschenrechte organized a press conference entitled “The dignity of children is untouchable”. The question: What good are Human Rights on beautiful paper if they are daily violated? underlined the debate.

Lobby für Menschenrechte
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GREECE

THE SMILE OF THE CHILD

To mark the Day,

The Smile of the Child organized a marathon passing through all the regional mainland of Greece and stopping at different cities to inform people about children's rights and to collect money and materials to provide vital needs of deprived children and their families.

The Association will repeat the program in November 2002 and plans a campaign for 10 days. People will receive information about child abuse, the current situation, and what to do in case they come across such incidents. The Greek campaign marathon will end in Athens on 19 November where the main event will take place in the presence of personalities from various social sectors, i.e. the Government, psychology department, social welfare department, children's hospitals, police department, and the media.

The Association was founded after the wish of a ten year old boy, Andreas Yannopoulos, who wished for an Association under the name "The Smile of the Child" with the aim of protecting and promoting the rights of all children, no matter what race, nationality or origin. Andreas who died from a brain tumor but his Association continues working for children living in Greece.

The Association has a staff of psychologists, social workers, pedagogues and volunteers. Its program include hospitals for children in danger (three shelters for children up to 19 years of age), a hotline for molested and abused children, a bank of goods i.e. food, clothing and toys for children and families supported by the Association, etc.

The Association disposes of six mobile medical units and an emergency motorcycle on guard 24 hours a day. The Association also created an Internet site that is unique in Greece (www.lostchild.gr) search for and locating missing children.

The Smile of the Child
Costas Yannopoulos, President
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Website: www.hamogelo.gr

ITALY

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE FOR ALL CREATION

To mark the Day,

The International Commission for Justice and Peace for all Creation launched a national campaign to raise awareness about sexual child abuse and mailed WWSF information throughout its network to promote the World Day at local level among agencies and programs they are involved with.

International Commission for Justice and Peace for all Creation
Caroline Price
Suore del Buon Pastore, 20 Via Raffaello Sardiello, 00165 Rome, ITALY

POLAND

POLISH FORUM FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

To mark the Day,

The Polish Forum for Children's Rights sent a special information paper to all its members as well as to individuals and institutions they are connected with. A poster about the Day was presented at Forum premises with information about the NGO coalition and about the Day around the world. The information as well as a call for supporting the Day were also published on the Internet.

Polish Forum for Children's Rights
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PORTUGAL

CONFEDERAÇÃO NACIONAL DE ACÇÃO SOBRE TRABALHO INFANTIL (CNAsti)

To mark the Day,

CNAsti organized activities lasting three days within the 3rd General Children's Assembly to allow a group of children to share experiences and deep reflection on child labor problems. The children aged between 12 and 15 of different nationalities and from diverse socio-economical backgrounds and different family structures (children in risk situations) took part in various activities, i.e. workshops, debates, etc. At the end of the Children's Assembly some conclusions were retained.

CNAsti is a non-profit private Association which unites 13 organizations involved in fighting child labor as a form of exploitation and in supporting child rearing and schooling to guarantee a better future. To achieve these goals, CNAsti fights social, cultural and economic causes that allow child labor to proliferate as well as all forms of child labor.

CNAsti intervenes through awareness and information campaigns (exhibitions, seminars, conferences, etc.) and signals situations of child labor exploitation.

CNAsti works in collaboration with universities and other teaching institutions (participation in debates, conferences and training for students, etc.) and also networks with international organizations, particularly NGOs working in this area.

CNAsti

Fátima Vilas, President of the Executive Commission

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REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

FIRST CHILDREN'S EMBASSY OF THE WORLD MEDJASHI (FCEWM)

To mark the Day,

FCEWM informed all media channels about the World Day and prepared reports related to child abuse based on work of the SOS telephone line for children and youth as well as on legal services of the First Children Embassy of the World Medjashi.

The organization participated and invited the media to also take part in the National Committee for the preparation and implementation of the national plan of activities for the children of the Republic of Macedonia.

FCEWM, a non-profit international NGO, created in 1992 in response to the Bosnian refugee crisis and the need to support Bosnian refugee children in Macedonia, has as its main purpose to promote the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in Macedonia and internationally, to advocate for change in policies at the government level, to ensure that children's rights are protected and to defend the most disadvantaged groups of children: child laborers, street children, refugee children, children affected by war and conflict.

First Children's Embassy of the World Medjashi (FCEWM)
Dragi Zmijanac, Executive Director and co-Founder
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Website: www.unet.com.mk/medzasi/

SLOVAKIA

CHILD PROTECTION CENTRE AND NATIONAL GENDER CENTRE

To mark the Day,

Child Protection Centre and National Gender Center organized a press conference. All Slovak television, radio and press broadcasted materials and information on prevention of child abuse and about the meaning of the international NGO coalition created to mark the Day.

WWSF materials and Dr. Sherryll Kraizer's public briefing on how to protect children from abuse were translated and transmitted to the media.

Two projects are planned for 2002: a first on bullying at school and a second on prevention and elimination of family violence and prevention of sexual child abuse. Brochures will be distributed to children and parents to give them information on how to manage potentially abusive situations. The whole year activities will culminate on 19 November 2002 with a benefit concert and an opportunity for people to speak up and demand effective prevention programs of child abuse.

Child Protection Center and National Gender Center
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Website: www.rovnopravnost.sk

SPAIN

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS (WAECE)

To mark the Day,

WAECE published a special section of the World Day on its website (both in English and Spanish) including WWSF educational materials, additional resources and websites of interest.

Every week during November, WAECE included a special story on children's rights in its News Bulletin giving specialized web links. On 19 November, a special edition of their bulletin was sent to 15'000 subscribers.

WAECE, created as the result of meetings among professionals from different countries during the First International Conference on Early Childhood Education held in 1991 in Victoria (Spain), is a NGO that works in the field of early childhood education.

Its main objectives are to make it possible for every child younger than six years to exercise his /her right to early educational services to fully develop his/her capacities; to exchange experiences, foster contacts and collaboration among all early childhood educators; and to establish a resource center for the use of members of the Association.

WAECE works mainly towards the improvement of early childhood education by providing training and educational experiences for educators, administrators, parents and university students. It also prepares, edits and publishes educational materials, most of them available free of charge.

World Association of Early Childhood Educators (WAECE)

Eduardo Reyes, Program Coordinator

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Website: www.waece.com

SWEDEN

KVINNOFORUM, THE FOUNDATION OF WOMEN'S FORUM

To mark the Day,

Kvinnoforum informed its 1000 members, partners and teachers in the schools for girls about the World Day and about activities around the world.

Kvinnoforum also made announcements on its website.

Kvinnoforum's main mission is to promote women's health and equal rights and to ensure women control over sexuality and reproduction.

Kvinnoforum, The Foundation of Women's Forum
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SWITZERLAND

COMITE INTERNATIONAL POUR LA DIGNITE DE L'ENFANT (CIDE)

To mark the Day,

Georges Glatz, CIDE President, participated in the press conference organized by WWSF in Geneva and denounced the existence of a CD-ROM containing pedophile images.

Founded in 1991 in Lausanne, C.I.D.E. is an independent Swiss Foundation uniting information professionals, volunteer jurists and representatives from different psychosocial fields. Its objective is to inform the public about attacks on a child's dignity all over the world. C.I.D.E. makes inquiries (realized by professionals) on diverse subjects related to the dignity of children and commits itself to publicly, objectively and independently denounce violations of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by individuals, private institutions and state agencies, through articles, reports, video and picture dissemination.

If proved necessary, C.I.D.E. engages in and/or supports legal procedures. It has a network of lawyers victims can appoint to defend their rights.

Comité International pour la Dignité de l'Enfant (C.I.D.E.)

George Glatz, President

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Website: www.cide.org

SWITZERLAND

FONDATION POUR LA RECHERCHE D'ENFANTS DISPARUS PAR L'INTERNET (FREDI)

To mark the Day,

with the Foundation Vice-President participating in the press conference organized in Geneva on 19 November.

FREDI organized a peaceful manifestation with the objective to mark the World Day for and by children, sensitize young people to the issue of missing and abused children, and publicize the work of FREDI.

Several primary school classes realized drawings for posters put up in the city of Fribourg and in neighborhood villages. Secondary school students produced a play on potential dangers of chat rooms on the Internet, baked cakes, made floral arrangements for tables, and sang songs.

FREDI developed a very interesting concept to mark the World Day, i.e. a competition on the rights of the child was organized whereby each young person had to join together with an adult and convince him/her to compete.

FREDI is a Swiss non-profit Foundation with public utility status, based in Fribourg. FREDI's Internet site opened in 1997 as a medium intended to publicize missing children on the Internet (free of charge). When a child is missing for more than six months, FREDI searches traces that may have been left and/or deliberately photographed. FREDI does not carry out physical search. FREDI also develops campaigns and prevention programs on its website.

Fondation FREDI
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SWITZERLAND

INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DES DROITS DE L'ENFANT (IDE)

To mark the Day,

IDE mentioned 19 November on its website and in its online newspaper as **the event** of the month. It also planned a trip to Burma to work on child exploitation and distributed WWSF information there, as well as during the Sarah Oberson Day (7 November).

Created in 1995 in Sion thanks to the collaboration with Association Internationale des Magistrats de la Jeunesse et de la Famille (AIMJF) and the Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch (IUKB), IDE is supported by the Fondation de l'Institut des Droits de l'Enfant, and has a scientific advisory board of ten. Non-political and non-confessional, IDE has an international vocation and its objectives are to disseminate significant information on the rights of the child, provide trainings for the implementation of the rights for those working with children, and institute a culture or a spirit of the "Rights of the child".

To reach its objectives, IDE organizes seminars and trainings in Sion and abroad. It has notably signed conventions with foreign universities (Buenos Aires, Bogotá) and collaborates with several NGOs.

An IDE member is the Sarah Oberson Foundation (www.sarahoberson.org) dedicated to children victims as well as the Association Maurice Veillard-Cybulski that supports innovative programs in the field of taking care of difficult children.

Institut International des Droits de l'Enfant (IDE)
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Website: www.childsrights.org

SWITZERLAND

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES (ICN)

To mark the Day,

The International Council of Nurses widely disseminated information and promoted the World Day throughout its member national nurses associations in 124 countries to increase awareness of and concern for child abuse as a public health issue. It also called on its members to mark the Day in their own countries and lobby their governments, NGOs and others to combat child abuse in all its forms. Moreover, it developed a fact sheet on prevention of child abuse for broad dissemination.

The International Council of Nurses is a federation of 124 national nurses associations representing nurses from over 120 countries. Founded in 1899, it is the first and largest international organization uniting health professionals. It works to ensure quality care for all and sound health policies globally.

ICN is in official relations with WHO (World Health Organization) and other UN agencies. It has endorsed the UN Declaration of the rights of the child as well as the Convention on the Rights of the child and supports efforts made by its member national nurses associations to promote the principles set forth in the Convention.

Through its policy and partnerships with WHO, UNICEF and NGOs, it promotes health and the well being of populations including health of children and other vulnerable groups.

International Council of Nurses (ICN)
Judith A. Oulton, Executive Director
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Website: www.ich.ch

TURKEY

CANAKKALE ASSOCIATION TO SUPPORT WOMEN'S LABOR - WOMEN FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

To mark the Day,

60 members of the organization as well as 20 children participated in an event organized by the Association in the city of Canakkale (not open to the general public). Its main aim was on how to create public awareness about child abuse, call the local government's attention to the issue, encourage parents to think about it and inform the public about the institutions they can have recourse to in case of child abuse.

Posters with slogans and articles from the Convention on the rights of the child were realized by children and put up on walls.

The meeting started with the delivery of the press release by the Director of the Association, followed by all children and members gathered around a pool, lighting candles and distributing balloons with messages to all the children. Two working groups were formed and two social workers intervened as moderators providing information on the issue.

The next day, another meeting was organized to discuss "Strategies to prevent child abuse". 48 women attended this meeting and the Deputy Chief of the police, representatives from three other branch offices and a social worker, participated as speakers. Following the discussions, a final report was prepared.

The WWSF poster was reproduced in Turkish.

The Canakkale Association to support Women's Labor – Women for Women's Human Rights - NEW WAYS – was founded by the Association to Support Women's Labor. Since its foundation, the Association has proved to be one of the most successful examples of women's grassroots organizations in Turkey. Its working areas include women's human rights, violence against women and women's economic rights.

Canakkale Association to Support Women's Labor - Women for Women's Human Rights

Pinar Ilkcaracan, Co-ordinator

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Website: www.wwhr.org

UNITED KINGDOM

AFRICANS UNITE AGAINST CHILD ABUSE (AFRUCA)

To mark the Day,

AFRUCA widely disseminated a press release highlighting the importance of the World Day and promoted Dr. Sherryll Kraizer's public briefing "Protecting children from abuse". AFRUCA also presented a copy of the public briefing to each delegate attending its conference in January 2002.

AFRUCA is a non-profit organization concerned about cruelty against the African Child. Its aim is to raise mass awareness, educate, mobilize and sensitize against all forms of abuse and cruelty against African children, both within and outside Africa.

Its objectives are to identify, collect and disseminate information; to raise awareness among all Africans and friends of Africa; to enlighten and change people's attitudes towards the issue of child abuse in Africa, especially those inherent in socio-cultural traditions; to educate and inform about the impact of child abuse on Africa's economic, social and political future; to lobby African governments, international organizations, multi-national organizations and governments of the developed world to act against abuse of African children.

Its main focus is in trafficking and abandonment of children, sexual exploitation and physical, mental and emotional abuse of African children, child slavery, child domestic servitude, child soldiers, street children, socio-cultural traditional practices that negatively impact children.

Africans Unite Against Child Abuse (AFRUCA)
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Website: www.abusemuststop.org

UNITED KINGDOM

PEACE CHILD INTERNATIONAL

To mark the Day,

Peace Child didn't do anything specific but published a book on the rights of the child entitled "Stand up. Speak out", written, illustrated and edited by young people from all over the world. A section on child abuse is a central part of the book.

Founded in 1981, Peace Child has built up a strong network of schools, youth groups and youth networks in 120 countries, representing many millions of young people aged 12-25, teachers, government liaison officers, parents and interested individuals. Peace Child has NGO consultative status at the UN.

Its main mission is to empower children to take responsibility for peace, human rights and the environment through education, leadership development and direct participation in events by producing publications; musicals, conferences and encouraging affiliated youth groups throughout the world.

Peace Child International
Rosey Wollcombe, Executive Director
The White House, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 9AH, UK
Tel.: +44 176 327 4459 / Fax: 44 176 327 4460
Website: www.peacechild.org

Non-members of the coalition, which marked the World Day,

AFRICA

- Association des jeunes pour la Promotion de la Femme et le soutien aux Enfants déshérités (AFPE), **Benin**
- BACEF, **D.R. Congo**
- Les anges du ciel, **D.R. Congo**
- Projet GRAM-Kivu, **D.R. Congo**
- Community Peace Building, **Kenya**
- Child Health Organisation, **Nigeria**
- Family Unity for Sustainable Development Foundation, **Nigeria**

ASIA & PACIFIC

- Farmers Development Agency, **India**
- Ma-O-Shishu, **India**
- Mass Education, **India**
- People's Development Center, **India**
- Prevention and Elimination of violence Against Children and Environment (PEACE), **Sri Lanka**

THE AMERICAS

- Colectiva Feminista Alfonsina Storni, **Argentina**
- Fundación por Nuestros Niños, **Mexico**
- Fondo de Seguridad Social de la Mujer y la Niñez, **Panama**
- The Coordinating Council of Women, **Trinidad & Tobago**
- Casa de los Niños, **Uruguay**
- Peaceways, **USA**

EUROPE

- National Council of Turkish Women, **Turkey**
- The Yugoslav Child Rights Center and Let's Cherish the Children, **Yugoslavia**