



International Conference: Measuring the Effectiveness of Children's Rights Make all children count!

Egmont Palace, Place du Petit Sablon 8 - 1000 Brussels, Belgium



An initiative of the National Commission on the Rights of the Child - Belgium, in collaboration with ChildONEurope.

With the support of



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ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The process of children's rights moving from the setting of legally binding standards to their effective implementation depends, in large measure, on the availability of appropriate tools for policy formulation and evaluation. Both quantitative and qualitative indicators are one of those essential tools. The United Nations Committee for the Rights of the Child thus systematically recommends data collection regarding measures taken to give effect to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to work with indicators to evaluate implementation. This is a topical subject and different national and international initiatives have been undertaken in this field recently.

Even though the importance of indicators is underlined in human rights treaties, their use has not yet become systematic in the policies meant to the implementation of the international standards. Numerous questions – among others concerning methodology and approach – also remain at the forefront of this debate.

The present conference aims at contributing towards filling these gaps and at offering practitioners, policy makers, researchers, and child advocates the opportunity to share (best) practices and find a common

ground on how to measure the effectiveness of children's rights in the objective of their continuous improvement. The main outputs expected of the conference are concrete and jointly developed elements for guidelines on that subject-matter.

The conference will be structured around four key questions:

- 1/ **Setting the debate: What constitutes an effective tool for measuring the effectiveness of children's rights?**
- 2/ **How can synergies and links between child-rights / child wellbeing indicators and other measuring instruments be developed ?**
- 3/ **How to ensure meaningful participation of children?**
- 4/ **How can the most vulnerable children be reached and included by data collection systems and instruments?**

More information on the conference and its programme will follow shortly with the invitations.



ABOUT THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD – BELGIUM

The National Commission on the Rights of the Child (NCRC) is a Belgian official human rights body. The Commission works as a coordination platform gathering 90 governmental and non-governmental actors in the children's rights realm. Its main mandate is

- 1/ to coordinate and contribute to the drafting of reports of Belgium to international organizations with regards to children's rights, including the State periodic report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child; and
- 2/ to formulate recommendations with regards to children's rights policies.

To reflect this dual mission and rationalize its working methods, since 2015 the Commission is composed of an intergovernmental body as well as an independent advisory body.

Among the NCRC's missions is to coordinate the gathering and analysis of data in order to assess the children's rights situation in Belgium. In this context, the Commission has, among others, selected and developed 40 indicators aiming at measuring the effectiveness of children's rights from the viewpoint of the child itself. For more information see www.ncrk.be

ABOUT CHILDONEUROPE

ChildONEurope – the European Network of National Observatories on Childhood –, a network for exchange and cooperation on children policies and research, is a common initiative of European member states born in 2003 to have their administration representatives and experts meet regularly to exchange on policies, legislations and good practice and to decide and finance research activities together.

The objectives of ChildONEurope are the following:

- exchange of information among the member states on legislation, policies, programs, best practices in the area of children policies;
- exchange of knowledge on methodology, comparative analysis and indicators in order to obtain comparability of information;
- exchange of knowledge and information with other organizations working in the same area.

