

CONFERENCE ON HANDLING CHILD EVIDENCE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A CHILD-FRIENDLY JUSTICE SYSTEM

The Council of Europe is undertaking, in collaboration with the Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS), a regional activity on child evidence within the framework of a child-friendly justice system. The activity will exchange recent best initiatives and practices in the Baltic Sea Region on the gathering, taking and testing of evidence from children in criminal, civil and administrative proceedings with an aim to facilitating their transposition from one legal system to another.

This conference, organised in co-operation with the Ministries of Justice and Social Affairs of Estonia, will provide an opportunity for the participants to discuss the results of a comparative analysis commissioned by the Council of Europe for analysing good practice on handling children's evidence in legal proceedings in the region, with a view to better understanding the critical factors for their success

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Hotel Euroopa
West-Euroopa Room
Tallinn (Estonia)
19-20 February 2015

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

PROGRAMME



WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2015

20.00 WELCOMING DINNER

THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2015

9.00 – 9.30 ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

9.30 – 10.00 OPENING & WELCOME

- ▶ **Ms Kai Härmand**, Head of the Legislative Policy Department, Ministry of Justice of Estonia
- ▶ **Ms Hanne Juncher**, Head of Justice and Legal Co-operation Department, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI), Council of Europe
- ▶ **Ms Turid Heiberg**, Head of Children's Unit, Council of the Baltic Sea States Secretariat

10.00 – 10.45 CHILDREN'S EVIDENCE IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Child-friendly justice guidelines on evidence and statements by children

- ▶ **Mr Philippe Krantz**, Legal Officer, Division for Legal Co-operation (DGI), Council of Europe

Handling, protecting and testing evidence from children in legal proceedings in the Baltic Sea Region: Presentation of the comparative study

- ▶ **Ms Anna Kaldal**, Associate Professor in procedural Law, Faculty of Law, Stockholm University, Sweden

Question and answer session

10.00 – 10.45 COFFEE BREAK

11.00 – 12.30 CHILDREN'S HOUSES – A CHILD FRIENDLY MODEL

Presentations

- ▶ **Iceland: Mr Bragi Guðbrandsson**, General Director, Government Agency for Child Protection, Reykjavik
- ▶ **Norway:**
 - **Ms Astrid Johanne Pettersen**, Executive Director, The Children's House Statens Barnehus, Oslo
- ▶ **Ms Tone Davik**, Police Superintendent / senior specialist in interviewing children, National Criminal Investigation Service (KRIPSOS), Oslo
- ▶ **Sweden: Mr Carl Göran Svedin**, Professor, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry/IKE, Faculty of Health Sciences, Linköping University, Linköping

Question and answer session

12.30 – 13.30 LUNCH

13.30 – 14.30 ENSURING A CHILD-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT FOR THE INTERVIEW

Presentations

- ▶ **Denmark: Mr Steen Birkedal**, Special Consultant on Children's Welfare, National Board of Social Services, Copenhagen
- ▶ **Lithuania: Ms Eglė Kavoliūnaitė-Ragauskienė**, Head of Legal System Research Department Law Institute of Lithuania, Vilnius
- ▶ **Sweden: Ms Asa Landberg**, Psychologist psychotherapist, Enskede

Discussion, information from other participants, questions and answers

14.30 – 15.30 PREPARING AND CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW

Presentations

- ▶ **Finland: Ms Julia Korkman**, PhD, Forensic Psychiatry Centre for Children and Adolescents, Helsinki University Hospital, Helsinki
- ▶ **Latvia: Ms Vita Kalote**, Head of Prevention Unit, Kurzeme Regional Board, State Police of Latvia, Liepaja

- ▶ **Sweden: Ms Malin Källstöm**, Police officer, National Police Board, Stockholm

Discussion, information from other participants, questions and answers

15.30 – 16.00 COFFEE BREAK

16.00 – 17.00 THE TIMING AND NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS

Presentations

- ▶ **Estonia: Ms Brit Tammiste**, Adviser, Analysis Division, Criminal Policy Department, Ministry of Justice, Tallinn
- ▶ **Norway: Mr Lars Meling**, Senior Advisor, Police Department, Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Oslo
- ▶ **Sweden: Mr Pär Stihl**, Chief Detective Inspector, Institute of Police Education, Linnaeus University, Växjö

Discussion, information from other participants, questions and answers

17.00 – 18.00 ENSURING PROBATIVE VALUE OF CHILDREN STATEMENTS

Presentations

- ▶ **Germany: Mr Thomas Meysen**, Director, German Institute for Youth Human Services and Family Law, Heidelberg
- ▶ **Sweden: Mr Mikael Björk**, Deputy Director of Public Prosecution, Prosecution Development Centre, Göteborg

Discussion, information from other participants, questions and answers

18.00 END OF DAY ONE

19h30 DINNER

FRIDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2015

9.30 – 10.30 REPRESENTING THE CHILD AND DEFENDING ITS INTEREST

Presentations

- ▶ **Denmark: Mr Morten Holland Heide**, Lawyer, Procedural Law Division, Ministry of Justice, Copenhagen
- ▶ **Iceland: Ms Hrfena Friðriksdóttir**, Associate Professor, University of Iceland, Reykjavik
- ▶ **Russian Federation: Mr Yury Zudov**, Deputy Director, Department for Legal Aid and Judicial Cooperation, Ministry of Justice, Moscow

Discussion, information from other participants, questions and answers

10.30 – 11.00 COFFEE BREAK

11.00 – 12.00 PARALLEL CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS

Presentations

- ▶ **Estonia: Ms Leanika Tamm**, Judge, Viru County Court, Ida-Viru maakond
- ▶ **Iceland: Mr Bragi Guðbrandsson**, General Director, Government Agency for Child Protection, Reykjavik
- ▶ **Sweden: Mr Carl Göran Svedin**, Professor, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry/IKE, Faculty of Health Sciences, Linköping University, Linköping

Discussion, information from other participants, questions and answers

12.00 – 12.30 NEXT STEPS

- ▶ **Mr Simon Tonelli**, Head of the Division for Legal Co-operation (DGI), Council of Europe, and Secretary to the European Committee on Legal Co-operation

12.30 CLOSE OF THE CONFERENCE

13.00 FAREWELL LUNCH