PRESENTATION

Let’s pause for a moment on the path towards Human Rights and pay attention to what children and adolescents have to say. Hearing them is not enough; we need to take them into account and grant paramount consideration to their opinion and participation wherever their interests are involved. It concerns us all.

The scope and significance of their vindications was made clear in the “Gran Documento” produced in Venezuela, as well as in the Lima Declaration, presented at the closing of the II World Congress on Children and Adolescents’ Rights, held in November 2005.

The dynamism of a world in constant evolution cannot be qualified as progress unless it allows the social participation of children and adolescents. It is not enough to respect their active citizenship; it needs to be guaranteed, for the full completion of their rights, which have been universally recognised and agreed, as proven by the fact that the Convention on the Rights of the Child has been almost unanimously ratified.

The III World Congress on Children and Adolescents’ Rights, to take place in Barcelona, 14 to 19 November 2007, finds its starting point in the statements made by children and adolescents in the 2003 and 2005 Declarations, which were the result of the two previous World Congresses on Children and Adolescents’ Rights. These postulates define the focal themes of the Barcelona Congress. By listening to their voices and requests and counting on their actual participation, we intend to analyse and offer solutions to the worries and questions that the present reality of children and adolescents poses. Our interest is institutional and professional, but mainly personal. Our ultimate goal is to set guidelines towards attaining “a world fit for children”, so that we may all be committed to it, since this is the world that the whole of society needs.

We are starting off towards Barcelona 2007 with these goals in mind and open to solidarity-based participation and sharing efforts with children and adolescents.

We are hoping not only for your attendance, but also for your active participation in the III World Congress on Children and Adolescents’ Rights. The more of us involved, the louder our voice will be. For a better world for children and adolescents; for a better world for all.
Program

Plenary Sessions and Workshops

1st day, 14 November 2007

Morning

Welcome to Participants and Collection of Conference Materials

Formal and Institutional Opening

Coffee-break

First Plenary Session: Securing the Participation of Children and Adolescents in the Reports Submitted to the Committee on the Rights of the Child

Second Plenary Session: Towards True Participation and Organization of Children and Adolescents in Social Politics and Their Areas of Interest

Afternoon

Workshops

Room 1: Developing a Paramount Role of Children and Adolescents within the Different Family Models: a Space for Full Exercise of Their Rights.

Room 2: The Incorporation of Children and Adolescents to the Management of Public Policy

Room 3: Children and Youngsters’ Associations: a First Exercise of Participative Democracy

Coffee-break

Third Plenary Session: Peaceful Cohabitation and a Culture of Respect Towards the Rights of Children and Adolescents: Against Violence and Discrimination

2nd day, 15 November 2007

Morning

Fourth Plenary Session: The Role of the Streets in Bringing up a Child: Silent Voices

Coffee-break


Afternoon
Fifth Plenary Session: The Participation of Children and Adolescents in the Drafting of Transversal Acts and Dedicated Codes

Coffee-break

Workshops

Room 1: Disability, and Equality from Childhood

Room 2: Recognition of Rights versus Adolescents in Conflict with Criminal Law: a Critical Perspective Derived from Practice

Room 3: Indigenous Children and Adolescents’ Contribution to the Preservation of Cultural Identity

3rd day, 16 November 2007

Morning

Sixth Plenary Session: The Participation of Children and Adolescents in Educational Programs. Values Acquired through Society’s Multiple Outputs.

Workshops

Room 1: The Rights of Children and Adolescents to a Sustainable Ecological Development. Preparing the Future: A Healthy Environment for All

Room 2: The Participation of Children and Adolescents Regarding New Information and Communication Technologies

Room 3: Democracy in the Classroom

Afternoon


Coffee-break

Workshops

Room 1: A Collective Evaluation from the Reality of Working Children and Adolescents Worldwide

Room 2: The Right to a Decent Home. The Participation of Children and Adolescents in Urban Planning

Room 3: Children and Adolescents versus Advertising. Their Participation in Consumer Policies
4th day, 19 November 2007

Morning

Round Table: Proposals for a Real Interaction between Children and Adolescents and Minors’ Ombudsmen.

Coffee-break

Workshops

Room 1: The Participation of Children and Adolescents in Cultural and Entertainment Issues

Room 2: The Participation of Children and Adolescents in Health Issues. Towards a Universal Right to Health Coverage

Room 3: The Gender Approach within Childhood and Adolescence Policies

Afternoon

Eighth Plenary Session: Resilience in the Development of Children and Adolescents’ Identities

Coffee-break

Round Table: Conclusions

Presentation and Approval of the Declaration of Barcelona

Close