

12th European Forum on the rights of the child

Where we are and where we want to go

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Albert Borschette Conference Centre (CCAB)
2-3 April 2019



Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels

Draft Programme

Tuesday, 2 April 2019

08:00 – 09:30 *Registration*

The Forum (plenary sessions) will be moderated by Adrio Bacchetta

09:30 – 11:00 **Plenary session I: The protection of children's rights in the EU - where do we stand today?**

- **Věra Jourová**, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality
- **Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**, Member of the European Parliament, Coordinator and Spokesperson for the Rights of the Child
- **Marius-Constantin Budai**, Minister for Labor and Social Justice, Romania
- **Thorbjørn Jagland**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe (tbc)
- **Charlotte Petri Gornitzka**, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director

11:00 – 11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30 – 12:45 **Plenary session II: The protection of children's rights in the EU - what key challenges ahead of us?**

- **Ásmundur Einar Daðason**, Minister of Social Affairs and Children, Iceland (tbc)
- **Marta Santos Pais**, United Nations special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against children
- **Young person** presenting the Europe Kids Want survey*
- **Nigel Cantwell**, founder of Defence for Children International and coordinator of the NGO Group input to the UNCRC
- **Michael Ludwig**, Mayor of Vienna (tbc)

**The 2018 [Europe Kids Want Survey](#) was conducted by Unicef and Eurochild, and is the biggest survey of this kind ever conducted in the EU (more than 15.000 children interviewed).*

12:45-14:15 *Lunch*

14.15 – 15.30 **Plenary session III: The protection of children's rights in the EU - what key challenges ahead of us?**

- **Benyam Dawit Mezmur**, member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (tbc)
- **Martina Erb Klünemann**, Family Court Judge, Germany, network judge (EJN and international Hague network of Judges)
- **Nuala Mole**, Founder and senior lawyer at the AIRE centre
- **William Grech**, Executive Director of Kopin, Malta (tbc)

15.30 – 15:45 *Coffee break*

15:45 – 17.30 **Parallel workshops on strategic priorities: challenges and problem definition**

Workshop 1) The protection of children in migration

Workshop 2) Children's rights in the ever-changing digital world

Workshop 3) Children and young people's participation in the EU political and democratic life

17:30 *End of day 1*

19:00 *Participants' dinner at the Thon hotel city centre*

Wednesday, 3 April 2019

09:00-10:30 **Parallel workshops: Good practices and recommendations for future actions**

Workshop 1) The protection of children in migration

Workshop 2) Children's rights in the ever-changing digital world

Workshop 3) Children and young people's participation in the EU political and democratic life

10:30 – 11:00 *coffee break*

11:00 – 12:30 **Plenary session III: reporting from workshops discussion**

Moderated by Adrio Bacchetta

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

14:00 – 16:00 **Plenary session V: Going forward – a conversation about further strengthening the protection of children's rights in the EU**

Moderated by Adrio Bacchetta.

- **Tiina Astola**, Director General for Justice and Consumers, European Commission
- **Johanna Suurpää**, Director, Unit for Democracy, Language Affairs and Fundamental Rights of the Ministry of Justice, Finland
- **Caterina Chinnici**, MEP, Chair of the Intergroup on children's rights
- **Michael O'Flaherty**, Director, European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (tbc)
- **Laura Lundy**, Co-Director of the Centre for Children's Rights and a Professor in the School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work at Queen's University, Belfast
- **Marco Pancini**, Director of Public Policy at YouTube (tbc)