



INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF EDUCATIVE
COMMUNITIES

E A C H C H I L D D O E S M A T T E R



FICE INTERNATIONAL REPORT 2012

FICE International /International Federation of Educative Communities/ was founded in 1948 under the patronage of UNESCO in Trogen (Switzerland). It maintains contacts with UNESCO, UNICEF, Council of Europe and ECOSOC. It is also a member of the UN-NGO-Group on the Rights of the Child and member of ENSACT.

VISION

FICE International's vision is to create networks across continents worldwide to support actions and all those working with at-risk children, children with special needs and children and young people in out-of-home care. All activities aim to respect the personality, interests and needs of the child or the young person.

FICE International stands for:

- Children in out-of-home care
- Children with special needs
- Children at risk

FICE'S MAIN AIM IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE OUT-OF-HOME CARE DEVELOPMENT.

FICE:


- Recognizes the individuality of children, young people and their parents.
- Supports the family as the basic social structure for the upbringing of children.
- Will never try to force a child to conform with pre-determined norms.
- Advocates for an optimum development support for children and young persons who cannot live at home.
- Seeks to find solutions to match the child safety, confident relationship environment and perspectives.
- Bases its work on the UN-Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Rejects any ethnical, sexual, lingual, religious, political or social discrimination.

In order to achieve its aims FICE-International:



- Works through its national sections. Its members work as educators in homes, foster care families or out-of-home care trainers.
- Encourages professional exchanges between national sections.



EXTRACT FICE INTERNATIONAL SECTIONS REPORTS

COUNTRY	Name of the National Section and President	ACTIVITIES
 Austria	FICE Austria Mr. Hermann Radler	<p><i>FICE Austria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed four meetings of the board. • Organized conference in October 2012 together with Vienna City. • Organized 4 dialogues about „Strength instead of power (lessness) – courses about handling violence and safety in social pedagogic institutes“. More than 200 participants attended. • Cooperated with FICE Hungary to select and prepare foster parents. • Supported FICE Kenya in realization of project for professional child and youth care worker training, together with Make Me Smile, Kenya. • International collaboration with FICE Romania and FICE Israel in the field of child care: exchange of experience, methods and programs. • Collaborated an International project, realized together with FICE Spain and FICE-Bulgaria: “Together against violence”. • Actively presented FICE-International Congress in Bern on different international forums. • FICE Austria representatives attended International Congresses in Canada and Estonia. • Cooperated with the International Child and Youth Care Network - CYC-net. • Participated in Federal Council and in FICE International working groups. • Members of FICE Austria are individuals, companies, communes and municipalities.




 Belgium	Individual Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The individual members are professionals working in the field of support for children at risk.
 Bosnia and Herzegovina	FICE Bosnia & Herzegovina Mr. Admir Ljescanin	<p>FICE Bosnia & Herzegovina:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FICE Bosnia and Herzegovina realized projects with young people with behavioral problems.
 Bulgaria	Association for pedagogical and social assistance for children FICE-Bulgaria Mrs. Dashenka Kraveva	<p>FICE-Bulgaria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realized „PRIDE” project for training and support for families (foster, adoptive and relatives) for accepting and bringing up children at risk. Realized “PRIDE 2” project for master trainings for professionals supporting families (foster, adoptive and relatives), accepting and bringing up children at risk. Realized “I can – give me a chance” project for further development of the Dutch math educational program for children with intellectual disabilities. Realized an international partnership project “TRAIN-KOSOZIAL – Training and Transfer of Competences of Social Informatics based on EVAS into the”, financed by Leonardo Program. The partner’s organizations from Germany, Spain, Luxembourg and Austria. The main goal of the project is the development of training models in relation to the case work, exchanging experience and maintaining website. Together with FICE Swiss were preparing a project for diagnostic center for youth with deviant behavior. Implemented “To grow up together” program, for work with parents, delegated by UNICEF. Realized Trainings for the staff in Institutions for children with disabilities, delegated by the National Agency for Child Protection. Realized “Support for adaptation and



		<p>future” project, directed to psychological support for foreigners or refugees, looking for protection, financed by European Refugee Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized “Professional support” project for increasing the professional competency of the staff, working with refugees, financed by European Refugee Fund. • Held: 8 Managing Committee Meetings; 1 General Members Meeting; 6 Trainings; 1 Conference; carried out 2 researches and published 2 publications. • Participated: in different state commissions; in the National Council for Child Protection; consulted foreigner organizations; communicated with its members and was preparing for new projects. • Presidency of FICE International – FICE-Bulgaria hosted the FC in October. • Members of FICE-Bulgaria are 60 individual and 62 legal entities; 1 new member.
 Canada	<p>Individual Members</p> <p>Mr. James Anglin</p> <p>Mr. Thom Garfat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the organization of CYC-net conference in June 2013 in Canada, where FICE International is a partner.
 Czech Republic	<p>FICE Czech Republic</p> <p>Mrs. Jana Koubova</p>	<p><i>FICE Czech Republic:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November 2012 were held the new elections in the management of the Federation after the end of the regular free-year election term. • Organized two professional seminars that deal with the foster family care of children.
 Denmark	<p>FICE Denmark</p> <p>Mrs. Karen Scott</p>	<p><i>FICE Denmark:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized the General Assembly in Odense, June 2012.
 	<p>Individual members</p> <p>Mr. David Lane</p> <p>Mr. Vic Citarella</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active in various ways to try to create an organization which can act as FICE UK.




England		
 Estonia	<p>Estonian Union for Child Welfare (EUCW)</p> <p>Mrs. Katrin Saks</p> <p>Estonian Children's Fund</p> <p>Mr. Sirje Grossmann-Loot</p>	<p><i>Estonian Union for Child Welfare (EUCW):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized training courses in Tallinn and other Estonian regions. The trainings helped to complement knowledge and skills in working with children and families. • Educated new members of the Council on child rights issues and about how to inform other children about child rights using different methods. After the training 15 members of the Youth Council visited different Youth Centers and Schools to raise children's awareness about child rights issues. • Realized „Kindergartens - free of bullying" project, focuses on preventing bullying behavior in kindergartens and promoting values like tolerance, honesty, respect and regard. • Was preparing to extend project activities and involve all kindergartens in Estonia in 2013.
 Finland	<p>Central Union for child welfare</p> <p>Mr. Martti Kemppainen</p>	<p><i>Central Union for child welfare:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in FICE CF held in Bulgaria. • Participated in “Taking Action for Children” – 1st International Conference and Regional Network Meetings, in Russia. • Participated in Eurochild Workshop “Translating Eurochild messages into advocacy at national level”, in Estonia. • Participated in EUSARF Conference on “All Our Children”, in Scotland. • Participated in 19th ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, in Turkey. • Participated in IFCO European + Regional Training Conference on “It takes a village to raise a child. Developing foster care in transforming societies”, in Bulgaria. • Participated in an All-Russian Conference on “Prevention of social orphanage and improvement of the situation of families with children at early age: experience,




		<p>problems, perspectives”, in Russia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized “Keys to success – support to development of preventive child welfare in the Republic of Karelia” project, including several training seminars, work on welfare indicators, a survey of the wellbeing of children and young people. • Hosted a delegation of 16 child welfare officials and experts from Russia. • Published “Mail from the field” newsletter - 41 letters; “News from the world” - 3 letters; News from the library and information service - 3 letters. • Held 5 press conferences and made 24 press releases.
 Germany	<p>FICE Germany (Internationale Gesellschaft für erzieherische Hilfen). Mr. Josef Koch President: Dr. Hans-Ullrich Krause</p>	<p><i>FICE Germany:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized several activities towards reform in the care system for children especially in defense of their rights. • Realized research projects in the field of special problems in education and social work. • Realized 4 ongoing and new projects on the subject of child participation, young care leaver, use of modern media in residential care. • Participated in consultations in the political sphere, concerning the children’s rights and advertising concerning regulations by law for the child and youth welfare. • Organized exchange experience among professionals, children and youth. • Organized 3 large meetings on the subjects of foster care, residential care and day care (each with 300-400 people). • Realized 9 Expert-Conferences and meetings on the topic of young children in residential care, young adults, research in residential care and foster care, German-Israeli dialogue between residential educators: The use of Artistic medium for empowerment of youth at risk in both





		<p>countries and other themes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized 30 trainings and seminars for employees in social work. • Organized 2 working groups in the follow of the IGfH future workshop in spring 2012: Recruitment new members and cooperation of volunteers and the honorary bodies. • Realized 5 new publications (books) dealing with migration and child protection, parent coaching, family assistance, participation in residential care and others. • Published 5 policy papers and resolutions dealing with social inclusion, unaccompanied minor refugees, and child protection. • Published 5 issues - Journal "Forum Erziehungshilfen" (2,700 copies). • Was reconstructing and planning of a new website. • Have 1 600 members and 25 Honorary Bodies.
 Hungary	<p>FICE Hungary Mrs. Vera Hazai</p>	<p><i>FICE Hungary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized „LÉPÉS-VÁLTÁS” project for reintegration of convicted people into society through educational, employment and other re-integration programs (in cooperation with two youth custody centers). • Launched accredited further education programs for child care professionals. • Organized workshops on the most important child care issues. • Ran a professional club for leaders in the child care profession. • Provided professional advice for the government related to child protection legislation. • Organized a professional field-trip to Israel in cooperation with FICE Israel. • Organized group of young people participated in a student drama festival in




		<p>Turkey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoted children's rights and organized its 17th Children's Parliament for children living in children's homes. • Organized a cooking competition and sports competitions for young people. • Organized a traditional yearly environment protection camp. • With FICE Austria cooperation selected and prepared foster parents. • Have 202 individual and 83 institutional members. Professional foster parents - 57.
 <p>India</p>	<p>FICE India Mr. M. Dewanji</p>	<p><i>FICE India:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized in 39 "Total Education Centres (TECs)" (Learning through Joyful Playing Schools) several programs and activities for about 2,000 children at risk, especially for the deprived children to meet their socio-cultural and education needs and also to develop the children's leadership. The target children are provided with bridge education, vocational training and advocacy, awareness generation for their mainstreaming into the civil society. Parents of the target children were provided with parental counseling and child guidance. • Publication of Wall Magazine(s) – give opportunities to these children at risk to express their feelings and opinions on any subjects or issues they face by posting their articles, poem, drawings and other such compositions to share with each other. • Publication of Children Magazine "Shishu Jagat"- all children of network organizations of 'Shishu Jagat' across the country contribute their writings like stories, poem, drawing, sketches in their own languages for publication of a children's magazine namely -'Shishu Jagat' in periodic intervals. • Publication of News letter on different issues related to the area specific problems and prosperity of the children at risk across the country. • Annual General Meeting of the FICE India




		<p>was held in November.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 39 member organizations working in different parts of India, who are now members of the FICE India. • During the year 2012 three new member organizations have joined FICE India.
 Israel	<p>FICE Israel Mr. Emmanuel Grupper</p>	<p><i>FICE Israel:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiated the first M.A. program in Israel (Beit Berl University College), focused on education and care of youth at risk. • Held a joint seminar with FICE Romania, where a group of Israeli professionals, members of FICE Israel, visited innovative programs in Romania and shared knowledge with Romanian FICE colleagues. • Hosted the spring meeting of FICE CF. • Organized an international FICE conference on "Care leavers", a new dimension for extra-familial care programs for youth at risk. • In collaboration with Israeli Foreign Affairs Ministry, organized one month seminar for educators and stake holders from English speaking African countries (in English) in Jerusalem. • In collaboration with Israeli Foreign Affairs Ministry, organized one month seminar for educators and stake holders from Latin America countries (in Spanish) in Jerusalem. • Together with FICE Germany held a joint seminar: "The use of Arts in rehabilitation and empowerment of youth at risk". • Together with FICE Hungary held a joint seminar in Israel. A group of professionals, members of FICE Hungary, made a study-visit to investigate the residential care network in Israel.
 Kenya	<p>FICE Kenya Mr. Herman Jaoko</p>	<p><i>FICE Kenya:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized "Training of Child Care Workers on Psychosocial Support" project. • Realized "Volunteer placements" project.






		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized the “Support the family as the basic social structure for the upbringing of children and young people” activity. • Promoted the rights of children and young people together with their families by focusing on orphans, vulnerable children and those with special needs. • Influenced the experts in the field and political decision-makers by means of the new media and means of communication of its work and its findings. • Promoted the initial and ongoing local and international training of child and youth care workers who work with young people in various settings. • Promoted international exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of childcare through trainings, meetings, seminars, symposiums and research. • Advocated for the highest quality of care and education for children and young people unable to live at home. • Organized the “In the spirit of international understanding and global solidarity support within its means meetings and exchanges of professionals as well as children and young adults” activity. • Solicited funds for the smooth running of the organizations activities. • Members – “Make Me Smile” and “Towers of Hope” organizations.
 Luxembourg	Association Nationale des Communautés Éducatives et Sociales - ANCES Mr. Charel Schmit	<p><i>Association Nationale des Communautés Éducatives et Sociales - ANCES:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated the NGO-Group RADELUX, which prepares and publishes an alternative report to the 3rd. and 4th. State report concerning the implementation of the rights of children in Luxembourg. • Participated in a study-visit <i>The Caravan of the rights of children</i> - through Brussels, Luxembourg, Strasbourg, Zion and Geneva. • Co-organized the annual <i>Forum of Youth Care 2012</i>, in collaboration with the



		<p>unit research INSIDE of the University of Luxembourg on the topic: <i>Collaboration with the family of origin</i> in residential care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperated in the national ECPAT-Platform, which prepares the following publication: <i>Manual to protect children and juveniles against abuse</i>. • Cooperated with the Institute Research & Action to organize professional training for practitioners of the social sector. • Participated in the autumn meeting of FICE-Federal Council in Sofia. • Participated in the network of AIFRIS (Association internationale pour la formation, la recherche et l'intervention sociale). • Published professional journal (nr. 122 and 123), which contains articles from practitioners and theoreticians referring to the social sector in Luxembourg.
 Macedonia	<p>FICE Macedonia Mrs. Galaba Zlatkovska-Gareska</p>	<p>FICE Macedonia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granted financial support for children with special needs at Day Centers in deferent Macedonian cities. • Supported children without family care and protection, assistance study, employment and contribution in making legislation for compulsory recruitment of children in post institutional period of their independence. • Supported children without family care and protection during the time in the institution. • Supported Family homes for children with special needs. • Participated in FICE CF. • Contributed and supported a documentary film on the occasion of child leaving institutional placement and continuing education abroad Orthodox Russian Studies in America. • Initiated cooperation with the signing of an agreement for cooperation with NGOs working with children with disabilities; • Held 8th regular annual meeting of FICE




		Macedonia, within which was organized discussion "Educational aspirations and social grouping in children of 3-18 years in children's homes".
 Montenegro	FICE Montenegro Mr. Miloead Scekic	<i>FICE Montenegro:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities for the improvement of the lives of children, placed in residential care.
 Netherlands	FICE Netherlands Mr. Cees Wierda	<i>FICE Netherlands:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized "Youth project on social inclusion". • Realized "Kick-off" meeting with board members and professionals part of FICE network in which the theme Social Inclusion has been introduced. • Organized 3 inspirational meetings in which a good practice from abroad was presented to professionals, policy makers and students active in the youth care field. • Participated in and gave a workshop at a National congress about the future of youth care in the Netherlands. • Is an active member of the board of the foundation Quality4Children. • In cooperation with the youth organization "Life Book for Youth" and FICE Serbia participated in training for professionals from institutions for the implementation of the methodology - "Book of Life" (LIFE Book for Youth) in daily work with children without parental care, which grow up in institutional settings. • Participated in FICE CF in Israel and Bulgaria. • Members are 45 youth care organizations and universities.
 Romania	FICE Romania Mr. Toma Mares	<i>FICE Romania:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized "Know and decide!" project to prevent and reduce drug, alcohol and tobacco use among students. • Realized "Being a parent-help you to help yourself" a school and family dropout





		<p>prevention program, continued in 16 schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized "Peer Solidarity to save lives of children" project with ISMB Bucharest. • Organized the setting up of new FICE Romania communities in few institutions with educational and social protection specific. • Established FICE Romania Branch in Ialomița County. • Together with ANA and Police of Bucharest recruited and trained over 80 students and teachers from Bucharest and Alexandria. • Established FICE section in Republic of Moldova. • Organized "School after school - between educational challenges and administrative burdens" debate, held in partnership with DGASPC Vaslui and Vaslui County Council. Such debates were organized by subsidiaries of FICE in Teleorman, Caras-Severin and Bihor. • Organized symposium "Social policies in support of child development", in partnership with FICE Israel, DGASPC and Vaslui County Council, held in March at Moeciu. • Supported symposium organized by the Vaslui domestic violence in co-operation with Vaslui County Council: "Freeze violence, warmth the soul. Listen to your heart, he will reject evil!". • Organized monthly debates on children's rights defense, in partnership with Central Pedagogical Library and "Tribuna Învățământului". • Under the title "Peer Solidarity", FICE Romania initiated, organized and monitored through its communities, a series of actions by collecting goods and funds (school supplies, hygiene materials, clothing and food) for children who and were given in the spirit of solidarity to colleagues in need,
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		<p>assisted in day centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized and held "Children's Book Festival" in Bucharest, Caras-Severin, Vaslui, Iasi, Alexandria, Rosiorii de Vede, etc. • Participated in FICE CF in Israel and in Bulgaria. • Within the collaboration programs with FICE Israel, a group of Israeli experts made a documentary work in communities and FICE subsidiaries in Romania. • Participated in the campaign "19 days of activism to prevent abuse and violence against children and youth" campaign launched by WWSF (World Women Summit Foundation). • Organized meetings of its National Committee. • Partnerships with school inspectorates (special mention for ISM Bucharest), the General Directorates for Social Assistance and Child Protection with NAA, with FNOPC (National Federation of Organizations for Child Protection), the Faculty of Psychology - University of Bucharest, University "1 December 1918" in Alba - Iulia, Pedagogical and Cultural Publishers Association, the Police Inspectorate, National Children's Palace in Bucharest, religious cults, Community Councils and other factors. • Published two double numbers of the Journal of Education and Social Work - "Social Protection of Children". • Published National Conference Volume "Zero tolerance against violence" in English. • Edited 2 posters on preventing violence against children.
 Russia	Russian Children's Fund Mr. Albert Likhanov	<p><i>Russian Children's Fund:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized "I love my dear home, let be cozily in it" project in support of orphans or children without other home care. • Realized "Creating beauty and comfort at home" project in support of orphans or children without other home care.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized “Health in our hands” project in support for children in need of long-term health care.
 Scotland	Individual members Mr. Ian Milligan Mrs. Jennifer Davidson	
 Serbia	FICE Serbia Mrs. Zeljka Burgund	<p><i>FICE Serbia:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realized two major projects linked with the development of FGC model. The goal is to use it in the process of preventing institutionalization of children and youth, as well as in the process of leaving care. • Together with FICE-Bulgaria implemented PRIDE project – training of trainers and Master trainers. • Realized “Successful Fund Raising” project. • Realized “Give Family a Chance” project in partnership with City Center for social work in Belgrade. • Was networking at national regional and international level. • In cooperation with the Dutch youth organization "Life Book for Youth" organized training for professionals from institutions for the implementation of the methodology - "Book of Life" (LIFE Book for Youth) in daily work with children without parental care, which grow up in institutional settings. • Supported the foundation of new NGO “In the Family Circle” which main goal and mission is to implement the Family Group Conference model (FGC) in Serbia. • Members: Homes for children and youth without parental care; Homes for children with behavioral disorders and difficulties; Homes for children with special needs; Centers for social work. • Used every opportunity (vocational meetings, Conferences, Ministry of social policy events etc.) to advocate interests of



		<p>its members. Association pleaded for improvement of standards and procedures, as well as for improvement of professional skills and knowledge in order to raise the quality of life of children and youth in institutional settings in general.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoted the mission and vision of the organization, as well as FGC model in different parts of the country. • Advocated the interests of its members.
 Slovenia	<p>Faculty of Pedagogy Mr. Mitja Krajncan</p>	<p>Faculty of Pedagogy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main goal of the section is to promote the professional growth in all fields of the Social pedagogical work and research as well as promote the international exchange.
 South Africa	<p>FICE South Africa Mr. Donald Nghonyama</p>	<p>FICE South Africa:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked on developing creative partnerships with service providers.
 Spain	<p>FICE Spain Mr. Guillem Compte</p>	<p>FICE Spain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held vice-presidency for Latin America in FICE-International. • Participated in FICE CE and CF. • Continued to develop relationship with RELAF in Latin America. • Continued to develop relationship with POI in Spain. • Provided networking opportunities for and support to FICE Spain members. • Identified and channeled project opportunities for FICE Spain members. • Participated in FASI conference. • Members: Plataforma Educativa Foundation; Infància i Família Foundation; Resilis Foundation; Fundació Acció Social Infància (FASI).
 Switzerland	<p>FICE Switzerland Mr. Rolf Widmer</p>	<p>FICE Switzerland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively worked on preparation of FICE Congress in Bern, Switzerland www.fice-congress2013.ch



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented and informed about FICE International at the Primeiro Seminário Nacional Qualidade de Serviços de Acolhimento Institucional (First National Seminar on the Quality of Services of Institutional Care), organized by NECA Associação dos Pesquisadores de Núcleos de Estudos e Pesquisas sobre a Criança e o Adolescente (Association of the Researchers of Study and Research Centres on Children and Adolescents) and SOS Children's Villages Brazil in São Paulo on 4 October 2012. • Supported NECA in the extension of its national network and in the application process to become associated member of FICE International. • Worked on the organization for youth exchange, part of FICE Congress in Bern. • Worked on the preparation for a 4-years project for promoting sustainability, part of FICE Congress in Bern. • Worked on the preparation of various partnerships with the aim of finding more "Ways toward Inclusion" and further extending the network of countries already working on this topic.
 <p>United States of America</p>	<p>FICE USA</p> <p>Mr. Dennis Felty</p>	<p>FICE USA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FICE USA representative attended the Clinton Global Initiative in New York City in September with an emphasis on international services to individuals with disabilities. • Continued to support Isibindi Programs in South Africa through Member InVisions Human Services \$6,000/year supporting Social Work salaries in James House, Masincedane, and Tlangelani two times/year. • Arranged for FICE Austria representative to attend the North American International Congress, October 2013 in Canada. • Hosted three social workers from South Africa to come to the United States and visit Head Start and other child serving social programs/participate in trainings from



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		<p>social expertise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Was preparing to attend the North American International Congress, in Canada, 2013. •Contacted with new members. •Joined the monthly teleconference meetings of the ACYCP (Association of Child and Youth Care Practice) board. •Actively worked on presenting FICE Congress in Bern. Encouraged colleagues in USA and Canada to submit proposals for the 2013 FICE Congress. Several from North American will be participating. •Shared occasional memorandums with FICE members. •Joined the meetings of the ACYCP monthly Outreach Committee. •Contacted colleagues in USA with FICE Germany members. •Representatives from FICE USA have attended the Federal Council meetings.
 <p>FICE South East Europe</p>	<p>FICE Serbia, FICE Macedonia, FICE Montenegro, FICE Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p>Mrs. Soka Popovska</p>	
 <p>FICE Europe</p>	<p>All countries of Europe, members of FICE International</p> <p>Mr. Charel Schmit</p>	<p><i>FICE Europe:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Collaborated in the organization of the AIEJI's 18th World Congress, Luxembourg; •Collaborated in the organization of the 3-rd ENSACT Joint European Conference, Turkey.



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FICE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2012

During the year 2012 FICE International activities could be summarized in the following topics:

1. National Sections Activities.
2. FICE International standpoints and positions on different topics, related to children and their welfare.
3. Organizing and co-organizing conferences and congresses.
4. International relations.
5. Organizational development and membership.
6. Forthcoming events.

1. *National Sections Activities - See the country reports*

FICE International unites more than 30 countries worldwide. Each national section has a specific operational structure, type of operation and financing (volunteers, professional advisers or staff members, number of members or activities in the country), but the basic philosophy and principles are the same as those of FICE International. Due to this specific situation, the country reports are very important instrument for coordination, planning and networking in FICE International. The main activities and actions are implemented on a country level.

In the country reports are presented results of the work of the national section of each country. The most common results are: charity projects for children and families at risk, activities with children living outside the family, exchange of knowledge and experience between professionals, organizing and participating in conferences and congresses on social issues, expressing a position on important global topics to improve children's lives, international cooperation.

2. *FICE International standpoints and positions on different topics, related to children and their welfare*

FICE International continued observing the situation in Syria and particularly the children-immigrants' issue. Different FICE National sections had alarmed the public society about the children's rights.

Another discussion, on which FICE International took a standpoint, was the topic, related to the appeals of former clients "Standing up for the rights of former clients of residential care – towards a modern, participatory model for foster and residential care". The Declaration on former clients ends with: "Recalling the dramatic experience of former clients of residential care in the 50s, 60s, and 70s, today's residential care and other forms of care must see it as their duty to implement these findings".

FICE International representatives took part in discussions and consultations on:

- The "Moving Forward – Implementing the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children" handbook;
- "Formal care settings characteristics" paper;
- "What happens after out-of-home care? Models of good practice for care leavers in Germany" international expert workshop.



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FICE International supported UNICEF's appeal for non-placing children up to 3 years in an out of family care.

3. *Organizing and co-organizing conferences and congresses.*

FICE Europe, as a part of FICE International, collaborated in the organization of the following congresses:

- AIEJI's 18th World Congress will take place in Luxembourg, 2 – 5 April 2013 and be hosted by APEG – Association professionnelle des éducateurs gradués, the national association of social educators in Luxembourg. The main theme of the congress will be: Integration and Social Inclusion.
- Website: <http://www.worldcongress.lu/index.php?lang=en>
- 3-rd ENSACT Joint European Conference, 16-19 April 2013, Istanbul, Turkey. Main theme will be: Social Action in Europe: Towards Inclusive Policy and Practice. ENSACT's organizational partners are: European Association of Schools of Social Work (EASSW), Formation d'Educateurs Sociaux Européens / European Social Educator Training (FESET), Fédération Internationale des Communautés Educatives (FICE), International Association of Social Educators (AIEJI), International Council on Social Welfare European Region (ICSW), International Federation of Social Workers European Region (IFSW). Website: <http://aieji.net/world-congress/>.
- In June 2013, in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada will be held the first ever Child and Youth Care World Conference, Connecting at the Crossroads. This World CYC conference is being hosted by the Child and Youth Care Association of Newfoundland and Labrador in collaboration with the International Child and Youth Care Network (CYC-Net) and FICE-International.
- Website: <http://www.cycworld2013.net/>

By those partnership events, directed towards knowledge and skills exchange for working with people in a straitened circumstances, FICE International fulfills its main function: to support the children and the families, through more purposeful and effective professionals' work, thanks to good practice implementation, presented by different countries.

FICE International realized four years project dedicated to Inclusion. This project focus on the discussion of the aims and concepts of inclusion and the challenges these pose for experts and for society. During these four years actual practical models claiming to have achieved the goals of inclusion will be exchanged and discussed in FICE International countries, especially those related to education, culture, and economy.

FICE International and in particular FICE Switzerland had been working hard and very systematically on organizing the next international Congress in 2013 (www.fice-congress2013.ch), Berne, Switzerland, as part of Project "Inclusion". The focus of the Congress will be the discussion of the aims and concepts of Inclusion and the challenges from both professional and social points of view. Real-world practical models– especially those related to education, culture, and economy – aiming to achieve goals of Inclusion will be presented and discussed. Besides well-functioning internet web site, during 2012 an enrolment for lecturers and congress topics had been completed. Part of the finances for some of the activities had been ensured. Finding possibilities for children and youth participation is in process. Besides highly active FICE Switzerland members Canton Bern provided full support for the congress.



After the congress in October the next congress of the international organization will be held in Wien in 2016, with FICE Austria and FICE International as main organizers under the patronage of the Government of Vienna. The main themes will be:

- Was everything wrong what we did in the last 50 years?
- Pros and cons on out-of-home care of children?
- Could out-of-home care for children be a contribution to the renewal of society?

4. *International relations.*

FICE International management in the person of its president, secretary general and vice presidents collaborated on specific children topics with the following organizations:

- Eurochild;
- The International Foster Care Organization (IFCO);
- International Association of Social Educators (AIEJI);
- The International Child and Youth Care Network (CYC-Net);
- ENSACT;
- RELAF (Latin American Foster Care Network, for the Right to community and family-based care for children and adolescents)
- Fundació Acció Social Infància (FASI).

A progress has been achieved in supporting FICE Latin America development, after signing an agreement between FICE International and RELAF for FICE representation on that continent through their organization. From 2013 one of the vice presidents will work together with the Latin American organization representative.

A step towards building up bridges with Latin America was also - a Brazilian organization candidacy for FICE International membership. There are opening steps in that direction with Australian representatives.

5. *Organizational development and membership.*

During 2012 FICE International continued its organizational consolidation. The contact with the members has been improved through correspondence on different topics, in relation with mutual projects, devoted to the children between the different National sections, visits for experience and topics exchange connected with children policies.

For far more improved functioning and networking was taken a decision for a Technical Assistance appointment, which would make the mutual work and network communication more effective.

A connection with Brazil, Sweden and Australia has been made, which would give a possibility for information and practice opportunities. The Partnership with Latin American Network RELAF was strengthened and the plan for work together was developed.

FICE International management made steps towards partnership resumption with UNESCO. During 2013 a project between FICE Kenya and FICE Austria will be presented. It will be directed towards training of social workers from Kenya, working with children at risk.

6. *Forthcoming events.*



INTERNATIONAL
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E A C H C H I L D D O E S M A T T E R



- FICE International will hold its next international Congress in Berne, Switzerland, from 8 to 12 October, 2013. Since FICE was founded in 1948, 31 FICE Congresses throughout the world have brought together front-line experts in providing care and support for children without and outside the family. FICE Congresses are aimed at people involved in out-of family care for children and youths and the enforcement of children's rights; these include professionals in practice, research, teaching, as well as interested attendants from the fields of education, culture, politics, and business. Congress website: www.fice-congress2013.ch.
- AIEJI's 18th World Congress will take place in Luxembourg, 2 – 5 April 2013 and be hosted by APEG – Association professionnelle des éducateurs gradués, the national association of social educators in Luxembourg. The theme of the congress will be: Integration and Social Inclusion. Congress website: <http://www.worldcongress.lu/index.php?lang=en>
- 3-rd ENSACT Joint European Conference, 16 - 19 April 2013, Istanbul, Turkey. Main Theme will be Social Action in Europe: Towards Inclusive Policy and Practice. Sub Themes: Inclusive Policies and Practices; Human Rights, Ethics and Dilemmas in Social action; Migration and Discrimination; Elderly people; Disability and inclusion; Social Professional Work in health Care Settings and promoting Well-Being; Sustainable development and social action. Conference website: <http://www.ensactistanbul.org/en/>

Sofia, April 2013

Dashenka Kraleva – President of FICE International