

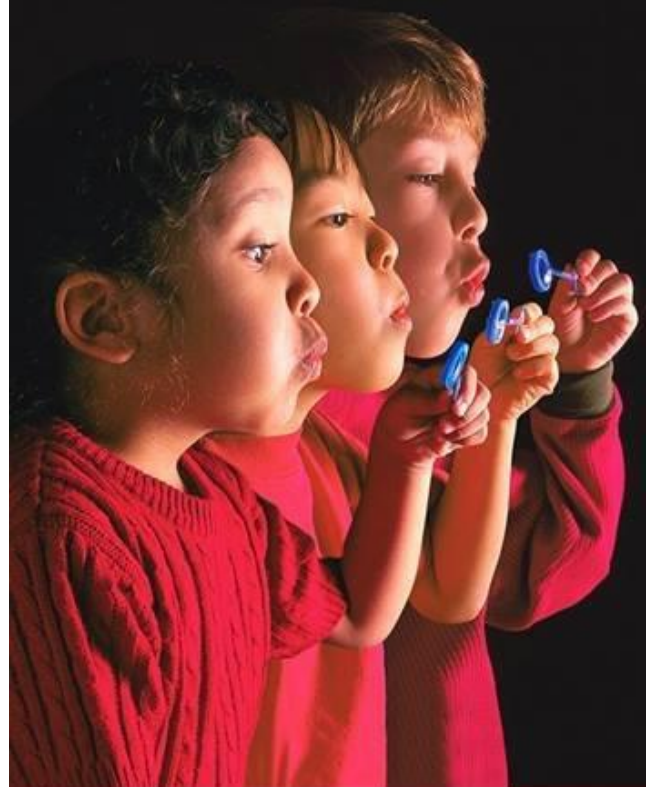
# Annual Report 2016



**FICE**

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## Preamble 1

**Dear colleagues and friends,**



I would like to thank you very much for our work together in the past six years. As a president of FICE-International my main task was to strengthen, unite and structure our organization. My colleagues from the Executive committee were always supportive to me and willing to be in service of the organization. Thank you very much. The same I want to say to the Technical assistant. Thank you, too.

Many thanks to all our partner-organizations. In those years we succeeded to built lot of branches and our Congress in Vienna showed the big network of people with the same social ideas.

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Dear colleagues, I will continue to work with all of you in my other position of FICE-Bulgaria's president and will put my energy for the same cause: the children's welfare and future.

Sincerely yours

**Dashenka Krалева,**

**FICE International President from 2010 to 2016**



## Preamble 2



Dear colleagues and friends,

It is my great honor to be chosen as the president of this organization of outstanding professionals in the child and youth care field.

FICE International has almost 70 years of history - connecting professionals from different parts of the globe and from different backgrounds, all working in this field, developing professional standards, organizing platforms for exchange of knowledge and expertise, organizing activities, aimed at providing the best possible professional attention and support to the most vulnerable children.

3

What is very important about FICE is that it unites people working with and for children from various professions and with various educations - social work practitioners, pedagogues, teachers, children's rights advocates, psychologists, researchers, university professors, etc. Their collaboration has always been considered as key for the successful child and youth care work. The best outcomes for children and young people are only possible when we all unite our efforts, so that each of us contributes with our specific knowledge.

**Hermann Radler – newly elected President of FICE International**





## FICE Federal Council in Almelo

The Federal Council in Almelo, the Netherlands took place on **March 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016**. 30 representatives from 17 different countries were present at the Federal Council. As usual, they shared information about the activities of their National sections since the last Federal Council.

During the Federal Council, the two presidential candidates - Rolf Widmer and Hermann Radler presented their ideas and views regarding the strategic development of FICE International.

Together with the Federal Council, a conference was held on the topic of “Community based care”. Workshops were held by members of various FICE national sections. Watch a video about the conference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bpnu-erYPcY>





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## 33rd FICE CONGRESS AND 2nd CYC WORLD CONFERENCE

and

Results from the international qualifications mapping survey

*Checked the weather? Packed accordingly? Just in case? Presentation uploaded, emailed and finished? And (a little) apprehension for those organising - Is it ready? Have you covered all angles of possibility? Scissors, tape and pens in the box? Cars loaded. Let's go.*

The excitement around the world ought to have been palpable at the beginning of August as 659 practitioners, professors, students, young care leavers and interested persons, from 58 countries, prepared to descend upon Vienna between 22<sup>nd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016. Here to attend the **33rd FICE Congress and 2nd CYC World Conference "Together towards a better world for children, adolescents and families"**, with bags packed and passports ready, the email traffic and Facebook the month leading up to the Congress was full of instructions, maps and plans for the last full week in August.

With detailed instructions and maps from FICE Austrian Headquarters in hand we landed at the airport and headed out into the Viennese sunshine with complete confidence. Some arrived early to enjoy the sights of Vienna and Europe before the Congress began; others would stay longer and take in Europe after our week of sharing.

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Starting with a 'hotel' congress in the lobby of each recommended hotel on the first day, we learned to navigate the Viennese public transport system and made our way to the University of Applied Sciences FH Campus Wien where we would spend the rest of the week. Registering was full of delight as people ran into friends not yet seen. Hugs and handshakes preceded stories of travel, catch up on family and practice news and meeting new people in the queue noisily echoed throughout the university entrance and became the underlying theme of the week.



Then everyone moved into the main auditorium and the Congress began. Welcomed by Bettina Terp, FICE Secretary General, and FICE's newly elected President, Hermann Radler, four days of professional discourse got underway in spectacular style. Making everyone feel welcome, the opening ceremony set the tone for the rest of our time together in a room that was full of those all invested in ensuring the theme for the week became a reality – a better world for children and young people. A number of speakers from around the world added to the welcome, as did rapper Hajdu (MC Yello) from Romania, who performed his rap song "The Hard Way", about following your dreams and never giving up even if life is full of hardships.





A number of awards were presented including the inaugural FICE International award given to honour great achievements in the field of child and youth care. The first winner was the German organisation *Careleaver Association* – a group of care leavers focused on finding opportunities for young adults leaving care. Lifetime achievement awards were presented to the more than well-deserving Carol Kelly and Dale Curry.

Over the week participants would provide and receive a unique global perspective of what is currently occurring around the world in regards to child and youth work practice and research, from almost 200 presenters (keynote speakers, panel, poster and workshop presenters). Twenty keynote lectures, 15 parallel sessions twice a day Tuesday and Wednesday and one on Thursday (panels and workshops) and nine poster presentations covered every possible topic within the sector - from working with children and youth to self-care for practitioners.







The international survey undertaken by FICE's Quality Assurance and Mapping Working Party highlighted the current practice occurring in 44 countries, from 150 Congress respondents, most of whom have a qualification, including diplomas, undergraduate degrees, Masters and PhD, though not necessarily in youth work or a related field.

Working in residential care (21), mental health (14), working with at-risk youth (11), educating youth workers (11), school-based education (7) families (6) and child protection (6), to name a few, the greatest age range of practice was for those aged 0-26 (36) which was closely followed by those who work with those aged between 7-35. The predominant methodologies indicated for working with children and young people by the respondents was cognitive behavioural therapy, empowerment, case management, play therapy, strengths-based and relationships work and resilience.

With this as the knowledge base on which to draw, everyone had come to Vienna with open hearts and minds to share their practice and learning with the rest of the world. The result was the sharing of professional discourse. Looking for workshop venues together became part of the adventure and often a new way to make and meet long-time friends. Smiles, laughter, sunshine and food made up the periphery of the week. And afternoon tea was always welcome – and rarely involved less than three bits of cake.

The Congress party on the Tuesday night was looking ominously quiet there for a while and yet the tables quickly filled at 6.30 and three hours of solid dancing and sharing proved to be a great way to continue the experience. Sad to hear the music turn off it was followed by the best impromptu train sing-along yet – helped along mightily by the 'boom box locals'.



The hard-working team from FICE Austria ran an incredibly smooth ship over the week that allowed everyone else to share stories, research, practice examples and art while making new memories. Ever ready to answer questions like *Where is..... ??? Have you seen.....??? Can you help?!!* they never appeared to be phased and the participants always felt confident that when they went to the front table their queries would be answered and they would soon be on their way.

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In the week prior to the Congress more than 60 young care leavers from 15 different countries participated in a youth exchange. Working together they prepared a workshop for Congress which brought tears in the eyes of many who were all blown away by the energy and sincerity of the message they brought which included a newly developed *10 Standards for Leaving Care* which was voted and adopted unanimously by the full Congress the following week.

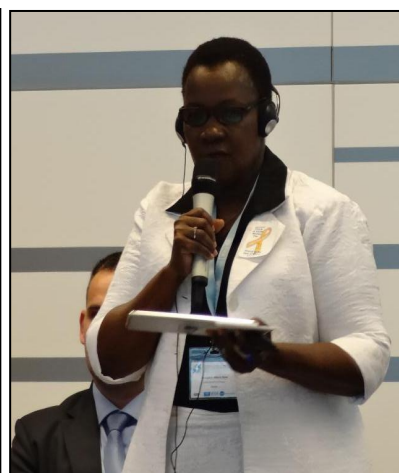






But all good things must come to an end and Congress was no different. Hugs and promises to stay in touch made the last day one of an accepting sadness. Thank you to all who made this an amazing experience that will sustain our practices into the future, whether through new connections, knowledge, supports or possibilities to ensure that **Together (we can work) towards a better world for children, adolescents and families**, wherever they may be on earth.

Watch videos at: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDkexdOqamtk6DelyE1\\_jvQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDkexdOqamtk6DelyE1_jvQ)







## **“FICE Standards Developed by Young Care Leavers”**

**adopted by the participants in the 33rd FICE Congress and 2nd CYC World Conference**

1. Every care leaver should have equal rights, opportunities, access to social benefits and be adequately informed about this right.
2. Every care leaver should be involved in their own care leaving plan and have a say in what has to be done.
3. When applying for college/university every care leaver should have benefits and access to scholarship sponsored either by governmental or private organizations.
4. To be able to find and succeed in a job, every care leaver should get help to become aware of and get recognized with their potentials, so that they gather the chance to improve them
5. Free health insurance for everyone.
6. To live his/her life, every care leaver needs to feel connected to some people they can rely on.
7. The workers supporting care leavers should be motivated, qualified, supportive and supervised.
8. To take care for themselves, care leavers need to have knowledge about life skills and how to organize their daily routine, like in a peer to peer training.
9. Care leavers need to know how to ensure their capability to keep a roof over their head.
10. After leaving care, society should provide the opportunity to turn to a mentor who guides and supports emotionally, if needed.



## **FICE International statement on Group Care for Children and Adolescents**

Since its creation in 1948 under the auspices of UNESCO, FICE International (currently comprised of representatives from over 30 nations) has been working on developing and improving group care services for children and adolescents in need of out-of-home care. For almost 70 years, FICE has worked towards better fulfillment of the rights of children wherever in the world they may be. In order to fulfill this aim, FICE created initiatives for improving the professionalism of care workers (Grupper, 1993; Van den Bergh, Knorth, Verheij & Lane, 2002), set up a Code of Ethics for residential care workers (Lane, 1998), and collaborated with ECOSOC and SOS International to create the Quality for Children Standards (2002). These quality standards are designed to support the fulfillment of the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), especially while children and adolescents are living in out-of-home care facilities. Currently, FICE-International is working with the European initiative 'Moving Forward' geared to implementing the UN Guidelines for Alternative Care published in 2009.

FICE members share a commitment to the basic principle that every child has a basic right and need to grow up in a safe home with a stable continuous relationship with at least one adult who is a trusted, caring and committed parent figure. However, we know that unfortunately many children do not have this opportunity and therefore are in need of alternative care. Therefore, we cannot accept the American Orthopsychiatric Association (AOA) consensus statement that: "In principle, group care should never be favored over family care. Group care should be used only when it is the least detrimental alternative, when necessary therapeutic mental health services cannot be delivered in a less restrictive setting".

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FICE members believe that such a generalized and unqualified statement does not take into account the cultural dimensions and the complexities of difficult life-situations of individual children and their families that are at the origin of the need for high quality out-of-home care programs. Looking at the large numbers of "children on the move," minors and adolescents running away from wars, poverty, exploitation and abuse, refugees and unaccompanied minors deprived of any kind of security and care, residential care programs and foster care models are their only havens, and should have to be invented if they did not already exist.

FICE-International is supportive of the UN Guidelines for Alternative Care (2009) and the joint European initiative "Moving Forward" (towards the implementation of the UN Guidelines). The "Moving Forward" handbook (Cantwell, Davidson, Elsley, Milligan and Quinn, 2012) states as one of its objectives: "seeking to assist all concerned to advance along the road to implementation and describing 'promising' examples of efforts already made to apply them in diverse communities, countries, regions and cultures...". FICE is very active in enhancing innovative changes in out-of-home care programs, especially in relation to two major issues.



First, changing the attitude of educators toward parents; collaboration between program staff and the family is now considered essential whenever it is possible. Second, since 2008 FICE has actively promoted the concept of 'after-care' and preparing the young people in care for the transition to independent life (see for example Stein, Ward and Courtney, 2011). These two concepts appear in both the UN Guidelines and in the 'Moving Forward' handbook, and FICE-International is working to close the gap between intentions and reality for both issues. Recent reports of Eurochild (2010) and researchers such as Del Valle and Bravo (2013) show that the number of children in out-of-home care, which was decreasing after the publication of the UNCRC (1989), is once again increasing. Societies around the world have to recognize and accept that the complexity of children's situations precludes keeping all of them in supported family life or even foster care families. Therefore, FICE-International's on-going policy is to deploy efforts in order to assure the quality of education and care given to children in out-of-home care worldwide. It has to be emphasized that FICE does not see residential care and foster care as two opposite models, but rather as complementary responses to the need for out-of-home care.

We do not intend to debate all ten points mentioned in the AOA Consensus Paper. We choose three main points in order to demonstrate FICE's different point of view on what is in the best interests of children and the ongoing need for quality out-of-home care.

The first point in the AOA consensus statement says that "healthy attachments with a parent figure are necessary for children of all ages." FICE members would certainly agree with this statement. However, we reject the implication by AOA that "shift care, whether the shifts last hours or days, interferes with accessibility to a parent...". In a book published by FICE-International (1986) titled: The social pedagogue in Europe - Living with others as a profession, we articulated, based upon extensive professional experience, how well-prepared and devoted care givers who live together with the children and adolescents under their care, with proper professional knowledge, commitment to a suitable Ethical Code and a set of quality care standards can create effective attachments processes.

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A second point in the AOA statement says: "Especially during adolescence, it is critical to balance children's need for parental control and regulation with their developing needs for autonomy." This is also a principle with which we agree, as it reinforces the UNCRC basic principle of participation. However, we must challenge the implications related to out-of-home care in the concluding sentence of the following AOA statement: "...this interaction depends on the parent's knowing the child and having the corresponding flexibility to adjust rules to meet the child's unique needs. In this way, the child experiences the natural consequences of good and bad decisions. In addition, this system allows the child to gradually assume ever more control of his or her life with a safety net for errors in decision making. An institutional setting with fixed rules and procedures that are not adapted to the individual is not conducive to the healthy development of autonomy." Quality residential programs are adept at flexibly and creatively adapting to the needs of each and every individual young person in accordance with their developing capacities and needs.

Professional out-of-home care programs working in accordance with FICE policies are far from the 'Goffman type' asylums (Goffman, 1961). Well-functioning out-of-home care programs, implement youth



self-governance, participation and empowerment processes. The development of youth autonomy is a key program objective.

The AOA consensus statement also states: Group care should never be used for young children. Later in this paragraph, it is stated: Placement in families is the most urgent intervention for these children and has demonstrated substantial gains in their development including formation of secure attachments. This is also the policy of UNICEF which urges countries to give high priority for placing young children (under three years of age) in need of alternative care in foster families and not in residential care programs. FICE-International agrees with this objective which is in line with the principle of 'the best interests of the child' (as defined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child). However, while foster family or kinship care is preferable for very young children, this does not mean that group care could not be a very appropriate and important setting for working with older children and adolescents.

To conclude, the deinstitutionalization movement that started in the 1960s and which gained momentum in the 1980s has succeeded in creating many important changes and innovations in services for children and adolescents at risk. FICE-International has been a partner in many of these developments and applauds continued efforts in this direction. However, it is important to note that this does not entail abolishing and closing down all forms of out-of-home or group care. Many young people will still need and benefit from these forms of care when implemented with skill and according to quality and ethical standards. We do not believe the research or practice evidence supports the AOA consensus statement's position that these kinds of services for vulnerable children and adolescents should be eliminated.

The FICE-International position acknowledges the need to support young people to remain in families whenever possible while also ensuring the provision of high quality residential programs when these are in the best interests of young people. We believe children have a right to such alternative care when they are born into or experience dysfunctional family situations. Our mission is to ensure that, young people who are in need of alternative services will receive quality care wherever they live. This was the founding purpose of FICE-International, and it continues to be a cornerstone of our work.

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## Communiqué on the Situation of Unaccompanied Refugee Children

**adopted at the 33rd FICE Congress, 22nd – 25th August, Vienna, Austria**

The Members of FICE International would like to express their concern on the situation of the particularly vulnerable group of unaccompanied children. The current situation in many countries shows that unfortunately these children are often seen first as migrants and thus denied their legitimate rights and access to the special protective measures for minors. Such treatment is in violation of fundamental principles and of all relevant conventions.

**FICE is seriously concerned about the risk of arbitrary decisions, the lack of structures and resources, and the scarcity of trained staff to protect the interests of these children. All this is aggravated by a lack of transnational coordination among the parties who are responsible for the care of these children.**

**Because of the scant adequate support for these children there is a danger of even greater vulnerability, a higher risk of exploitation, as well as a higher likelihood of these children choosing more dangerous routes to reach their destinations.**

**FICE-International would like to recall some of the fundamental principles regarding the care of children in situations of migration and flight, in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was signed by almost all countries in the world:**

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- Children in situations of migration and flight must first and foremost be seen as children. All actions, including measures taken by government authorities, must take into account the best interest of the child.
- The systems of child protection must protect all children without discrimination, including children in situations of migration and flight. It is the responsibility of states to provide for the constant protection of children on the move in border regions.
- Measures of migration control must not impair the fundamental rights of children. States have the responsibility to carry out comprehensive needs assessments for these children and to evaluate the impact of their laws and policies on children in situations of migration and flight, in order to prevent harmful effects on these children.

### **All states are called upon**

- to provide a guardian for each unaccompanied minor – as soon as he or she is identified as such – who will assure that the best interest of the child is observed in all decisions regarding the further life of the child.



- to apply the Dublin III Regulations in order to facilitate family reunifications in Europe as fast as possible. If necessary, these children must be accompanied, to be reunited with their families as soon as possible. The situation of all other children must be carefully evaluated in order to permit finding a long-term solution in their country of origin or in a third country, always taking into account the best interest of the child.
- to synchronize harmonized minimal standards for the accommodation and care of unaccompanied minors.
- Clearly defined measures for the protection, and the education and support in institutions for accompanied and unaccompanied refugee minors must be established.



## FICE INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKING GROUPS IN GENEVA

### RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN GUIDELINES FOR THE ALTERNATIVE CARE OF CHILDREN

Since February 2016, FICE International has been an active member of the sub working group on children without parental care of the Child Rights Connect and an inter-agency steering group in Geneva, who joined their forces to implement the Project of developing a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) as well as to support organization of the International Alternative Care Conference, both with the aim of better implementing the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children.

The WG is composed of the following international stakeholders: Better Care Network, Centre for Excellence for Looked after Children in Scotland (CELCIS), Hope and Homes for Children, International Federation of Educative Communities (FICE), International Federation of Social Workers, International Social Service (ISS), RELAF, Save the Children, SOS Children's Villages International & UNICEF.

So far, the WG has held six meetings in Geneva, where FICE International was duly represented by its designated representatives Mr.Hermann Radler, FICE International President and/or Mrs.Olgica Cekic, FICE Austria 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. FICE International also financially supported this Project with 2.000 euro.

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First phase of the WG work on the Project was completed after the International Alternative Care Conference successfully took place in Geneva on 3-5 October 2016, where FICE International experts Mr.Hermann Radler and Mr.Rolf Widmer were among the speakers. Both their presentations, on the topics of *What does a caretaker need?* (Radler) and *Family strengthening and prevention in Algeria* (Widmer) provoked much attention and were well accepted by the conference's audience.

The second phase of the WG work on the Project, focused on development of a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) is still ongoing. MOOC course with the title *Getting Care Right for All Children – Implementing the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children* will start on May 15th 2017. It is a 6 week interactive course for better understanding the key principles, pillars and implications of the UN Guidelines, taking into account views from across the world. Open to all, the course is for everyone interested in or responsible for children's care. It is accessible online, free of charge and available in English, French and Spanish. The flier with more information and the link for the course registration has been recently shared via email with all FICE National sections.

In addition to participation in this WG, FICE International has expressed an interest to join CELCIS, FXB Harvard, IDC, IFRC, ISS, RELAF, SC, SOS CVI, Terres des Hommes and UNHCR in a newly created, separate WG for exploring a possibility of developing specific Massive Online Open Course on the issue of children on the move. First meeting of this WG will be held in Geneva on March 2017.



## Report of FICE African Network

FICE-Africa network continues to strengthen. There is very strong commitment from all the participating countries. Currently the active and participating members are: Zambia, South Africa, Kenya and Lesotho. Through the network, national chapters have been able to collectively plan how they would like to make an impact in the children at risk sector.

Lesotho has joined the FICE –Africa network for over a year now. They have been able to connect with other national bodies and local organisations to encourage joint efforts and exchange of knowledge and skills through establishing an associations. The Lesotho Association of Child and youth Care Workers will be launched soon. FICE South Africa continues to support the wonderful initiatives.

There are now Safe Parks operating in South Africa, Zambia, Kenya, West Africa and Lebanon. West Africa will soon be participating in the FICE-Africa network so that the context, knowledge and skills around Safe Parks could be exchanged. A partnership between Zambia and South Africa and UNHCR has led to training of refugees from Maheba Refugee camp in Basic Qualifications in Child and Youth Care Work. The group trained has started working with children in their families as well as the Safe Park.

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FICE Kenya hosted the pilot of the CYCW competencies of the Global Social Sciences Workforce Alliance (GSSWA) in Kisumu. Africa is proud to have had this opportunity to test the competencies.

FICE Africa continues to participate in the different FICE International events and meetings. One other event is the Netherlands Federal Council meeting where the work of FICE Africa was piloted. Zeni Thumbadoo (South Africa) and Felix Mwale (Zambia) attended a meeting in Geneva – Switzerland in Coalition for Children Conference in 2016.

FICE Africa is grateful for support provided by Rolf Widmer. He has promoted the Safe Park model and assisted in the training taking place in Lebanon.

More than 22 African delegates attended FICE International conference in Vienna 2016 (Zambia, Kenya, Lesotho, South Africa, Uganda/DRC, West Africa and Togo). At the FICE International General Assembly Lesotho was accepted as an associate member of FICE International. FICE Africa used the opportunity in Vienna to hold a face- to- face meeting which prepared for a two day meeting held in South Africa –





Johannesburg in February 2017. The meeting was attended by Zambia, Lesotho, Kenya and South Africa. FICE Africa is grateful to FICE International for funding this meeting.

The meeting held in South Africa worked on reviewing the FICE Africa network vision. It has been adjusted to read: The creation of networks across African countries to support work with children and youth in families, in communities and in out-of-home care. The principles, objectives, activities and the benefits of being a member of the network was revised.

FICE-Africa is committed to getting more members to join the network so that we can together support the work with children in as many African countries as possible.



## Report of FICE European Network

Lot of work is done! And brings FICE Europe back to an active network again. 2016 was spend on activities to start up again after a period of less activities.

In 2017 the board will work together with the members to activate this network.

New statutes for FICE Europe were established and FICE Europe is settled in Vienna now.

FICE Europe developed a new website <https://www.fice-europe.eu/>

On the website the mission of FICE Europe is described.

### **Contacts with potential members, new or old-new FICE members:**

Denmark (revitalize), UK (upscale) , Luthiania (revitalize),

Hungary (reposition) Croatia (new), Macedonia (potential)

### **Opening Doors, Eurochild**

Working on the campaign Opening doors, FICE Europe is participating in the steering board, FICE Europe is one of 5 campaign leading organizations (Hope and Homes, IFCO, SOS CVI, Eurochild)

Participation of FICE Europe members FICE Spain, FICE Croatia, FICE Austria in the OD campaign

[http://eurochild.org/news/news-details/article/opening-doors-for-europes-children-campaign-expands-with-new-partners-and-countries/?tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=ff3c0acc802f36bd0f2d2a8207e8bf8b](http://eurochild.org/news/news-details/article/opening-doors-for-europes-children-campaign-expands-with-new-partners-and-countries/?tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=ff3c0acc802f36bd0f2d2a8207e8bf8b)

**Ensact, Global Agenda for social work** <http://ifsw.org/get-involved/agenda-for-social-work/>

Global agenda no 2. Dignity and worth for people. Report presented in the joint-world-conference-social-work-education-and-social-development in Seoul 2016.

[http://www.fice.nl/sites/fice.nl/files/field/attachment/report\\_european\\_observatory\\_2016\\_final\\_paper\\_version.pdf](http://www.fice.nl/sites/fice.nl/files/field/attachment/report_european_observatory_2016_final_paper_version.pdf)

<http://ifsw.org/product/books/global-agenda-for-social-work-and-social-development-2nd-report-pdf-edition/>

The next joint world conference will be in Dublin 4th-7th July 2018. Expected participants: 2500.



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### **Conference and Youth exchange September 2017**

At the moment we are busy in preparation of the Danube Conference and the workshops on the 20th anniversary FICE Europe Network, which will take place in Esztergom on September 18-19 2017 with the title „Quality of Alternative Care for Children and Youth in Europe: the Past, the Present, the Future"

Youth exchange, September 11 - 20 2017 based on the Declaration Careleavers, from the Youngsters in Vienna 2016, in Esztergom, Hungary

7. Preparation of conference FICE Europe autumn 2018 The Netherlands "Sexuality in youth care".

8. Visit of ESN congress in May 2016, Brussels. Presentation of "Investing in Children's services

<http://www.esn-eu.org/publications/index.html>



## Reports of the working Groups

### **Working group: Sexuality in youth care**

The main goal is to share international knowledge and experience about the policy in case of sexual abuse in Youth care. Members in this group are representatives from the following FICE National Sections: Finland, Israel, Netherlands and Ukraine.

During the Vienna Conference presentations and / or workshops were given around these themes. FICE UK was just like previous years, the driving force of the workgroup "Sexual abuse in institutions". This working group has organized a number of workshops and presentations at the conference in Vienna in 2016. In addition, contacts have been collected from organizations that want to stay involved with this theme.

The focus of the working group is to organize an international symposium in the Netherlands in 2018. This is under preparation in cooperation with several stakeholders in the Netherlands. International and national questions and needs will be collected and will serve as a guide for the content of the program.

### **Working group: Quality Standards and Mapping**

2016 proved to be very successful for the Quality Standards and Mapping Working Group which surveyed all participants who attended the Congress in Austria in an effort to identify what youth work looks like across the globe. It was also hoped to identify potential project/research partners. Emailed to all participants and relevant workers across Vienna by the Congress office, the results were positive and very insightful.

Results: 150 respondents from 44 different countries answered the short online survey which consisted of multiple choice questions related to training, professionalism and the structure of youth work in each country. The overall conclusion is that youth work practice varies across the world, with similarities and differences apparent and dependent upon cultural practices in each country.

The top five services offered by respondents were:

1. Residential
2. Mental Health services
3. Services for those deemed to be at-risk, foster care and youth worker education
4. School-based programs
5. Child protection, family-based work, professional support and working with refugees.





The main age range participants work with is 0 – 18 years of age and the top five methods of practice identified by respondents were:

1. Cognitive Behavioural Therapy
2. Empowerment/Strengths-based work
3. Play Therapy and Trauma Informed Practice
4. Family work
5. Attachment work, Counseling, early intervention, group work, peer-to-peer work, qualitative, relationship work, seminars/training/workshops, solutions work.

134 responded that they had access to youth worker training in some form, ranging from certificates to PhD study, while those who responded held several qualifications, the top five being:

1. Masters of Social Work
2. Masters
3. BA Social Work, CYC Practitioner certification
4. Masters of Science
5. BA CYC, B. Social Science, Diploma, Masters of Community Development, Masters of Education, PhD Social Work, Psychology, Teacher

Workers hold qualifications across a number of disciplines, as well as youth work, including counselling, cultural anthropology, law, psychology and social management.

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Issues: Multiple choice questions which did not allow for multiple responses was a programming issue that was not identified until the survey went live and an analysis of the data was begun. We assumed that respondents chose the highest response possible.

Future Directions:

1. An interactive map, based on the survey results, is to be developed for the FICE website.
2. Many respondents are interested in either a collaboration, partnership, research opportunity, etc. with other FICE members. A list will be created and held at the FICE office.

### **Working Group: Collaboration and Innovation**

Members: Merle Allsop (South Africa); Felix Mwale (Zambia); Anna Schmid (Switzerland); Zeni Thumbadoo (South Africa)

In 2016, the main concerns of the working group were:

- How can all members participate well in FICE International despite sometimes great geographic distances and traveling difficulties?
- How can the collaboration at FICE Federal Councils and in between them be as productive and fruitful as possible?



The group focused on organisational measures as well as on internet tools to facilitate full inclusion, full participation and equal voice of National Sections in FICE International and its initiatives, particularly in cases where they are unable to travel to meetings such as the Federal Council.

The main recommendations made in the working group's report to the Secretary in spring of 2016 and mentioned both at the CF in Almelo and again at the General Assembly were:

- To provide the CF agenda to the National Sections at least three months prior to the CF with enough detail for National Sections to discuss them, comment on them, and to suggest further items they may wish to include in the agenda, beginning in autumn of 2016.
- To send out the finalised CF agenda two months before the CF with enough details for National Sections that are unable to attend CF to send their comments on them to the General Secret until two weeks before the Federal Council. Any item that will possibly include voting will be described in enough detail for sections unable to attend the Federal Council to vote by email.
- An alternative to such interaction by email could be that members can instruct a member from another country in writing to represent them and vote on their behalf at Federal Councils.
- To test online (internet) conferencing at the next CF. FICE South Africa offers to take the lead for such a test.

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At the end of 2016, the working group was waiting to hear from the Secretary or President whether they would either adopt these suggestions or put them to renewed discussion by all members by email or at the next CF.

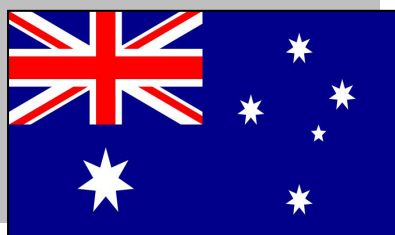
### **Working group: Social Inclusion**

Since 2015, the working group has been collecting examples of activities and publications on inclusion and placing them on the website. At the working group meeting in Almelo additional examples were discussed and published on the website.

At the FICE congress in Vienna in 2016, the keynote "Inclusion - Hopes and Realities" also drew attention to the importance and difficulties of the process of inclusion.



## Reports of the National Sections



*FICE Australia - Full member*  
*President: Jennifer Brooker*  
*Members: 6*  
*New members: 3*

In 2017 FICE Australia participated in the 33<sup>rd</sup> FICE Congress and 2<sup>nd</sup> CYC World Conference.



***FICE Austria - Full member***

***President: Hermann Radler***

***Members: 267***

***New members: 35***

#### **Projects realized:**

- **ABEONA Project:** FICE Austria is a partner in the European project ABEONA funded by the ERASMUS+ programme (2015-2017). The project deals with the topic “Care Leaver” and their transition to an independent life with special focus on their vocational integration. In the frame of this project, in 2016 FICE Austria participated in the Transnational Meetings, finalized the national report and its translation, sent two trainers to develop together with the other partners a training for social pedagogues to better support Care Leavers in their transition to an independent life and their vocational integration and disseminated the training in three workshops for social pedagogues in Austria.

- **EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE:** FICE Austria is accredited as coordinating, sending and hosting organization of the European Voluntary Service. From January 2016 to January 2017 we hosted the first volunteer.

- **ERASMUS + YOUTH EXCHANGES:**

- Participation with an Austrian Group of Care Leavers in the Youth Exchange “The Next Step” in Croatia, coordinated by the organization Kinderperspectief (The Netherlands).

- Coordination of the Youth Exchange “Be the Change” before and during the 33rd FICE Congress and 2nd CYC World Conference in August 2016 in Vienna/Austria: 45 young Care Leaver from 10 ERASMUS+ Programme and Neighbouring Partner countries and 8 Care Leaver from other countries came together to live, work, relax, exchange and make plans on their future together and to work on international care-leaving standards that guarantee care leavers equal access and opportunities in their transition to an independent life. The young adults were accompanied by group leaders from their countries, facilitator and three professional therapists. The young adults created 10 international standards for care-leaving and dissemination materials like videos. The findings and proposals were presented and incorporated in the international congress – 33rd FICE Congress and 2nd CYC World Conference: Together Towards a Better World for Children, Adolescents and Families - that took place in Vienna from 22nd to 25th August 2016.

- **April 2016: Symposium on “Alternatives to Residential Care”** and Workshop on “Learning as Intervention” with Prof. Kiaras Gharabaghi, co- hosted by FICE Austria and the Government of Lower Austria: approx. 50 participants in the symposium and 20 participants in the workshop.





#### **Public events:**

- April and November 2016: Training on Psychotraumatology and Psychodrama
- August 2016: 33rd FICE Congress and 2nd CYC World Conference: Together Towards a Better World for Children, Adolescents and Families. The main Conference took place at the University of Applied Sciences FH Campus Wien from 22nd to 25th August 2016, additional programme the days before and after the main conference. More than 600 professionals from 60 countries all over the world came together in Vienna to exchange on the work in the field of child and youth care and related fields in different countries across the world.
- November 2016: Three workshops for social pedagogues on vocational integration of Care Leavers.

#### **Other activities:**

- OPENING DOORS CAMPAIGN II: Since 2016 FICE Austria is national coordinator of the Campaign “Opening Doors for Europe’s Children”. The priorities for Austria in the frame of the Campaign are (1) Quality standards assurance in alternative care, (2) Improving the situation of placement of unaccompanied migrant minors and (3) Professionalization of foster parents.
- In the frame of the Campaign FICE Austria established a working group on quality in alternative care. The working group met 3 times in 2016.
- YOUTH WORKER EXCHANGE with THE JOURNEY from Indianapolis/USA: A delegation of approx. 30 professionals working in the area of child and youth care or related fields, coordinated by the organization THE JOURNEY, came to Austria some days before the 33rd FICE Congress and 2nd CYC World Conference for an exchange with Austrian colleagues, home stays and job shadowing at their working place.

#### **Participation in events:**

- Representation of the Austrian National Coalition for the Implementation of the UN CRC in Austria in National Partner Meetings and General Assembly of EUROCHILD.
- June 2016: Information stand and participation at the Women for Peace Conference in Graz/Austria



***FICE Bosnia and Herzegovina - Full member***

***President:-***

***Members: -***

***New members: -***

Last year FICE Bosnia and Herzegovina implemented the first session of the project and Diagnostics To inform experts who will in future be able to carry out observation and diagnostics with young people who are in conflict with the law. Together with the Ministry of Justice to the Department of education of male children and young people.

Completed the first module of the project, defined as questionnaires that can be used in all social institutions that care for juveniles in conflict with the law. There were several professional seminars with the judicial authorities have been given the instrument to be used as a tool in assessment and diagnosis of young people.

This project was implemented by experts from FICE Switzerland. FICE Bosnia and Herzegovina with the help of FICE Schweiz supported the establishment of NGOs support the independence of young people, the establishment of Learning farm that is used as a place to learn independence at which young people should get the start package on the road to independence.

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MY Future NGO implementing the project Raspberries, at 2,000 square meters for young people who are on the way to independence, this project is being implemented with the help of FICE Bosnia and Herzegovina is funded through the Dutch organization Kinderperspectief.

We are currently working to develop a strategy development FICE 2017 - 2020 and the formation of a team of experts to provide support to institutions for vulnerable categories of young people, while BiH faces huge problems of migration of young people on the rise is the growing number of poor, abandoned and not cared for and all increasing number of juveniles in conflict with the law.



***FICE Bulgaria - Full member***  
***President: Dashenka Kraleva***  
***Members: 50***  
***New members: 3***

#### **Projects realized:**

- Project “Additional Support” was funded by UNICEF Bulgaria. The project was aimed at improving the situation of the Bulgarian socio-pedagogical boarding schools for children in conflict with the law. The main activities included: trainings for the professionals working in the socio-pedagogical boarding schools, trainings with the children, correctional-educational expedition with the children in the mountain, with the aim to change the children’s delinquent behaviour by using a strengths based approach
- Project “Professional development” - Updating, adapting and republishing of the main training modules of APSAC FICE-Bulgaria and Educational centre TRACE. The project was realized with the financial support of the Old Beech Foundation in Bulgaria.

#### **- “Case management”**

#### **- “Work with children’s behaviour”**

- Project “Unlocking Children’s Rights: Strengthening the capacity of professionals in the EU to fulfill the rights of vulnerable children”. The leading organization under this project was Coram Children’s Legal Centre and the partners were 10 organizations in the EU working in the field of children’s rights. FICE-Bulgaria carried out trainings of professionals working with children in conflict with the law, in legal proceedings and in detention centres. 120 judges, prosecutors, social workers, educators, etc. were trained on topics regarding child development and children’s rights.
- In the end of 2016 FICE Bulgaria applied with a project proposal in a contest organized by the National Network for Children for provision of innovative for Bulgaria social service -Centers for children’s rights. FICE Bulgaria’s proposal was approved and in the next 2 years FICE Bulgaria will be providing this service in the city of Vratsa

#### **Events organized:**

- FICE-Bulgaria celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> birthday

#### **Participation in events:**

- Participated actively in the 33<sup>rd</sup> FICE Congress and 2<sup>nd</sup> CYC World Conference;
- Participated in various working groups and public discussions, related the reform of the the Bulgarian law on delinquent behaviour of children and young people.
- Participated in meetings of the National Network for Children in Bulgaria
- Was represented at many public events at a national or international level

#### **Other activities:**

- Trained more than 300 professionals working with and for children on various topics, related to child and youth care
- Created Therapeutic Communities Bulgaria with the help of Hermann Radler



***FICE Czech Republic - Full member***  
***President: PaedDr. Bc. Jana Koubová***  
***Members: 203***  
***New members: 6***

#### **Projects realized:**

Our section participated in the realization of the regional rounds of The Dearest Concert, where gifted children from children's home perform. State parade took place in Ostrava. We also participated in realization of the regional rounds of various sport competitions of children from children's homes, state competition was organized in Chotěboř. Winners from each category qualified to the international games in Hungary. Children competed in athletics, football, volleyball and table tennis.

#### **Public events:**

We organized 2 specialized seminars aimed for childcare. Outside these activities there are regular meetings of the FICE section committee every two months.

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#### **Participation in events:**

We participate in the regular meetings of the committee for the social politics of the Parliament of Czech Republic, we cooperate with school union, with Association of foster care and some other non-profit organizations, for example Your Change, Talent and skills.





*Estonian Children's Fund – Organizational member*  
*President: Sirje Grosmann-Loot*

**Projects realized:**

We have one big way to move. We make ADHD support groups for ADHD parents. 2016 we started 2 new groups in Saaremaa and in Võrumaa.

Also we provide a scholarship, which we give once a year to an orphan child's who's studying in the university.

**Public events:**

We provide a scholarship for foster care children who are studying in the university. There were about 10 people who received it.

The money for the scholarship we collect through donations.

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**Participation in events:**

I made the main report at the "Mental Health Conference" (I was talking ADHD), there was about 60-70 people who're listening that.



*David C. Lane CBE - Individual member*

*Honorary Life President of FICE International*

### Public Inquiries in the United Kingdom

There is no National Section of FICE in the United Kingdom at present, though John Diamond has been in touch with some FICE members, and the International Centre of which he is head may apply to act as the UK National Section. Further information about John and the services he manages can be found at [www.mulberrybush.org.uk](http://www.mulberrybush.org.uk) and the therapeutic care journal of the International Centre at: [Www.thetcj.org](http://Www.thetcj.org).

This report describes one aspect of child care in the UK at present, for the information of the Federal Council. Over recent years there has been growing public concern about the abuse of children and young people, and especially sexual abuse. There have been reports about children in residential care being abused, and of priests and other clergy abusing children.

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As the alleged offenses usually took place many years ago, it is sometimes difficult to tell the truth of allegations, when it is one person's word against another's. Understandably, victims are reluctant to make allegations against popular public figures, as they feel they will not be believed, but the general public have now come to accept that well-known people in positions of trust may abuse children. Indeed, there is now concern in the UK that anyone in power may have been involved in abuse, and people wonder where the allegations will end. Certainly, we have to accept that the abuse of children and young people has been much more widespread than previously thought, and that a major element has been the use of power and authority by the abusers in inflicting the abuse on their victims.

At present there are several inquiries in the UK, which are either under way, or have reported recently.

1 In **North Wales** there were allegations of the sexual abuse of children and young people in residential and foster care. These were investigated between 1997 and 2000 by a retired judge, the late Sir Ronald Waterhouse, who produced a 900+ page report. 140 former children in care were compensated for abuse which had taken place between 1974 and 1990. The police conducted Operation Pallial, and by 2013 200 people had come forward to give evidence. John Allen, who was the head of Bryn Alyn, one of the homes involved, was sentenced to life imprisonment for abusing children in his care.

2 In **Northern Ireland** the Assembly set up an Inquiry under the chairmanship of Sir Anthony Hart, a retired judge. Its remit was to consider all types of abuse in residential child care between 1922 and 1995, and to decide whether there had been systemic abuse. The Inquiry reported in January 2017, and it



identified systemic abuse on the part of staff, the organisations providing residential services and the state. The broad remit meant that the Inquiry was able to note the interplay between sexual, physical and emotional abuse, but about 80% of the allegations related to a period in the 1950s and 1960s when standards of care in large underfunded institutions were not acceptable. The Inquiry was in two parts: the first was an Acknowledgment Forum, in which witnesses could speak confidentially and their observations were recorded but not questioned; the second was a Public Inquiry, held in a court room where witnesses gave evidence under oath and were questioned to ascertain the accuracy of their evidence. Most witnesses gave evidence in both settings. The report covered about 20 establishments in 10 volumes, amounting to about a million words. It seems to have been well received, but because of the political situation in Northern Ireland no action has yet been taken on the recommendations. I was a Panel Member in this Inquiry.

The full report is available on the Inquiry's website - [www.hiainquiry.org](http://www.hiainquiry.org).

3 An Inquiry in the island of **Jersey** was initiated because of serious allegations of abuse in a children's home called Haute de la Garenne, but it has also covered other children's homes. One of the problems faced by the Inquiry was that, as everyone knew everyone else in a small island, to ensure the independence and objectivity of the Inquiry, everyone involved had to be recruited from other parts of the UK and flown to Jersey, increasing the costs considerably. The Chair is a QC named Frances Oldham. The Inquiry's report is anticipated soon after Easter.

4 An Inquiry was established in **Scotland** in 2015, preceded by a confidential gathering of evidence, similar to Northern Ireland's Acknowledgment Forum. The Inquiry started to take formal evidence in February 2017, and it is hoping to complete its task within four years. The first Chair of the Inquiry resigned on the grounds of interference by the Scottish Government, and one Panel Member also resigned, but the work has proceeded under the second Chair, a judge named Rt Hon Lady Smith. One of the problems facing such inquiries is that they need to be truly impartial, neither influenced inappropriately by survivors' organisations nor by government departments, even if they are funding the inquiry.

5 The biggest Inquiry is sometimes known as the Westminster Inquiry, though its formal name is the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) and it covers **England and Wales**. In its early years it was beset by problems, as it has had four Chairs and a number of its lawyers have also resigned. The current chair is Professor Alexis Jay, a former social worker, who recently conducted a major inquiry in Rotherham, concluding that 1400 young people had been abused in the previous five years. The Westminster Inquiry has a total of thirteen remits, each being on the scale of a major inquiry - covering allegations concerning clergy, schools, celebrities and so on. A schedule of work has been drawn up, and evidence is now being taken from witnesses who were migrated from England to Australia in the 1940s and 1950s.



6 In parallel with the public inquiries, the police, under Simon Bailey, Chief Constable of the county of Norfolk, have conducted national inquiries under the title **Operation Hydrant**, investigating the sexual abuse of children. He reports that the response has been "overwhelming" and the resources available to the police have been overstretched.

7 The most recent aspect of sexual abuse to hit the public arose when a former professional footballer alleged that when he was a young player his coach abused him. This led to a flood of similar allegations involving many of the best known **football teams**. By December 2016, 155 suspects had been named in 148 clubs.

8 I am aware that inquiries have been held in **other countries**, such as Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany and the Netherlands. Katie Wright, an academic from La Trobe University in Australia, is putting together a database concerning such inquiries, and if FICE members are aware of inquiries, I am sure she would appreciate receiving details. Her contact details are therefore attached below, and the URL for her database is <http://www.lib.latrobe.edu.au/research/ageofinquiry/index.html>.

That child care professionals have been abusing the children and young people whom they are appointed to protect is a matter of shame for the profession, but it is an issue which has to be faced, and I suspect that in countries where there have been no inquiries there is the risk that abuse is continuing undetected. FICE-International may therefore wish to consider addressing the issue.





**FICE Finland**(Central Union for Child Welfare (CUCW)- Full member  
**Chairman of the Board: Professor Pentti Arajärvi**  
**Members: 131 (92 NGOs and 39 municipalities or federations of municipalities)**  
**New members: 1**

### Projects realized:

FICE Finland coordinated the assistance programme Emma & Elias. The goal of the programme (2012–2017), financed by the Finnish Slot Machine Association (RAY) is to promote the health and social wellbeing of children and their families. The programme focuses on the improvement of growing conditions of children aged 15 years and younger. In 2016, over 30 projects were included in the programme.

We also realized projects and other cooperation with Estonian and Russian NGO's and authorities.

### Public events:

CUCW held 7 national seminars (altogether about 1500 participants) and 1 international seminar (in Moscow) on various child welfare issues together with other NGO's, public authorities and other networks.

Also we held 3 forums and workshops for children and young people and 5 training events for guardians of separated children.

Held other public events e.g. on the World Day of Social Justice (20th Feb).

In addition we realized projects and other cooperation with Estonian and Russian NGO's and authorities.

### Other events:

FICE Finland made over 25 statements, comments and motions and several public hearings on draft laws, committee reports and memoranda, international conventions etc. related to children's rights and child welfare.

Submitted the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) 2017 in cooperation with the coalition of NGOs (<https://www.lskl.fi/materiaali/lastensuojelun-keskusliitto/The-Universal-Periodic-Review-2017-Joint-contribution-Coalition-of-NGOs-for-UPR-Finland.pdf>)

Submitted a collective complaint to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe (Executive Secretary of the European Committee of Social Rights) concerning child's right to early childhood education and care.

We realized three consultative committees (preventive child welfare, child and family oriented child welfare and the implementation of child welfare).

We were represented in about 50 bodies, committees, steering groups, expert groups and networks set up by public authorities, NGO's and other networks (both national and international).



CUCW published the magazine “Child’s World” monthly.

We held events for member organisations and released seven member bulletins.

In addition we sent 42 newsletters “Mail from the field” (about 2000 subscribers), 3 newsletters with “News from the world” (about 1300 subscribers) and 10 newsletters with news from the library and information service (about 1100 subscribers).

FICE Finland published 7 research reports and/or guidebooks (1 in print and 6 E-publications).

We updated and maintained [www.lastensuojelu.info](http://www.lastensuojelu.info) (information about Finnish child welfare for immigrants in 10 languages) and maintained the website [www.lapsenoikeudet.fi](http://www.lapsenoikeudet.fi) (information about UN Convention on the Rights of the Child).

We realized media campaigns in cooperation with other NGOs and other authorities.

#### **Participation in events:**

- Participated in many national and over 12 international seminars.
- Staff members held over 70 presentations and speeches on various occasions.
- Participated in FICE CF meetings in the Netherlands (including seminar) and Vienna (including FICE congress).
- Organized exchanges with FICE-Romania (Romanian delegation in Finland in May and Finnish delegation in Romania in October)
- Is a member of 8 national and 5 international organizations or networks.



***FICE Germany- Internationale Gesellschaft für erzieherische Hilfen (IGfH)- Full member***

***President: Dr. Hans Ullrich Krause***

***General Manager: Josef Koch***

***Members: 1500***

***New members: 60***

### **Projects realized:**

#### **Care Leaver - Transitions for young adults from home education and care**

- Calendar 2016

The calendar presents a Care Leaver and his / her story every month. The calendar was sent to all IGfH members.

- Project: Rights in Transition - The Care and Participation of Care Leavers (With Hildesheim University) - Duration: 01.06.2014 - 31.05.2016

- information brochure for young people and young people; Posters
- Nationwide Information web page
- Care Leaver Hearing of young people under invitation of associations and Politicians in the bmfsfj
- Workshop seminars by and with Care Leavers
- Active support for the Care Leaver self-help organization
- Promote international networking on this issue

- Project start "Well accompanied to adult life"

Transitions from youth welfare to adulthood - transition management according to statutory assistance. Development & Transfer (With Hildesheim University) - Duration: 9/2016 - 8/2019

In this project 3 models of good practice for Care Leaver are evaluated and further developed: transition planning, networked infrastructure, participation and self-organization). The project takes up the manifold efforts to improve the support of Care Leavers and continues the professional development of transition management into adult life in and after childcare and youth welfare.

#### **Further development of foster care in Germany**

- Nationwide dialogue forum for children in foster care
- Advice to federal government for developing foster care system
- Four-time expert talks about the reform of foster care

#### **Creation of expertise (four publications)**

- Christian Erzberger: Expertise about literature in German foster care
- Diana Eschelbach: Expertise on the demands for legal reforms
- Heinz Müller, Philipp Artz: Expertise - Preparation of empirical data of statistics



- Heinz Müller, Christine Binz: Expertise - Recommendations for nursing children's help in comparison to the German population
- Permanent working group on further development of foster care

**(CEINAV)** within the framework of the EU program HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area) in the international project "Cultural Encounters in Intervention Against Violence"

Three-year project (from September 2013)

The project examines the impact of cultural differences on strategies for the protection of women from violent partnership, sexual exploitation and children from physical abuse and neglect.

Participation in evaluation workshops and networking into the FICE International (and other contexts)

### **Abeona**

Partner for the practical development and evaluation of the development of modules for the care of care leavers at the interface of youth welfare and education

- 5 transnational meetings
- 2 youth worker exchanges
- 1 youth worker training
- Experimentation during youth daily support in each country
- Creation of a European Observatory on the topic

- Participation and implementation of the state pilot project

"Children's Rights in Educational Assistance! Have rights, get right"

Federal pilot project Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: "Participation and complaints management in the educational assistance"

Project sponsors are the IfW of the University of Applied Sciences Neubrandenburg and joint project leaders are the IGfH and the IfW

- Continuation and qualification of the Educational assistance associations for the "participation of children and young people" [www.DieBeteiligung.de](http://www.DieBeteiligung.de)

### **Public events:**

#### **Diversity in education and foster families**

14.-16.04.2016 In Cologne - 450 people

#### **Escape - a challenge for full-time care / foster care in the immigration society**

1.06.2016 (IGfH with Landesjugendamt Niedersachsen, University of Hildesheim and others) in Hannover - 200 people

#### **Unaccompanied minor refugees - girls in sight**

Experts' discussion of the IGfH group of girls and women on 17.03.2016

**Support design and Unaccompanied minor refugees** (co-ordinator with ISM) - 11.04.2016

**Research Colloquium** for Flight and Asylum (IGfH with ISS) - 20.05.2016

**"Thinking"** - Health care and unaccompanied minor refugees - 7.07.2016

**Research Colloquium** Residential and foster care 4/5/03/2016 in Frankfurt / Main





**Hearing** with Policy Makers on the topic "Transitions and situation of care leavers" in bmfsfj - 12.05.2016 in Berlin - Conference documentation - Bundestag daily groups

**Participation needs diversity - diversity as an expression of inclusion** 10.-12.11.2016 in Dresden - 400 people

**Closing session** of the pilot project "Participation in Residential Homes" 14.09.2016 in Rostock

**6. Social Examinations Social pedagogical diagnoses** - Social pedagogical family diagnoses, 13 - 14 October 2016 in Berlin

#### **Other activities:**

- Accompanying the reform of the new law for youth - inclusive SGB VIII (eight meetings)

- Some Publications 2016

Journal of Professional Education (Beltz / Juventa Verlag) - Edition 2,500

Five issue numbers 2016

- 1-2016 education in the countryside

- 2-2016 Is the home improvement new?

- 3-2016 HzE group offers and school

- 4-2016 Technology and methodical action in the residential care

- 5-2016 Reforms of the law

Some fonts / publications

Federal first information brochure for young care leavers: "Durchblick" - including information home page and flyer "Care Leavers have rights!" With demands on politics and professional practice – info (18,000 copies distributed)

Documentation Care Leaver Hearing at BMSFFJ

Rights in Transition - The Care and Participation of Care Leavers - Info

Publication of expertise on the development of foster care (four publications)

- Christian Erzberger: Expertise for the Dialogue for Care Childcare - Technical Requirements

- Diana Eschelbach: Expertise on the demands for legal reforms

- Heinz Müller, Philipp Artz: Expertise - Preparation of empirical data of the SGB VIII statistics

- Heinz Müller, Christine Binz: Expertise - Recommendations for nursing children's help in comparison to the German population

---Opinion on the situation of minor refugees

The BMFSFJ survey on the first report by the Federal Government on the "Law on the Improvement of Accommodation, Care and Support for Foreign Children and Adolescents"

- a handbook for social pedagogues working with young refugees

- 30 trainings for employees in the social educational provisions



**FICE Hungary - Full member**  
**President: Rita Dóka**  
**Members: 267**  
**New members: 35**

#### Projects realized:

- Art project "Theatre – as a tool for development in child protection"

This year FICE Hungary realized an innovative programme. A drama group was created with 14 children from four different children's homes. The aim of this project was to introduce acting widely as an alternative way in the childcare system.

- Würth Camp for protecting the environment

In this year's camp there were 61 children from 21 children's homes. They could take part in an eight-day-camp in Pilisszentkereszt with the support of Würth Foundation. The camp was organized for the Leguminous Plants in the Pilis Mountain, which is a sacred place of the origins of the Hungarians. A short video was made during the camp which can be found in the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uTAeljCYUI>

- Children's Parliament 2016

FICE Hungary with the support of EMMI organized a children's parliament for children living in child-care. The focus is different every year. There were three trainings (two in the countryside, one in the capital) based on the problems discussed at the parliament followed. The trainings were realized with the assistance of Rita Dóka and the National Crime Prevention Board of Hungary. A total of 90 children took part in the trainings. This year's main themes were: "To become a victim"; "Helping and helped" and "Educational methods from children's point of view." The children's ideas were sent in a written form to the Ministry of Human Resources and to the Directorate-General for Social affairs and Child Protection and to OBDK.

#### Public events:

- *Public service and Psychology Conference*

The National University of Public Service with participation of our organization realized the "Civil Service and Psychology" Conference on 16 June. 200 participants took part in the conference.

- *General Assembly of FICE International*

FICE International Assembly was held on 21 August. Katalin Szabó, secretary and Ildikó Mélyvölgyi member of FICE Hungary appeared on behalf of FICE Hungary.

- *33rd FICE Congress and 2nd CYC World Conference*

FICE Hungary with 7 people appeared at the Congress, which is a worldwide appreciated meeting of professionals. The vice-president of FICE Hungary, dr. Judit Hegedűs (head of department at National University of Public Service) held a lecture on the 3rd day of the congress.

- *'Hair- cut for a smile'*



FICE Hungary with 'NENESZ' organized an event called 'Hair-cut for a smile' three times already. Hairdressers helping in this project, cut children's hair for a smile in child care institutions.

At each event between 70-80 children could have a new hair cut. Between 20-30 volunteers were working to help the children feel and look better and nicer.

- *ERROR Festival*

Error Festival is an art festival for socially disadvantaged children. It was held on 25 and 26 November in Bratislava with the support of EU.

- *Drawing competition*

As a continuation of the "Gift Day", we announced a drawing competition. Seventy-two competitions arrived from all around Hungary. We gave prizes in two categories and two in two age-groups. In this way we were able to reward twelve works. Precious gifts were given to three special-prizes.

- *"Young chefs" great competition*

17 September 2016 for the eleventh time our organization organized a cooking event with the support of EEMI (Ministry of Human Resources) for children living in care. This year it was in Sikonda, where groups of participants were ready to cook 'lecsó'.

During a whole day programme almost 300 participants were hoping for sunshine while they were having a great time. Participants arrived from all over Hungary. There was even a group from Austria.

The famous chef Zoltán Teleky and six-members arrived in the early afternoon.

At the end of the day the so called "Tökmag" drama group from Budapest finished the day with their performance: "A kitten's tale". This drama group did the play for FICE's art project in 2016.

- *Training*

With the cooperation of EDUNET we had two trainings in September. 15 participants at each training.

The topic of the training was the RLG programme which helps to improve the initiative for youngsters of age-group 16-24. This doesn't mean to train youngsters to become entrepreneurs, rather to develop skills to become more proactive in the fight for their own lives.

- *Gift Day*

11 December 2016 FICE Hungary with the support of EEMI organized the Gift Day again. This time it was in the assembly hall of Budai Ciszterci Szent Imre Secondary School in Budapest.

The guests (more than 300 kids and adults) from all around Hungary, altogether from 28 children's homes from the countryside and Budapest.

The opening of the event was a surprise. It was followed by the performance of "Tökmag" drama group, then came Rolando the magician. After that free-style dancers astonished the audience. After the break the band of Starmashine played music and made the audience dance in a minute. During the break the guests were given hot chocolate and milk bread. At the same time enthusiastic volunteers were doing creative things with the kids.

At the end of the day everybody could go home with a special gift pack from the firm Würth and of course with many nice memories of the day.



**FICE India - Full member**  
**President/Chairperson/Director:** Malay Dewanji, Hony. General Secretary, Liberal Association for Movement of People(LAMP)  
**Members:** 54 representatives from 45 member organisations  
**New members:** 9

### Major Activities and projects:

Several socio-cultural action programmes have been specially designed for the identified 2,160 children at risk to meet their own socio-cultural and education needs and also to develop the children's leadership. The target children are provided with bridge education, residential care, vocational training and advocacy, awareness generation for their mainstreaming into the civil society.

- Sports for children: Education center level sports have been organized in every year for all children coming to total education centers(TECs).
- Day observation: Important national and international days have been observed through organizing meetings on the relevant issues such as National Children's Day, National Literacy Day, International Women's Day, Indian Independence Day, National Teachers' Day etc. These meetings have been organized to make community people aware specially reaching out to deprived children to every corner.
- Sit & Draw competition: These programmes have been specially organized for the children of all the "Total Education Center(s)". As a part of organizing special days these programmes have been organized for them.
- Vocational training for youths at risk: Several vocational training programmes on different trades like Tailoring and Knitting, Beauty and Fashion Design, Driving, Computer basics, Computer Hardware, Computer Accounting(Tally), Mobile phone repairing, Nursing and Home Care etc. have been successfully organized under the guidance of the FICE-India and 819 poor youths have been benefitted in the year-2016. Moreover, entrepreneurship development and personality grooming programme have been successfully undertaken for all these youths at risk.
- Residential School-Hostels Programme for the deprived children : Three hundred children of three residential school-hostels ( Cossimbazar School, Haranath School and Saheed Smriti Mandir ), run with the support of the both Union and West Bengal State Governments, under the scheme - Sarva Siksha Mission, are being benefitted by full time education and full Meals and all other needs, which are run by two important FICE-India member organizations namely – LAMP and GUP, in the north and south Kolkata within the area of Kolkata Municipal Corporation.

The key objectives of this programme are as follows:

- ❖ To provide full time education of the children at risk;
- ❖ To protect children at risk from hunger;
- ❖ To ensure school enrolment of all children at risk;
- ❖ To improve socialization among children belonging to all castes and class;





- **Child Rights & Library Development programme:** The children leaders of the Shishu Jagat have been successfully running their small library(s) in Kolkata city. This library was set up for street and working children and children at risk with the assistance of the Hong Kong University and its students in 2007.

It is now planned by the LAMP to start a Mobile Text and Referral Books Library for the children at risk of Kolkata City, with the support of Japan Government, which will cover about 9,000 street and working children of 18 slums of Kolkata city.

#### **Public events:**

A. **Excursion programme:** This programme has been arranged for selected 117 children at risk, from every center only after having written permission of their parents or legal guardians.

B. **Awareness generation programme on Elimination of Child Labour:** The main objective of the programme was to create mass awareness on ill effects of joining work force at early childhood stage thereby elimination of child labour.

The programme started with a sit & draw competition for the children who previously joined in work force, now studying at different child labour elimination schools. The main participants of the programme were 252 children and the concerned child welfare activists.

#### **Other activities:**

**Publication of Wall Magazine(s):** Children of Shishu Jagat of all TECs run by its network member organisations across the country are encouraged to bring out 'Wall Magazine' in their respective schools/education centres. These wall magazines give ample opportunities to these children at risk to express their opinions and aspirations on any subjects or issues they face by posting their articles, poems, drawings, etc.

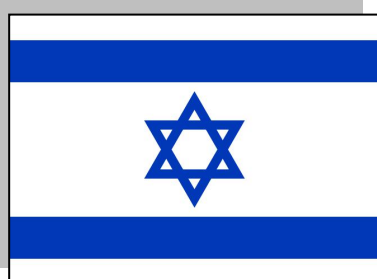
A committee comprised with the potential children, the teacher and the coordinator of the programme is formed in every school and institutions for publication of wall magazines from time to time. Children are provided with sketch pens, colours and painting brushes, pens & pencils from respective institutions for finalisation and publication of the wall magazine(s) from time to time. They are also given necessary orientation training for best output in this regard.

**Publication of News letters:** All children of network organizations of FICE India and its associate "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. This magazine gives an ample opportunity to these children at risk to share their problems, joys and sorrows with others, especially the children of same category who are living in different parts of India.

FICE India has been taking necessary initiatives for publishing newsletters on different issues related to the area specific problems and aspirations of the children at risk across the country. During the reporting year, a consolidated magazine of the aspirations of the children at risk is published on the National Children's Day - 14th November, 2016, in the name of "SHISHU JAGAT" in Bengali and Hindi languages.

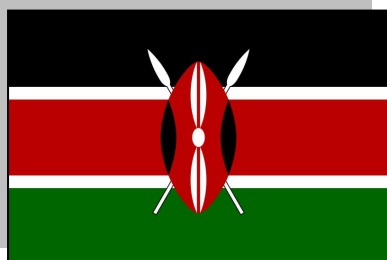
#### **Annual General Meeting of the FICE-India:**

On 18th December, 2016, Annual General Meeting of the FICE-India was successfully held at the registered office of the "Liberal Association for Movement of People", Pratapbagan, Bankura -722101 and 54 representatives of the member organisations of FICE-India, actively participated in the mentioned meeting. Annual Report and Audit report are submitted and discussed and passed unanimously.



***FICE Israel - Full member***  
***President: Prof. Emmanuel Grupper***  
***Vice-president: Yoav Appelbaum***  
***Members: 27***  
***New members : 6***

- FICE Israel organized two international seminars with FICE Romania. One in Romania in March and one in Israel in November. After the seminar in Romania a written document was published and distributed to all members summarizing the impressions of participants in the study-visit seminar
- Participated in several public events dedicated to strengthen the public image of out-of-home care in Israel. In this respect we wish to emphasize the publication of a FICE-Israel position paper in Hebrew in response to the American consensus paper against any kind of out-of-home care.
- FICE-Israel is involved in actions dedicated to adapt the law concerning foster families to the changing realities in Israel. Taking part in consulting for the development of new training programs for professionals working in out-of-home care facilities.
- FICE-Israel was present in all main public and professional events concerning residential care and supporting the rights of children and youth at risk and in need of care.
- We started to work on the creation of an important "consortium" committed to work in collaboration with us for the realization of FICE-International next world Congress in 2019.



***FICE Kenya - Full member***  
***President: Simon Peter Otieno***  
***Members: 27***  
***New members : 6***

### **Realized “DREAMS PROJECT”**

#### **Concept**

Many adolescent girls and young women lack a full range of opportunities and are too often devalued because of gender bias, leading them to be seen as unworthy of investment or protection.

DREAMS is about multiple solutions surrounding one problem.

Keeping adolescent girls and young women HIV free also positively impacts their overall health, education, development, and wellbeing.

The ultimate goal of the initiative is to help girls develop into Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe (DREAMS) women.

#### **Success**

- Over 35 Adolescent Girls and Young Women re-enrolled back to school
- Over 1000 school going Girls received solar lamps
- Over 200 Girls benefited from ICT training
- Over 1000 caregivers trained on parenting skills.

Held public events, such as:

- World Menstrual Day- Attended by 450 Adolescent Girls and Young Women.
- World AIDS Day - Attended by 600 participants
- Day of the African Child- Attended by 2800 Adolescent Girls and Young Women.

#### **Participated in World Orphans Day:**

It is an International Children Day that is always celebrated on 7th May of every year and stakeholders take the opportunity during this day to address the issues affecting orphans. In Kenya the number of orphans has continued to rise with the figure standing at 2.4million children .



#### *FICE Netherlands - Full member*

*President: Gitta Griffioen*

*Members: 30 organizations and approximately 50 friends*

*New members: 2 new members and 2 left. Due to reorganizations and mergers our number of members declines.*

#### **Projects realized:**

- **Theme: Sexuality in care:** FICE NL designed in collaboration with its Dutch network and members of FICE International the substantive program of the theme of sexuality in institutions. The goal is to organize an international conference on this theme in the Netherlands in 2018.
- **Theme: Careleavers:** FICE NL is supporting careleavers to spread and implement the 10 standards of Vienna in the Netherlands. We organized a meeting with stakeholders of municipalities and institutions. The outcome is that careleavers will make a movie of the standards and they will be involved in policymaking and conferences.

#### **Public events:**

Held International Conference Community based work

It was special to receive the entire network of FICE International in the Netherlands for the CF (Conseil federal)! Coupled with CF FICE NL organized a conference on community-based work "on March 31, 2016. This international conference was a great success attended by many (potential) members. (Movie) reports, cartoons and other materials on this subject can be found on our website. This impressive conference was attended by 150 people from different fields and of different nationalities. The participants were enthusiastic and inspired.

#### **Other activities:**

In 2016 FICE NL started to send newsletters to members and other interested professionals. The mailing list is 250 now. In these newsletters we share our activities and those of FICE international. Furthermore, we share news of our members and calls for collaboration or congresses. On our website we also published a lot.

Last year FICE NL has prepared and made arrangements for a study trip to Finland. This will take place in May 2017. The theme is the transition in the youth care system. 15 professionals will participate from the Netherlands including both members and potential members.

One of our members Parlan made a spontaneous working visit from SOS Children's Villages from Japan into a success! They wanted to know more about foster care in the Netherlands.

#### **Participation in events:**

##### **Involvement in the International Congress of FICE International in Vienna**

FICE NL sent Dutch participants from each participating member organisation an overview of the Dutch contributions in Vienna.

Thanks to the efforts of the Youth Welfare Consultation on behalf of FICE EN young people were well involved in the conference. The output of the youth congress as 10 standards for care leavers were a great success.





INTERNATIONAL  
FEDERATION  
OF EDUCATIVE  
COMMUNITIES

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



On behalf of FICE NL care leavers contributed to the For Youth Day on October 3 at the Westergasfabriek in Amsterdam. They told about their experiences in Vienna and about the standards.

#### Collaboration in Netherlands

FICE NL is using various partnerships based on different activities. Our partnerships are NJI, MOVISIE, VNG and the youth association.

Gitta Griffioen is also president of FICE Europe, which off course means she is actively involved, more information on their activities can be found on the website.

#### **"Opening doors"**

FICE NL European campaign "opening doors" (OD) supported by an amount of 1,500 euros. The Opening Doors for Europe's Children campaign aims to support national efforts to develop child protection systems that strengthen families and ensure high quality family and community-based alternative care for children, by leveraging EU funding and policy and building capacity of civil society organisations.



***FICE Romania - Full member***

***President: Prof. Toma Mares***

***Members: About 10,500***

***New members: about 500 in 3 new branches***

In 2016, FICE Romania has intensified, broadened and strengthened its actions for the protection of children's rights, the continuous improvement of the work of FICE members and followers, raising at higher standards the quality of the work towards working with children, especially those with learning difficulties, facing obstacles in solving personal and family problems. In a logical and a positive psychology, FICE Romania had as targets children whose upbringing and education is outside the family, children who have material difficulties, with implications at the level of physical, cognitive, emotional and health development, children with moral and spiritual deficiencies.

FICE Romania participated with comments and amendments to the public debate of some key themes and legislative projects launched by the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Protection and Elderly People, Ministry of Interior-National Agency against Drugs. In the spirit of social dialogue with authorities and organizations in the field of education, FICE Romania responded to topics submitted to the attention of institutions and NGOs on integrating children with parents abroad, those with special educational needs, those which are not going to school and school drop-out, adoption, etc. At the same time, FICE Romania has organized debates, press conferences, launched appeals, stating its position on current issues in education, social protection, through means designed to assist and provide correct and transparent at interinstitutional level and especially direct family, on optimizing collaboration with school, with our organization.

FICE Romania has continued attracting and training volunteers, especially among pupils, students, teachers, benefiting in this respect the competence of some professionals (from National Antidrug Agency and other institutions) recognized for their value, as trainers or vectors with community influence. FICE Romania has developed several national programs and campaigns in 2016, including the programs "Know and Decide", National Festival "Joy of reading" and the national campaign "Collegial Solidarity".

Initiated several years ago by FICE Romania, the national campaign "Collegial Solidarity" has become a tradition and is part of the fundamental work of the organization, of support through concrete actions of helping children, their education and growth. The feature that gives originality to the campaign consists of that support comes from children (pupils and preschool children) and approaches children: guided by teachers and parents, they collect various objects of daily use, including some they may dispense and donate them to other children. The current edition of the campaign Collegial Solidarity-an expression, in fact, of continuity-was addressed, through FICE Romania communities, mainly to children. More than 10,000 children have been helped in this annual campaign.

Also, FICE Romania has continued this year program the program "19 days of activism to prevent and combat abuse against children and young people", launched in collaboration with WWSF (Women's



World Summit Foundation, Switzerland) and implementation of which have involved more than 7,000 FICE members and followers.

FICE Romania was involved in debating the draft government decision on granting a dietary supplement for students, supporting its realization only as a warm meal. We welcome the taking over and support our proposal, found in the title of the program "Hot Meal" in the regulations on the implementation of the pilot program in the current school year.

Initiatives, opinions, achievements submitted by FICE Romania benefited from a convincing media interest in several publications, radio and television in this regard materialized through impact presentations. In particular, members and supporters of FICE Romania appreciated the debates organized in partnership with Education tribune and widely reflected in the magazine, debates attended by leading specialists, decision makers, many teachers and parents, students, representatives of the media. In the same vein, it deserves appreciation for the magazine Education tribune for receptivity to calls, programs and initiatives launched in these years of FICE Romania, making them accessible to a wide audience of undergraduate, academic and research institutions, as well as the authorities.

FICE Romania organized an international symposium in Barlad in October 2016, which was attended by 150 specialists from Romania, Finland, Germany, Australia, Republic of Moldova.

FICE Romania has conducted a specialized public activity "Professionalism at odds" appreciated by editing the journal Child Social Protection, with thematic issues, focusing on problems of broad scientific interest for education and social protection. In 2016 we edited 2 double editions, dedicated to bullying phenomena and case management in child protection.

It is noteworthy the special contribution of prof. dr. Ioan Neacsu, director of the magazine and dr. Eugen Simion, coordinator expert of the magazine. However, many of the papers presented at international scientific meetings organized by FICE Romania appeared in volumes that can be useful tools of education, training and protection of children.

Between 9 to 15 may 2016, a group of 7 members of FICE Romania has participated to a study visit in Finland, at the invitation of FICE Finland. Also, between 27 october and 3 november 2016, an other group of 25 members of FICE Romania (specialists in child protection, prevention of drug abuse among children and young people, representatives of public administration at local and county level, journalists) conducted a study and documentation visit in Israel, at the invitation of FICE Israel.

Objectives of the study visits conducted in Finland and Israel were the following:

- Creating a learning experience and transfer of know-how, in order to see and compare models of social support and intervention in the field of regenerative services provided children and youth at risk, training, recognition and certification of skills;
- Analysis of issues related to the creation and operation of collaboration networks with specialists in social practice in Finland and Israel in order to improve their professional activities and get to know other models of social support;
- Analysis of specific areas of social intervention, such as:
  - children at risk of abuse / neglect;
  - children at risk of alcohol abuse, illicit substances;
  - children who commit crimes but do not have criminal responsibility



***FICE Serbia - Full member***

***President: Zeljka Burgund***

***Members: 26 group members(organizations and institutions)***

***New members: 1***

#### **Project realized:**

- During April 2016. "FICE Srbija" signed Protocol of collaboration with Center for protection of infants, children and youth in Belgrade (largest "FICE Srbija" member) regarding piloting and development of new service for children and families in local communities – PARENT LINE. Collaboration was supported by UNICEF Serbia. Goal is to establish sustainable service after two years of piloting.
- "FICE Srbija" supported efforts of Chamber for social protection Serbia in the process of creating training program for management in the social care field, as key education for improvement of quality of managing organizations within the system, which should contribute also to the improvement of results in fulfilling tasks. "FICE Srbija" thanks to longtime partner "Child perspectives" provided expert trainer and consultant in this field from Holland – Mr. Chris van Lanteren, and helped in organization of training which lasted in total 6 days. (activities were realized during May and September).
- During September "FICE Srbija" was involved in the project ("Small Kitchen") in which direct partners were Home for children without parental care "Drinka Pavlovic" and auditing firm "Erste Y", which financially supported activities related to the process of becoming independent.

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#### **Events organized:**

After Annual "FICE Serbia" vocational meeting and Assembly, held in December 2015.

we were disseminating final reports for 2015. during February 2016. and already in March of "FICE Srbija" organized new vocational meeting for its members with main goal to support institutions and organizations during the new phase in the of transformation of existing institutions, as well as during the process of creating, developing and implementing new (missing) services at local level. This meeting also was an opportunity to discuss about potential partnerships between members in project realization, cooperation, exchange of examples of good practices, as well as creating joint activities.

#### **Other activities:**

At the beginning of June, "FICE Srbija" organized, in cooperation with Hungarian Directorate for social care from Budapest, participation of group of children and care givers Youth Talent Festival in Budapest. During May, June and July "FICE Srbija" realized preparations for the group of five young people who are preparing to leave system of alternative care in order to represent our country at "FICE INTERNATIONAL" Congress, and to participate in the process of creating world standards for leaving care.

#### **Participation in events:**

- FICE International Congress 2016.

In August 2016. participants from Serbia (youth and professionals) participated at 33. FICE Inter Congress. "FICE Srbija" organized panel discussion related to Key factors in the process of leaving care – organized by three Serbian experts in that field. – Anita Burgund, Zeljka Burgund and Danica Kopanja





***FICE Spain - Full member***

***President: David Astiz***

***Members: 8***

FICE Spain participated in joint development of a project proposal in the field of capacity building for families in order to apply for funding when available calls at European level arise.

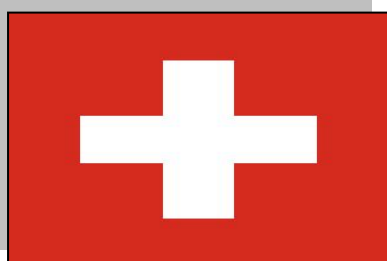
**Public events:**

- Dissemination of Opening Doors campaign in which FICE Spain is involved in the framework of the Gizarteratzen II Conference hold on 5th October in Bilbao by the Agintzari organization (organization member of FICE Spain) and focusses on Resilience Communities. 309 participants attended the conference including professionals in the field of children care, policy makers and public administration. More information: <http://gizarteratzen.agintzari.com/gizarteratzen/>
- Dissemination of Opening Doors campaign in which FICE Spain is involved in the framework of the Conference called "Transition process in children and family care" organized by Avalonia Foundation (member of FICE Spain) that was held on 28-29 November 2016 in Tenerife (Canarian Islands). 130 participants including professionals and policy makers in the field of child care. The conference tackled how EU funds can contribute to move forward in the transition, also preventive strategies on DI were presented and discussed.
- Meetings with diverse MEPs and members of the European Commission to get information on funding opportunities through structural funds and to promote community based care services

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**Participation in events:**

- Participation in FICE International General Assembly in Vienna (August 2016)
- Participation at the Better world Conference in Vienna (August 2016)
- Participation at the Eurochild General Assembly
- Participation in different meetings in the framework of the Opening Doors Campaign leaded by FICE International and Eurochild



***FICE Switzerland - Full member***

***President: Rolf Widmer***

***Members: 82 Institutional Members 30 Individual Members***

***New members: 1 new institutional member; 1 new individual member***

**Projects realized:**

- Together with FICE Bosnia & Herzegovina, FICE Switzerland realised the continued education project „Diagnostics“ in Sarajewo. The project addresses staff of a specialised institution and social centres in Sarajewo County and strengthens the concrete implementation of the new juvenile justice law in practice.
- FICE Switzerland has integrated the „Interest Group Quality 4 Children“ as a specialised subgroup. Currently, the Interest Group is particularly engaged in improving the quality of services for refugee children and adolescents in Switzerland.
- FICE Switzerland has also joined the wider Expert Network of the project „Creating Futures. Collaborative Quality Development of Child and Youth Homes in Hungary and Switzerland“. Further members of the Expert Network are the FICE International members NENESZ and FICE Hungary as well as members of relevant authorities in both countries. A community of practice of child and youth homes in both countries is responsible for the project. The project management lies with the Institute of Management and Social Policy in collaboration with the Institute of Childhood, Adolescence and Families of the School of Social Work of ZHAW Zürich University of Applied Sciences (Anna Schmid, Clara Bombach; both ZHAW and FICE Switzerland).

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**Public events:**

On the occasion of the annual general assembly of FICE Switzerland, the project „Aftercare – Sustainability of Pedagogical and Educational Measures“ of the Foundation for Child and Youth Homes in Zürich (ZKJ) was presented and discussed.

**Other activities:**

In cooperation with the International Social Service (Switzerland), FICE Switzerland continues to support the establishment and further development of the Safe Parks project for children and adolescents from Syria and Iraq.

In 2016, FICE Schweiz once more gave professional and financial support to the two follow-up projects in Bulgaria and Bosnia & Herzegovina of the Youth-Practices-Exchange of the FICE International Congress in 2013. Both projects have the goal of increasing adolescents' chances of integration in the labour market.

From 12 to 14 October, FICE Switzerland again offered a seminar for Bachelor students in collaboration with the Institute of Management and Social Policy and the Institute of Childhood, Adolescence and



Families of the School of Social Work of ZHAW Zürich University of Applied Sciences. The three day event was organised by Anna Schmid and Clara Bombach (both ZHAW and FICE Switzerland) and Samuel Keller (ZHAW) in collaboration with Martha J. Holden (Cornell University, New York and FICE USA) and James Anglin (University of Victoria and FICE Canada). The goal was to discuss various international approaches to quality development in residential child and youth care, based on the CARE Model developed by Martha Holden. On 14 October, the members of the community of practice of the project „Creating Futures. Collaborative Quality Development of Child and Youth Homes in Hungary and Switzerland“ – child and youth home directors as well as members of the authorities and of FICE Switzerland, NENESZ and FICE Hungary) joined the seminar in order to reflect on the project in the light of the CARE Model. As in 2015, all participants again gave very positive feedback about the seminar, leading to it being offered again in October of 2017.

#### **Participation in events:**

In August, several members of FICE Switzerland participated in the 33rd World Congress of FICE International with paper presentations and workshops. Afterwards, a member of the board (Anna Schmid) led an expert delegation with members of FICE Brazil, FICE Canada and FICE Switzerland on a study trip to Hungary that included professional exchanges in several child and youth homes as well as with members of authorities and of the FICE networks FICE Hungary and NENESZ.



***FICE USA - Full member***  
***President: Dennis W. Felty***  
***Members: 5***  
***New members: -***

#### **Projects realized:**

Support Aspire Youth in South Africa of \$4,900.00 USD to fund counselor of children program position in 2016.

Additional support of Chance Children's Home of \$4,400 in December 2016 to support meals/extras for children over the Christmas holiday when normal funders take holiday.

Support of additional 300 EU to cover scholarship costs for the 2016 FICE Congress.

#### **Public events:**

Organized the Disability Working Group along with partners which is held each year in September in New York, NY to coincide with the Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting - bringing members with international interests around disability issues to the table to discuss widening awareness of children and adults with disability world wide

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#### **Other activities:**

Provided training and consultation around disability issues to organizations in India and Moldova. Continue to run initiatives in both Moldova and India around serving individuals living in institutions to move onto community settings with family/community supports. Both initiatives continue to operate successfully.

Lost a dear member of our Board; Carol Kelley from California. Carol worked tirelessly on behalf of children and families and her contributions will surely be missed.

#### **Participation in events:**

Participated in the last Annual Meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative in New York in September. Two Members traveled to Vienna to participate in the FICE Congress in 2016. Offered a discounted pre-registration for any interested individuals/organizations in the US to attend the 2016 FICE Congress. Fifteen individuals representing eight states attended at the discounted rate.





**FICE Zambia(Zambia Association of Child Care Workers) - Full member**  
**President: Robert Sihubwa**  
**Members: 2000**

**Projects realized:**

Leadership trainings.We are training Leaders form the Child Care Institution on government Policies and Legislation for effective advocacy.

**Public events:**

National Conference for Child and Youth Care Leaders at national level.

**Other activities:**

We managed to print a total of 18 560 Zambian Child News Letter,We trained 108 Child and Youth care Workers, We held 12 professional meetings and 517 Child and Youth Care Workers attended these professional meetings.

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**Participation in events:**

Participated in The Day of an African Child, FICE Conference and REPPS Regional Conference.