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Childhood & Youth Studies Research Group

WELCOME

Webinar

UNCRC's 31th anniversary

Shaping the global debate on implementing
children's rights and
ensuring that policy and practice are
rights-based, empowering, and inclusive.





WELCOME!

- Please ensure you are **muted** and that your video remains **off**
- Please type your questions in the chat box throughout the presentations - we will reserve time for addressing questions at the end
- We will share the recording link and capture answers to any unanswered questions



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Learning from child activism

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www.ed.ac.uk/education/childhood-and-youth-studies





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<https://www.ed.ac.uk/education/rke/centres-groups/childhood-and-youth-studies-research-group/research/ijcc>



Child Activism ...

"Activists *start* conversations rather than relying upon adults to invite them in to existing ones; activists take up and take over spaces rather than waiting to be given them. Child activism, then, could provide a useful challenge and opportunity for the participation field."

(McMellon and Tisdall 2020, p.174)

What is activism?

"Activism is action on the behalf of a cause, action that goes beyond what is conventional or routine."

(Martin 2007, p. 19)



Ecology of activism?

- Dutiful dissent, that ‘works within existing systems and power structures to offer policy change’;
- Disruptive dissent, which is oppositional and contests social norms and policy practices; and
- Dangerous dissent, which creates new and alternative systems, mobilising citizens around new norms and values

(O'Brien et al. 2018, p. 8)



Critical social capital?

- Young people being seen as civic problem solvers;
- Young people seeing themselves as connected across communities; and
- Young people recognising that their personal problems can be policy issues.

(Ginwright 2016)



Ways forward?

To recognize:

- The political
- Respectful intergenerational relations
- Challenging ageism and marginalisation of children and young people
- Ecology of activism/ participation
- Learning from COVID 19: children's human rights approach is more, not less, important





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Access to Justice for Children

31st Anniversary UNCRC

Prof. Dr. Ton Liefwaard | Webinar, 18 November 2020



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3 1st Anniversary UN CRC

- Implementation

- Domestication of the UN CRC – law reform, policy reform, monitoring
- Regionalization
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Optional Protocol on a communications procedure (OP3)

- Added value of international children's rights (law)

- 'Justice gap'

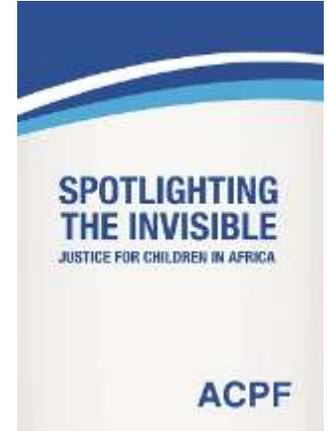
- *Recognition* of children as rights holders
- Equivalence
- Inclusion





Children's Rights and Business Principles

12345678910



BECAUSE EVERY CHILD IN THE WORLD HAS ONE THING IN COMMON. THEIR RIGHTS.



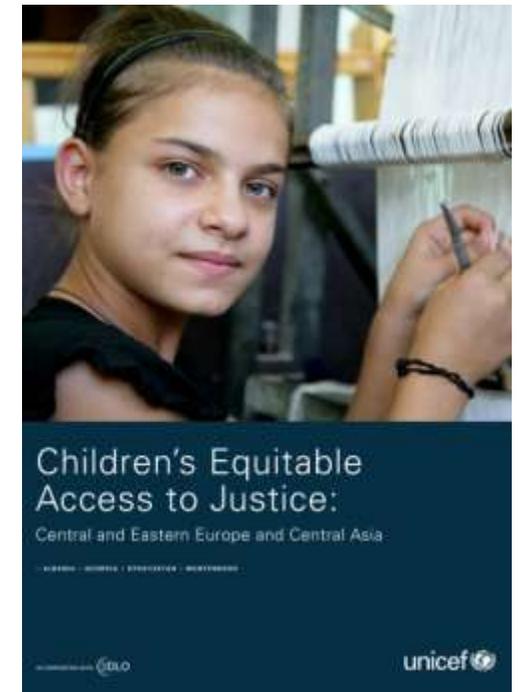
Child-friendly justice systems

- Concept to enable children to access and engage with justice (systems)
- Accessibility
- Accommodation
- Responsivity
- Accountability
- Empowerment
- Remedies
- For example:
 - Council of Europe's Guidelines on child-friendly justice (2010)



Securing the rights of *all* children

- Children as actors
- Children's rights in the 21st Century
- 'Leaving no one behind'



Access to justice as a vehicle to promote the *rights* of children and *sustainable development* for all

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Q & A