

Agenda for SIG Children's Rights in Practice

Wednesday 12th April 2023 at 10.30 – 15.30.

Context

Professionals worldwide are struggling with fulfilling children's rights and act in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. There is a myriad of challenges in everyday social- and child welfare and protection work with children and their families. As a new SIG group, we want highlight, discuss, and explore some of these challenges to expand and deepen practical, research and theoretical developments in the field. When speaking about children's rights in practice this goes into both child participation (known as article 12 in the UNCRC), but also issues related to the other articles: definition of a child (article 1), best interest of the child (article 3), care (article 7), protection (article 19, 33, 34), education (article 28), play (article 31), recovery (article 39) and so on.

The general aim of our SIG in Milan therefore is to provide a forum to bring together international scholars, policy makers, research students, managers, and practitioners interested in issues related to children's rights in practice across various organizations (public and non-governmental) to examine these challenges and produce research led solutions.

So, in Milan, we want to launch our new SIG, with a dynamic and interactive event that will set the foundation for our work and our plans going forward.

Our agenda for the day.

09.30-10.15: Launch of the Children's Rights in Practice SIG. Vision, objectives, the SIG team and upcoming activities by the convenor Dr. Paul McCafferty, Queen's University Belfast.

10.30-11.15: International guest speaker (online): Professor Laura Lundy, Queen's University Belfast. Professor Lundy will present her internationally recognized children's rights model of participation. The presentation will be followed by an audience Q&A. Chair, Dr. Paul McCafferty, Queen's University Belfast.

11.15 12.00 Round table discussions on the practical application of Professors Lundy's model in different professional and international contexts. During this round table discussion, we will share examples of its application, critically reflect on the model's utility, examine its theoretical foundation, and develop new questions and research ideas on child participation. Chair Dr. Inger Sofie Dahlø Husby, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch

13.00 – 13.45 Presentation of findings from a systematic review of systematic reviews related to child participation. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A session on the implications of the findings for research, policy, and practice in an international context. Presenters Dr. Esther Mercado, Complutense University of Madrid, and Dr. Paul McCafferty Queen's University Belfast.

13.45 – 14.00 World Café during which time participants will explore children's rights in an international context, examining common issues in small groups. The small groups will develop a series of questions that will be put to our international panel of experts in our next session

14.00 – 15.00 International panel of experts will be convened to discuss children's rights and answer questions set during the world café. Issues such as care, protection, special support, education, children with disabilities, play activities, participation, and communication etc., will be introduced and examined. Chair Dr. Paul McCafferty, Queen's University Belfast.

15.00 - 15.30: Summing up, membership and dates for the next events in the group. Chair: Dr. Paul McCafferty, Dr. Esther Mercado, Dr. Inger Sofie Dahlø Husby and lecturer Wendy Eerdeken.

Best regards

Dr. Paul McCafferty

(On behalf of the Children's Rights in Practice SIG)

Dr. Inger Sofie Dahlø Husby

Dr. Esther Mercado,

Dr. Inger Sofie Dahlø Husby

Lecturer Wendy Eerdeken.