

B.E.C.A.N. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Inquiring **child** abuse and neglect in the Balkan and the world during crisis:

Evidence-based Practice and Practice-based Evidence

13 / 14 September, 2012

President Hotel, Athens, Greece

Information

www.becan.eu - www.ich-mhsw.gr



INVITED SPEAKERS

Prof. Marina Ajdukovic (Croatia), Dr. D. Bianchi (Italy),
Prof. J. Brkie Smigoe (Bosnia Herzegovina), Prof.K.Browne (UK), Dr.E.Cenko (Albania),
Prof. P.Durning (France), Dr.J.Fluke (USA), Prof.B. Gudbrandsson (Iceland),
Dr.E.Haxhiymeri (Albania), Prof.V.Ispanovic (Serbia), Dr.B.Van Puyenbroeck (Belgium),
Prof.M.Raleva (FYROM), Prof.M.Roth (Romania), Dr.Z.Sofuoglu (Turkey),
Prof.V.Stancheva (Bulgaria)

PROGRAMME

WELCOME INVITATION

The phenomenon of child abuse-neglect has undergone several phases in respect to its prevailing perspective employed by international scientific community and wider society's representation. In the initial phase of its recognition, the dominant paradigm was characterized by the medico-centric model; after also being influenced by human rights and gender movements this perspective has been gradually replaced by an approach governed by the principles of evidence-based practice. Contemporary approach's conceptual framework prioritizes the necessity of adequate qualitative and quantitative empirical evidence as an essential part of every child protection policy as well as any systematic clinical approach. In parallel, as a response but at the same time as a supplementary counterpart of evidence-based practice, a request for practice-based evidence also emerged internationally. Hence, this rising approach renders essential the accumulation of empirical data and evidence through "first line" clinicians' experience. The success in the convergence of these apparently incommensurable terms seems to be a touchstone of effectiveness and efficiency of services and policies for child protection. Furthermore, it represents a substantial challenge theoretically, epistemologically as well as in terms of applied practice, since it generates multiple levels of creative reflection concerning any data related to every scientific discipline as well as any potential field for their application. Especially, during a period of economic crisis the demand for maximization of cost-benefit ratio regarding intervention tools used as well as the ongoing update of applied knowledge and techniques are more than ever significant in order to achieve optimum utilization of human and material resources, which are always rare on the field of child protection services. On the grounds of the above, the B.E.C.A.N. research, one of the most significant primary research projects on the subject matter of child abuse and neglect, a research on a representative sample of general children's population in 9 Balkan countries with an initial sample of as much as over 60000 children and parents, a research that additionally has involved more than 1000 child protection agencies and organizations authoritative to regularly receive reports of child abuse and neglect cases, attempts to contribute on the inquiry regarding the extent and characteristics of the phenomenon in the Balkans. It essentially attempts to overcome a situation characterized by fragmentation, empiricism and parallel non-interactive scientific discourses and practices, contributing on the interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral dialogue, dissemination of information concerning the most up to date contemporary knowledge and practices on the field, promotion of capacities of the scientific community and respectful services on the acknowledgement and treatment of the phenomenon as well as raising awareness of public opinion and of decision makers, aiming at a highly coordinated, state of the art and most efficient protection of children from any form of abuse or victimization.

George Nikolaidis

Psychiatrist,

MD, MA, MSc, PhD

Director, Department of Mental Health & Social Welfare
Centre for the Study & Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
Institute of Child Health

Thursday 13 September 2012

08:30-09:00: Registration

09:00-10:00: Opening Lectures:

*Andreas Lukourentzos, Minister of Health**

*Antonis Roupakiotis, Minister of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights**

*Konstantinos Arvanitopoulos, Minister of Education**

*Theodoros Papatheodorou, Deputy Minister of Education**

*Fotini Skopouli, Deputy Minister of Health**

*Efthimia Bekou, General Secretariat of Welfare**

*Athanasios Kiriiazis, General Secretariat of Education**

*Christina Papanikolaou, General Secretariat of Health**

*George Sourlas, General Secretariat of Transparency and Human Rights**

*Sotiris Glavas, Special Secretariat of Primary and Secondary Education**

*Political Parties' Representatives**

George Moschos, Deputy Ombudsman, Department of Children's Rights, Greece

Dr. George Nikolaidis, Institute of Child Health, Greece

10:00-11:30: Results of the B.E.C.A.N. study in Greece

Field study of self-reported child victimization experiences

Dr. Kiki Petroulaki, Institute of Child Health, Greece

Case-based surveillance study of children's victimization

Sakis Ntinapogias, Institute of Child Health, Greece

Chair-Commentary:

Dr. Rania Machaira, sc. as., Institute of Child Health, Greece

11:30-12:00: Coffee break

12:00-13:30: Chair: *Prof. Em. Thanasis Tzavaras*

Research into the prevalence of child abuse and neglect

Prof. Kevin Browne, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom

Ethics in research and practice in the perspective of the UN Convention on the child's rights

Dr. Donata Bianchi, Istituto degli Innocenti-UNICEF, Italy

Not even with a rose...

Prof. Em. Thanasis Tzavaras, University of Athens, Greece

13:30-14:30: Light lunch

**Invited*

Thursday 13 September 2012

14:30-16:00: Chair: *Prof. Gerasimos Kolaitis*

Child friendly justice: A model for multiagency response to child sexual abuse under one roof

Dr. Bragi Gudbrandsson, Governmental Agency for Child Protection, Iceland

Banning corporal punishments is not enough: One must promote alternative parenting

Prof. Paul Durning, University of Paris X Nanterre, France

Families in need and children at risk: Mental health promotion interventions

Prof. Gerasimos Kolaitis, Child Psychiatrist, Medical School, University of Athens, Greece

16:00-16:30: Coffee break

16:30-18:00: Chair: *Prof. Christina Zarafonitou*

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing: Remarks on policy research and research policy on violence against children

Dr. Bert Van Puyenbroeck, Child and Family Agency, Belgium

Child maltreatment surveillance and response systems: Patterns of decisions

Dr. John Fluke, American Humane Association, Child Protection Services Research Center, USA

The utility of research-driven evidence-based social policy in tackling child abuse

Prof. Christina Zarafonitou, Panteion University, Greece

Friday 14 September 2012

09:00-10:30: Field study of self-reported child victimization experiences

Prevalence and correlates of child abuse in Croatia

*Prof. Marina Ajdukovic, Ivan Rimac, Miroslav Rajter,
Nika Sušac, University of Zagreb, Croatia*

Prevalence and types of child abuse and neglect in the sample of school age children in Bulgaria

Prof. Vaska Stancheva-Popkostadinova, Stefka Chincheva, Stanislava Stoyanova, Jordan Kalcev, Victoria Sotirov, South-West University 'Neofit Rilski', Bulgaria

B.E.C.A.N. Epidemiological study on child abuse and neglect among school children in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Prof. Marija Raleva, Izabela Filov, Liljana Trpchevska, Aleksandra Coneva, Dimitrinka Jordanova Peshevska, Kadri Haxihamza, Florijan Naumov, University Clinic of Psychiatry, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

10:30-11:00: Coffee break

11:00-12:30: Field study of self-reported child victimization experiences

Lessons learnt from B.E.C.A.N. study in Serbia

Prof. Veronika Ispanovic-Radojkovic, Lazar Tenjovic, Natasa Hanak, Ana Vlajkovic, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Prevalence and incidence of child abuse and neglect in Bosnia & Herzegovina

Prof. Jelena Brkic Smigoc, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina

CAN prevalence data and their implications on child welfare Policies in Romania

Prof. Maria Roth, Imola Antal, Agnes David-Kacso, Elemer Mezei, Corina Voicu, Gabriella Tonk, Babes- Bolyai University, Romania

12:30-14:00: Case-based surveillance study of children's victimization

Croatian study of reported child abuse and neglect cases: What we have learned?

Prof. Marina Ajdukovic, Ivan Rimac, Jelena Ogresta, Lea Skokandic, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Bulgarian experience in reporting child abuse and neglect

Prof. Vaska Stancheva - Popkostadinova, Ekaterina Mitova, South-West University 'Neofit Rilski', Bulgaria

Friday 14 September 2012

Reporting child abuse and neglect in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Findings from a national data set of cases reported to the social and medical services

Prof. Marija Raleva, Izabela Filov, Liljana Trpchevska, Aleksandra Coneva, Dimitrinka Jordanova Peshevska, Kadri Haxihamza, Florijan Naumov, University Clinic of Psychiatry, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

14:00-15:00: Light lunch

15:00-17:00: Field study of self-reported child victimization experiences

Turkish findings of the B.E.C.A.N. project

Dr. Zeynep Sofuoğlu, Ambulance and Emergency Physicians Association, Turkey

Findings of the B.E.C.A.N. study in Albania

Dr. Enila Cenko, Prof. Dr. Edlira Haxhiymeri, Children's Human Rights Centre, Albania

When children approach field researchers: Ethical and methodological issues

Giouli Papanikolaou, Maria Psarrakou, Institute of Child Health, Greece

Diagnosis of child maltreatment: Shedding light in the dark side of a social problem

Katia Hatzigeorgiou, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Greece

17:00-17:30: Coffee break

17:30-18:00: Closing / Conclusions

Dr. George Nikolaidis, Institute of Child Health, Greece

GENERAL INFORMATION

Date: 13-14 September 2012

Conference venue: President Hotel, Athens

Web site: www.president.gr

Official Language

The official language of the Conference will be Greek. There will be translation into the English language simultaneously.

Congress Secretariat

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