



INTERNATIONAL  
FEDERATION  
OF EDUCATIVE  
COMMUNITIES

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



## FICE-INTERNATIONAL REPORT 2010

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

### VISION

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

### FICE International stands for:

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

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

#### *The FICE:*




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

#### *In order to achieve its aims the FICE-International:*






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








## EXTRACT FICE-INTERNATIONAL SECTIONS REPORTS

COUNTRY	Name of the National Section and President	ACTIVITIES
 Austria	FICE-Austria Mr. Hermman Radler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new Management Board has been elected.</li> <li>• The reformation and development of the organization has started.</li> </ul>
 Belgium	Individual Members	<p>The individual members are professionals working in the field of support for children at risk.</p>
 Bulgaria	Association for pedagogical and social assistance for children FICE-Bulgaria Mrs. Dashenka Tashkova	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Equal chance – exchange of knowledge for the integration of children with special educational needs” Project</li> <li>• Establishment of TRACE - center for training, researches, analysis, consultation and education; development of 12 training modules for social workers: life in a small group, work with children with deviant and delinquent behavior, work with parents of children in residential groups, special methods for work with children with disabilities, etc.</li> <li>• EVAS – Train – a practically oriented training program for professionals working in residential groups for children Project. A method for evaluation of case work.</li> <li>• Projects for reformation of children homes in small residential type groups; development and provision of social services in different regions of the country.</li> <li>• Preparation of a project in the field of juvenile justice in partnership with FICE-Switzerland.</li> <li>• A number of researches and publications, 4 bulletins and informational materials.</li> <li>• Organizing trainings and conferences (national and international) regarding children’s rights and the child care system.</li> <li>• Participation in different state commissions, “Social assistance” Fund, advisor of different foreign organizations, communication with members and project planning.</li> <li>• Participation in FICE-Inter Congress in South Africa /December 2010/ and the president of FICE-Bulgaria became a</li> </ul>






		president of FICE-International.
 Bosnia and Herzegovina	FICE Bosnia & Herzegovina Sena Druzic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reformation of the system for work with young delinquents.</li> <li>• Preparation and implementation of international projects.</li> </ul>
 Canada	Individual Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange of professional knowledge and information.</li> <li>• Improving the curriculum for social pedagogy.</li> </ul>
 Czech Republic	FICE-Czech Republic Mrs. Hana Halfarová	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of students.</li> <li>• Improving the curriculum of social pedagogy.</li> </ul>
 Denmark	FICE-Denmark Mrs. Karen Scott	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation of Danish young people in the youth congress in FICE International in December, 2010 in South Africa; participation in the financing of the Safe Park project.</li> <li>• FICE-Denmark holds the Vice-Presidency for the Editorial Board of FICE International;</li> <li>• International student exchange and programs for the improvement of the curriculum of social pedagogy.</li> </ul>
 England	Individual member Mr. David Lane	<p>David Lane participates in the development and maintenance of the website and magazine Children Webmag. Children Webmag's editorial policy has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supported the recognition of children as individuals;</li> <li>• seen children in their social and cultural contexts;</li> <li>• been independent of political parties, religions and denominations;</li> <li>• supported children's rights;</li> <li>• opposed physical punishment;</li> <li>• supported the development of social pedagogy;</li> <li>• encouraged innovation in child care;</li> <li>• valued all types of child care service in so far as they meet individuals' needs;</li> <li>• encouraged the sharing of ideas internationally through organisations such as FICE and AIEJI;</li> </ul>






		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>supported the development of a child care / social pedagogy / social education profession;</li> <li>urged readers to contribute to the Webmag.</li> </ul>
 Estonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estonian Union for Child Welfare (EUCW) Katrin Saks</li> <li>Estonian Children's Fund Sirje Grossmann-Loot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and implementation of the FICE International Federal Council in April, 2010 in Tallinn and the Conference dedicated to children in residential care.</li> <li>In focus - relieving child poverty - children's camps supported by AEFi for 724 children from families with subsistence difficulties.</li> <li>Internet safety - the beginning of the European Commission's project „Safer Internet“ (Targalt Internetis).</li> <li>Violence-free upbringing - the beginning of the project „Kindergarten free of bullying“.</li> <li>Participation in the discussion of national politics, lobbying.</li> </ul>
 Finland	<p>Central Union for child welfare Mr. Martti Kempainen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation in the National Child Welfare Conference.</li> <li>Participation in the National Conference on Alternative Care.</li> <li>Participation in the FICE-Inter Congress in South Africa in 2010.</li> <li>Smaller-scale training days and seminars.</li> <li>Works in cooperation with Child care authorities and institutions in the field of child care in Republic of Karelia.</li> </ul>
 Germany	<p>FICE-Germany (Internationale Gesellschaft für erzieherische Hilfen). Mr. Josef Koch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of 8 projects.</li> <li>17 public events, conferences, seminars.</li> <li>32 trainings.</li> <li>4 new publications (books) and the Journal „Forum Erziehungshilfen“ - 5 issues p.a.</li> <li>2 policy papers and resolutions.</li> <li>25 honorary bodies.</li> <li>Members: 1 630.</li> </ul>
 Hungary	<p>FICE-Hungary Mrs. Vera Hazai</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exchange program with FICE-Israel for professionals in the field of child care.</li> </ul>
 	<p>FICE-Israel Mr. Emmanuel Grupper</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involving and bringing in contact staff members of residential homes and also children in care, with children, staff members, cultures and professional knowledge from other countries.</li> </ul>








<p>Israel</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation of 10 children living in five different residential treatment centers in an international summer camp organized by FICE Romania in Bucharest, on July 2010.</li> <li>• Hosting in Israel a group of 23 members of FICE Romania for a study visit in Israeli residential care network.</li> <li>• Organizing an international mini-seminar "Preparing youth graduating residential care for successful integration in society" in Shfeya youth village.</li> <li>• Sending a delegation of nine members to participate in FICE Congress in South Africa. Later, making a professional study visit in programs for children and youth at risk in the Cape Town area.</li> <li>• Publication of practical guidance material for residential direct care workers.</li> <li>• Opening of a University program for residential care workers, on the job, studying one day and a half a week during four years and getting at the end a B.Ed diploma.</li> </ul>
 <p>India</p>	<p>FICE-India Mr. M. Dewanji</p>	<p>FICE-India works in cooperation with children's movement SHISHU JAGAT. LAMP is a National level Child Welfare Award winning organization of India. LAMP has been successfully practicing developmental method of children's active and full participation and leadership in their care, protection and development programs, under the leadership of the "Shishu Jagat". M. Dewanji made a presentation for the FICE Congress in 2010.</p>
 <p>Luxembourg</p>	<p>Association Nationale des Communautés Éducatives et Sociales - ANCES Mr. Charel Schmit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publishing periodical journal "Archive for social work, training and education".</li> <li>• Organizing conferences, workshops, hearings, discussions.</li> <li>• Regular contact with international NGOs (FICE-I, FICE-E, IgfH, AIFRIS, Eurochild).</li> <li>• Participation in the FICE-Inter Conference in South Africa in 2010.</li> </ul>
 <p>Macedonia</p>	<p>FICE-Macedonia Galaba Zlatkovska-Gareska</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizes charity events to support children in residential care.</li> <li>• Cooperation with FICE Switzerland and preparation of projects in the field of juvenile justice and exchange of knowledge.</li> <li>• Participation in the Peace Camp of</li> </ul>



		<p>youngsters from South East Europe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizing trainings and seminars for professionals to promote programs for education of foster parents and adoptive parents.</li> <li>• Realized an exchange program with FICE-Netherlands regarding the subject of juvenile justice</li> <li>• A General Assembly of FICE Macedonia for the evaluation of the year 2009 and panning 2010.</li> </ul>
 Montenegro	FICE-Montenegro Mr. Miloead Scekic	Activities for the improvement of the lives of children, placed in residential care.
 Netherlands	FICE-Nederlands Mr. Cees Wierda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research on the relevance of an international orientation in the child and youth care field.</li> <li>• Revitalize FICE NL and showing child- and youth care organizations the importance of an international orientation.</li> <li>• Regional seminars for ambassadors of FICE NL.</li> <li>• Participated in the FICE Inter Congress with 10 workshops about good practices from the Netherlands.</li> <li>• Participation in the FICE-Inter Conference in South Africa in 2010.</li> <li>• The members of FICE NL participated in various international exchange programs which can be found in the database on the FICE NL website.</li> </ul>
 Romania	FICE-Romania Mr. Toma Mares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in the FICE-Inter Congress in South Africa in 2010.</li> <li>• Organization of seminars and trainings for professionals in the field of child care.</li> <li>• Publishing of the FICE-Romania magazine.</li> <li>• FICE-Romania celebrated its 20-year-anniversary.</li> </ul>
 Russia	Russian Children's Fund Mr. Albert Likhanov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizes yearly celebrations and charity events for children in residential care.</li> </ul>







 Scotland	<p>Individual member Mr. Andrew Hosie</p>	<p>Andrew Hosie was the general secretary of FICE Inter in 2010 and worked for the improvement of its status and the rules of procedures of FICE-Inter. Participated in the FICE-Inter Conference in South Africa in 2010.</p>
 Serbia	<p>FICE-Serbia Mrs. Zeljka Burgund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for the children’s institutions in fund raising, projects, trainings.</li> <li>• Development of competences of professionals in working with children.</li> <li>• Support for the development of competences of foster and adoptive families.</li> <li>• Implementation of FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCE MODEL in Serbia as a support model to the family.</li> <li>• Support for the life continuity of children in out of family care (using “Book of life”).</li> <li>• FICE Serbia is member FICE Southeast Europe network.</li> <li>• Participation in the FICE-Inter Conference in South Africa in 2010.</li> </ul>
 Slovenia	<p>Faculty of Pedagogy Mr. Mitja Krajncan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization of: seminars, congresses, professional discussions.</li> <li>• The Professional Journal – Social Pedagogy – 4 Issues per year, with International Editorial board.</li> </ul> <p>The main goal of the section is to promote the professional growth in all fields of the Social pedagogical work and research as well as promote the international exchange.</p>
 South Africa	<p>FICE South Africa Mr. Donald Nghonyama</p>	<p>FICE South Africa organized the 31st FICE International Congress of FICE Inter in 2010 in Stellenbosch. “Celebrating the courage to care in a diverse world” speaks to the increasing challenges experienced globally in providing appropriate services to children, youth and families in the very diverse contexts in which FICE member countries operate.</p>
 Spain	<p>FICE-Spain Mr. Guillem Compte</p>	<p>The Spanish organization “Plataforma educativa” was introduced for the first time in FICE-Inter. FICE Spain was established and it became a member of FICE- Inter on the Congress in South Africa.</p>



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 Switzerland	FICE-Switzerland Mr. Rolf Widmer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality4children: The international project for the development of standards for out-of-home care has finished. The work with foster families and residential homes is now limited to Switzerland. (<a href="http://www.quality4children.ch">www.quality4children.ch</a>).</li> <li>• FICE-Switzerland is a member of the Network for children's rights and took part in the preparation of the official report for Switzerland.</li> <li>• It has worked on the research of FICE – Inter for the implementation in the practice of the UN-Guidelines for alternative care.</li> <li>• Participation in the FICE Congress in South Africa in 2010 and the financing of Safe-Park project.</li> <li>• Work on the presentation of the FICE Congress 2013 in Bern "Ways toward inclusion".</li> <li>• Preparation of the project for changes in the juvenile justice system in Bulgaria and Macedonia.</li> </ul>
 United States of America	FICE USA Mr. Dennis Felty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussing international membership issues, preparing for conferences, and sharing information.</li> <li>• FICE USA Charter was finalized and additional members were recruited.</li> </ul>
 FICE South East Europe	FICE-Serbia, FICE-Macedonia, FICE-Montenegro, FICE Bosnia and Herzegovina Mrs. Soca Popovska	„Dialogue of Southeast Europe“ Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friendship Camps (activity focused on children and youth in residential care in region).</li> <li>• Continuing Education Programme (training program for professionals and significant others in children's homes).</li> <li>• Regional network meetings.</li> </ul>
 FICE Europe	All countries of Europe, members of FICE International Mr. Soren Hegstrub	Main topics are: Child abuse in institutions, secure units, the ENSACT – network and the Council of Europe.  In 2010 FICE Europe became a member of ENSACT. ( <a href="http://www.ensact.eu">www.ensact.eu</a> )





## FICE-INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2010

### 1. FICE-International main activities:

- Organization and carrying out of 2 Federal Councils:
  - ✓ April 2010 in Tallinn, Estonia with the main topics:

Discussing the report for 2009 of the president Monika Neederle and the general secretary Andrew Hosie.
Discussing the reports of some country members of FICE International.
Presenting work programs and planning the activities of FICE International for the next years by the candidates for presidents Dashenka Tashkova from Bulgaria and Emmanuel Grupper from Israel.
Discussing the progress in the implementation of the project Quality4children in the different country members of FICE International.
Reporting the work of the Editorial board regarding the research of the implementation of the UN-guidelines for out-of-home care for children.
Proposal for participation in the new project for care-leavers in Europe in partnership with other NGOs from the president of the FICE International.
Proposal for participation in the new project for care-leavers in Europe in partnership with other NGOs from the president of the FICE International.
Discussing the preparation of the FICE-Inter Congress "Celebrating the Courage to Care in a Diverse World" in South Africa in December, 2010.
Taking a decision about the FICE-Inter Congress "The ways toward inclusion" in Bern, Switzerland in 2013.
Discussing the suggestion for the new website and the new brochure of FICE International.

- ✓ December 2010 in Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Organization and carrying out of International Congress in Stellenbosch, South Africa, December 2010:

The congress theme was "Celebrating the Courage to Care in a Diverse World". Sub-themes guiding presentations and discussions included:

- ✓ The changing contexts of social care provision
- ✓ The realization of a children's rights approach in complex situations
- ✓ Successes in human resourcing programs for children
- ✓ Best practice in short-term residential care
- ✓ Innovations in community-based care for children and families
- ✓ Diversity as a global phenomenon
- ✓ The imperative of care in social care provision

This congress offered many platforms for delegates to engage with each other on the theme. The congress included formal presentations, site visits as well as many opportunities to network, connect and collaborate informally at various social events.

*Some Congress statistics:*

- ✓ The 3-day congress attracted 600 delegates from 128 organizations representing 38 countries.
- ✓ 93 abstracts were received of which 86, representing 18 countries was selected and presented (see Addendum for program summary).
- ✓ 10 organizations exhibited their programs at the venue throughout the duration of the congress.



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- ✓ A parallel youth conference included a 3-day preparatory phase in a wilderness setting and the 3-day formal Congress.
- ✓ 33 Youth delegates attended from 4 countries – 4 youth from Denmark, 5 from the Netherlands, 1 from Canada and 23 from South Africa. The youth was accompanied by 20 chaperones and 5 facilitators lead the camp and youth congress.
  - Implementation of Safe Park Project for support of children with HIV;
  - Nomination of candidates for President and General Secretary of FICE International and preparation of General Assembly in South Africa;
  - Ending of International Quality4children project and evaluation and dissemination of the results in the different country members of FICE International.

## **2. National sections activities** (*see the country reports*).

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

FICE International is politically neutral and only expresses opinions regarding compliance with the rights of the children. Members of FICE International society react to any violation of human rights of children in different countries and try to support the process of restoring peace and normal life of children and families

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

During the year 2010 the professionals of the country members of FICE-Inter realized many activities regarding the protection of children's rights, they took part in different projects for improving the work with children and they used the network of FICE International to exchange knowledge and experience in the field of child care.

## **3. World situation and international relations:**

- Establishing new contacts with similar International networks and NGO-s;

There was a close relationship between FICE International and SOS Children's Villages and IFCO in the project Quality4children. A report was presented to the European Parliament regarding the results of the project with a main focus on the standards for out-of-home care for children at risk.

- Improvement of the external and internal communication in and out of FICE International;
- Preparation of the International Congress in Stellenbosch, South Africa, December 2010;
- Implementation of Safe Park Project for support of children with HIV;
- Conducting of research for the implementation of UN-Guidelines for alternative care in country sections of FICE International.

Sofia, May 2011

*Dashenka Krалеva* – President FICE International