

INVITATION CONFERENCE

RECEPTION AND LIVING IN FAMILIES (RLF)

AMSTERDAM 22 & 23 JANUARY 2015

CONFERENCE AGENDA THURSDAY 22 JANUARY

12.15 Registration and lunch

13.15 Word of Welcome
By Philip Ishola, Director Counter Human Trafficking Bureau, UK, (chairman of the day)

13.25 Towards an integrated child protection system in Europe
European Commission, to be confirmed

14.00 Reception and Living in Families: project concept
By Tin Verstegen, Director Nidos- guardianship institution for unaccompanied minors, the Netherlands

14.25 Out of home care in Europe: an overview
By Jorge Fernández del Valle, Professor of Psychosocial Intervention, Child and Family Research Group (GIFI), Department of Psychology, University of Oviedo, Spain

15.00 Break

15.15 Resettlement of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people in foster care: a UK perspective
By Ravi KS Kohli, Professor of Child Welfare, University of Bedfordshire and Jim Wade, Senior Research Fellow, Social Policy Research Unit, York University, UK

16.00 The care of unaccompanied minors in Ireland: from hostel accommodation to family care
By Muireann Ní Raghallaigh, Lecturer In Social Work, School of Applied Social Science, University College Dublin, Ireland.

16.30 Panel discussion on the concept of Reception and Living in Families

17.00 End of day 1, drink at the conference location.

19.30 Dinner at Indonesian restaurant Indrapura, Rembrandtplein 42.



CONFERENCE AGENDA FRIDAY 23 JANUARY

10.00 Introduction to day 2
By Jan Murk, responsible for the European project department at Nidos (chairman of the day)

10.15 Introduction to the findings of the Reception and Living in Families research
By Liedewij de Ruijter de Wildt, responsible for RLF-project at Nidos

10.45 Workshop session I, with:

I - Reception and Living in Families in the Netherlands
Introduction to the subject by the Dutch situation by Peter van de Pol, manager RLF at Nidos and a social worker on RLF at Nidos

II - Reception and Living in Families in Sweden
Introduction to the subject by the Swedish situation (facilitator to be confirmed)

III - Financing Reception and Living in Families
How to fund initiatives in the national and international arena-guided discussion by Jan Murk, responsible for the European project department at Nidos

IV - Reception and Living in Families: experiences of a foster family
Introduction to the experiences of a Dutch foster family with a cultural background in taking care of unaccompanied minors and working with Nidos

12.00 Lunch



13.00 Workshop session II, with:

V - Recruitment of foster families
Introduction to the Dutch experience with recruiting foster families with a cultural background by Peter van de Pol, manager RLF at Nidos and a social worker on RLF at Nidos

VI - Reception and Living in Families in Venice, Italy
Introduction to the subject by the situation in the municipality of Venice by Lisa Lamon, social worker at the municipality of Venice

VII - Reception and Living in Families in Oslo, Norway
Introduction into the use of Group Foster Homes in Oslo by Hanneke Ørne Bruce, teamleader BYMIF, Center for unaccompanied minors, district Gamle Oslo

VIII - Reception in the Netherlands: vision of the minors on the quality of their living environment
Introduction into research on experiences of unaccompanied minors with different forms of reception by Margrite Kalverboer, Professor Child development and Migration law at the University of Groningen

14.15 Coffee break

14.30 Experiences of (ex) unaccompanied minors with living in a foster family

15.15 Conclusions and steps forward
By Jan Murk, responsible for the European project department at Nidos

16.00 End of the conference, gathering until 17.00



Jorge Fernandez del Valle

Jorge Fernandez del Valle is Director of the Child and Family Research Group (Grupo de Investigación en Familia e Infancia-GIFI) of the University of Oviedo (Spain). Jorge was psychologist and social educator in child residential care from 1981 till 1989.

He coordinated the family intervention program in the social services department of the city of Oviedo until 1992. He started working at the department of social psychology in the University of Oviedo in 1989 as part-time associated lecturer. Since 2010 he works there as a full professor.

Muireann Ní Raghallaigh

Muireann Ní Raghallaigh is a Lecturer in Social Work at University College Dublin. Muireann developed a keen interest in issues related to and affecting asylum seekers and refugees when working at a social worker with Separated Children Seeking Asylum. Muireann subsequently undertook doctoral research on the experiences of separated asylum seeking children living in Ireland.

Her research focused in particular on the coping strategies used by these young people, including religious coping.

As well as undertaking research in Ireland and in Ethiopia, she has provided training for a number of organisations, including the Jesuit Refugee Service (Malta) and UNHCR (Ireland). Along with the Irish Refugee Council, Tusla and other partners, Muireann is currently involved in an EC funded project on Durable Solutions for separated children.

Ravi KS Kohli

Ravi KS Kohli is Professor of Child Welfare at Bedfordshire University (UK). Ravi is interested in what becomes of young people who seek asylum in richer countries. He tries and help young people and their carers to make sense of how they came into contact with each other, and what to do for the best now that they are together. His research interests lie amongst others within social work and the resettlement of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people, including those in foster care. Ravi participated in the study on foster care for unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children that was lead by Jim Wade and Ala Sirriyeh within the Social Policy Research Unit at York University from 2008-2011.

Jim Wade

Jim Wade is a Senior Research Fellow at the Social Policy Research Unit of York University (UK). Jim has a background in youth and community work and social work with teenagers. Since entering research in 1990 he has developed a broad interest in social work services for teenagers, including young people in and leaving care, young runaways from home or care and unaccompanied asylum seeking children. He has been involved in the development of national guidance and service standards in relation to leaving care and young runaways. He lead a study on foster care for unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children that was carried out in association with the British Association of Adoption and Fostering (BAAF) from 2008-2011.

