

We were thrilled to host for the first time in person in Brussels our Steering Committee, General Assembly and **Annual Seminar "A 360 view on child friendly justice" from 12-14 October**. Over 65 participants attended our Seminar from across 18 European Countries, from a range of disciplines, marking an important step in the realisation of the Network's Mission. Inspiring opening and closing addresses from the European Parliament, the Council of Europe, the European Commission, the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, the UNCRC and the Deputy Ombudsperson for Greece expressed their strong support to the Network. We look forward to working hand in hand with them to ensure an effective implementation of European strategies and policies relating to child justice.

The Seminar, taking place at the stunning Art-Nouveau Belgian Museum of Comic Strip Arts, integrated dynamic thematic workshops, each led by one CFJ-EN member, on children involved in administrative proceedings, intersectionality, the court practice in Germany, the impact of digital courts on child justice, the challenges in Europe children suspects or accused face in criminal proceedings and in civil and administrative proceedings.

With the election of our President Benoît van Keirsbilck and Vice-President Nantina Tsekeri, the adoption of our 2023-2025 Strategy and revised Membership Application Package, we can only be grateful to this vibrant community of Members, child justice practitioners, policy makers and the CFJ-EN operational Team to having made these events a success!

The Seminar recommendations will be published soon, as well as the Strategy and the Membership Application Package – stay tuned through our social media channels!

## Members' Corner



### CFJ-EN General Assembly in Brussels

Our 19 members gathered in person for the first time since the inception of the Network on 13 October in Brussels for a productive day of discussion and networking. After a morning plenary presenting our new 2023-2025 strategy and membership application package, afternoon sessions included workshops on fundraising, advocacy, strategic litigation and child participation.

### Interactive hearing on the protection of the best interest of the child

Our Steering Committee Member Nuala Mole from AIRE Centre participated in a hearing held on 4 October, led by the Committee of Experts on the Rights and the Best interests of the Child in Parental Separation and in Care Proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE), which provided a platform for member states to engage with key stakeholders in Europe. [Read more here.](#)

### Global: Pro-bono lawyering and child justice

On 17-19 October our Coordinator attended the [PILnet Global Forum in Dublin](#) to discuss promising practices for pro bono lawyering when children are involved, together with our member Terre des hommes Europe. This gave the CFJ-EN a good opportunity to highlight the importance for lawyers and legal clinics of collaborating with civil society organisations to ensure effective access to justice and legal remedies for children.

## Upcoming Events

### 25 November: CREW International Seminar in Brussels

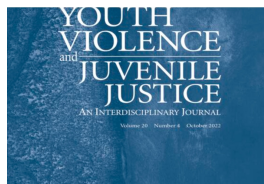
DCI Italy, along with CFJ-EN and project partners, will host the final

event for the [EU-funded CREW project](#), aimed at ensuring that children involved in criminal proceedings as accused or suspect persons have access to a child friendly justice system. The in-person event will be held in Brussels.

## 29 November: Criminal Justice Platform Europe meeting

An online network meeting to learn more about non-governmental organisations working in the field of criminal justice organised by the European Organisation for Prison and Correctional Services (EuroPris), the Confederation of European Probation (CEP) and the European Forum for Restorative Justice (EFRJ). [Register for the meeting here](#).

## Recently Published



### Study on Effects of Community vs Custodial Sanctions in the Netherlands

[A quasi-experimental study](#) conducted in collaboration with dr. Hilde Wermink and prof.dr. Frank Weerman analyse recidivism differences between 4425 Dutch youth who were subject to community sanctions versus short custodial sanctions in 2015-2016.



### Launch of Child Friendly Justice in Europe Handbook 2022

[The first CFJ-EN handbook on child friendly justice](#) includes a compilation of resources, key legal standards and case law, agendas and opportunities at European level for 2022-2023. The handbook, updated yearly, is available in English and will soon be available in French.



### Netherlands: Videos and infographics on asylum procedure

The University of Amsterdam produced two videos on children concerning [the asylum procedure](#) and [children's rights](#) in Netherlands which have subtitles in English, Arabic, Somali and Tigrinya, and two infographics in Dutch ([1](#) and [2](#))



### EU - Brussels IIb Regulation - Guide for Practitioners

A high-level



### Italy: International Family Mediation in the Best Interests of



### Child Friendly Justice Terminology Guideline - Cambodia

conference “What’s new in EU family law”, co-hosted by the EU Parliament and the European Commission on 8 September brought together experts in EU family law to address the novelties and important changes introduced by the Brussels IIb Regulation, which entered into application on 1 August 2022. [The user-friendly Practice Guide for professionals was updated](#) and launched during the event.



### **Advancing Child Rights-Consistent Strategic Litigation Practice Report**

The report developed under the auspices of the Advancing Child Rights-Consistent Strategic Litigation Practice project aims to support litigators and others involved in child rights strategic litigation in putting children’s rights at the heart of their practice. [Read the report here.](#)

### **the Child**

On the occasion of the final iCare conference in September - co-led by our member DCI Italy - [the publication International family mediation in the best interests of the child](#) was launched as a methodology and orientations from a child-centred perspective, to professionals involved in mediation in cases of international child abduction.

### **Justice for Children Justice for All**

Justice for Children responds to its mission to deliver a better world, and realise the full range of rights and opportunities, to every person, and not children, for all.

#### **Agenda for Action**

This Agenda for Action for Justice for Children sets out the strategic levers for change to achieve SDG16 for children in the 2020 Agenda.

### **Pathfinders: Justice for Children, Justice for All - Agenda for Action**

The CFJ-EN collaborated with Inspiring Children’s Futures that led the working group’s development of the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies Justice for Children, Justice for All Companion Briefing to the [Justice in a Pandemic Series](#), which sets out the Agenda for Action for Justice for Children, featuring the strategic levers for change to achieve SDG16.3.

Our partner in Cambodia, the Child Justice Network (NGO/UN partnership to enhance child justice systems), consulted the CFJ-EN to develop a [Child-Friendly Justice Terminology Guideline](#) to promote the wider use and proper understanding of child-friendly terms in relation to child justice, based on international and Cambodian laws and standards.



### **Save the Children: How to write a Child Friendly Document**

In September, [a manual on how to write a child friendly document was published](#) by Save the children and developed in close collaboration with DCI World Service, DCI International Secretariat and Terre des Hommes.

[Read the Agenda for  
Action here.](#)



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