

Training on “Human Rights and Children”

CALL FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

Date: 9-13 April 2018

Location: Leiden University, Leiden, Netherlands



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands



**RAOUL
WALLENBERG
INSTITUTE**
OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

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Training on Human Rights and Children

Follow-up to the 17th Informal ASEM Seminar on “Human Rights and Children” held on 7-8 November 2017 in Sofia, Bulgaria

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) is pleased to invite you to participate in a 4.5-day training on *Human Rights and Children* that will take place on 9-13 April 2018 in Leiden, Netherlands. The training shall closely examine contemporary children's rights issues from a legal perspective accompanied by outlooks from other academic disciplines, legal systems, local viewpoints and realities. This training is a follow-up and carries forward the recommendations of the 17th Informal Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Seminar on Human Rights on the theme of *Human Rights and Children* that took place on 7-8 November 2017 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The Training session will take place at Leiden University.

BACKGROUND

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)¹ is an intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation established in 1996 to deepen relations between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and socio-cultural issues of common concern.

On the occasion of the 1st ASEM Foreign Ministers Meeting (ASEM FMM1) in 1997, Sweden and France had suggested that informal seminars on human rights be held within the ASEM framework. The idea was broadly shared by ASEM Partners. China and Indonesia participated in the founding of the Seminar series, in the capacity as members of the Seminar's Steering Committee. In 2011, the Philippines joined as a co-organiser; in 2016, Switzerland. The Seminar series is co-organised by ASEF, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (nominated by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. ASEF has acted as the Secretariat of the Seminar since 2000.

The aim of the [Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights](#) is to promote mutual understanding and co-operation between Europe and Asia within political dialogue, particularly on human rights issues, and encourages an open and non-confrontational debate between representatives of civil society organisations and officials from all ASEM Partners.

In 2017, the co-organisers introduced an annual human rights training to support the Seminar's overall objective of promoting mutual understanding and cooperation on human rights issues in ASEM. The purpose of this training is to improve the capacity of ASEM Partners to promote human rights in their work.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the training is to increase participants' knowledge on Human Rights and Children in the context of Asia and Europe, as well as enhance their capacity to promote and protect the rights of children in their daily work. At the end of the training, participants will have:

- Learnt how to implement international and regional frameworks protecting the rights of children, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC), in their daily work
- Gained theoretical knowledge and practical skills on how to utilise the existing international and regional human rights instruments to prepare and implement child-friendly policies
- Improved their understanding about human rights and children cooperation in the context of ASEM/Asia-Europe relations
- Built a network with civil society organisations, government representatives, NHRIs and other relevant organisations in ASEM countries

TARGET AUDIENCE

The training is open to representatives from ASEM governments, ministries or departments, national and

¹ ASEM brings together 53 Partners: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, the Lao PDR, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and Viet Nam plus the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Union.

17th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights

regional human rights institutions working on human rights and the rights of children. Limited places are available for civil society organisations working on the implementation of the UN CRC.

HOST INSTITUTION

Leiden University Law School – Department of Child Law

The Department of Child Law at Leiden University Law School offers high quality research driven education, through which highly topical and emerging themes are incorporated in sound human rights and children's rights education. The teaching staff of Leiden Law School has a broad expertise and consists of highly renowned international experts in the field of children's rights.

The academic coordinators of this training programme are Prof. Ton Liefwaard and Dr. Stephanie Rap. Prof. Ton Liefwaard holds the UNICEF Chair in Children's Rights at Leiden University and is the programme director of the Master of Laws: Advanced Studies in International Children's Rights, Leiden University and of the Leiden Summer School Programme 'Frontiers in Children's Rights'.

METHODOLOGY

Various teaching methods will be employed by the experienced trainers in order to promote efficient and interactive learning of theoretical approaches to children's rights, and practical skills and knowledge. The programme consists of plenary lectures, workshops, panel discussions and group exercises. Practical group assignments would be a key component, where participants will be able to learn from each other and explore highly topical issues of relevance to their national and local practices.

TAUGHT MODULES

- International Children's Rights: Characteristics, general principles & challenges; children's rights and sustainable development; universality and cultural relativism; & the interaction between children's rights and international law, such as international labour law, humanitarian law and criminal law
- Regional Models for Children's Rights Implementation and Monitoring: Violence against children; child-friendly justice and the role of national human rights institutions (children's ombudspersons)
- Juvenile Justice: Theory to practice - age limits, diversion, restorative justice, fair trial rights (including police interrogation and juvenile court proceedings) and deprivation of liberty
- Children, Families and Alternative Care: Violence against children, child marriage & alternative care arrangements for children
- Child Refugees and Migrants: Connecting global trends to regional themes (e.g. related to conflict, disaster, etc.)
- Child-trafficking and Sexual Exploitation
- Children's Rights and the Role of Non-State Actors: Children's rights business principles
- Digital Technologies and Children's Rights: Empowerment versus protection of children in the digital age

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Participants will have the opportunity to attend the International symposium "*Deprivation of Liberty of Children in the Justice System: Towards a Global Research Agenda*" (click [here](#) for more information), conducted by the Department of Child Law, Leiden University, on 13 April 2018.

STRUCTURE & CONTENT

9 April 2018 (½ day)	Day 1	Registration and Opening International Human Rights and Children's Rights
10 April 2018	Day 2	Children's Rights and the Family Juvenile Justice
11 April 2018	Day 3	Refugees, Migrant and Displaced Children Child-trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Regional Models for Children's Rights Implementation and Monitoring Workshop
12 April 2018	Day 4	Visit to the International Criminal Court (ICC), The Hague Workshop
13 April 2018	Day 5	International Symposium "Deprivation of Liberty of Children in the Justice System: Towards a Global Research Agenda"

RESOURCE PERSONS

A mix of Asian and European academics and experts in the field of children rights and international human rights law with previous experience in conducting trainings to government officials, children rights organisations, and regional and international organisations will deliver the training. A detailed programme will be shared with the selected participants.

ELIGIBILITY

- Working professional preferably between 3-10 years of work experience in the field of human rights, children-related issues, law, public policy, development policy or other relevant areas
- Engaged in, or responsible for, their organisation's current or planned work in implementing the UN CRC and protecting the rights of children (Participants do not need to have immediate or direct experience working on human rights and children, but there needs to be a demonstrated commitment to do so in the near future.)
- Citizen of an ASEM country
- High proficiency in spoken and written English
- Be able to attend for the full duration of the 4.5-day training

COST OF PARTICIPATION

The co-organisers will cover:

- Airfare on point-to-point economy class to travel to/from Leiden, Netherlands, through reimbursement for international participants
- Airport transfer costs in home countries and in The Netherlands
- 6 nights of accommodation in Leiden with check-in on 8 April and checkout on 14 April for international participants
- Meals and refreshments during the training programme
- Registration Fees for the International Symposium on *Deprivation of Liberty of Children in the Justice System: Towards a Global Research Agenda* on 13 April 2018
- All additional costs to be borne by participants directly, including hotel mini-bar, additional hotel services, extra nights of hotel stay

HOW TO APPLY

Please complete the online application form <<http://www.cvent.com/d/I5qfq6/4W>> by **16 March 2018**. In the online application, participants are requested to upload a letter of organisational endorsement or nomination letter, explaining how the applicant's participation in the training fits into the organisation's priorities and activities.

Should you have any queries, please contact:

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