

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
**EFFECTIVE POLICY AND PRACTICES
ENSURING EARLY DEVELOPMENT
OF CHILDREN**

23 November 2018
the Baltic Hall, Jēkaba iela 6/8, Riga

Moderator of the conference *Martins Daugulis*, Lecturer at the Riga Stradins University (RSU)

- 9.00-9.30 **Registration and coffee**
- 9.30-9.40 **Opening of the conference**
H.E. Ināra Mūrniece, Speaker of the Saeima
Artuss Kaimiņš, Chairperson, Human Rights and Public Affairs Committee of the Saeima
Daiga Zake, PdD, chairperson of the Board of Latvian Child Welfare network
- 9:40-9:50 **Development and protection – fundamental rights of the child**
Juris Jansons, Ombudsman of Latvia
- 9:50-10:50 **Keynote Address: “Why reducing inequality increases children’s wellbeing”**
Richard Wilkinson, Professor Emeritus at the University of Nottingham, social epidemiologist, author and advocate (UK)
- 10:50-11:10 **Childonomics. Measuring the long-term social and economic value of investing in children.**
Maria Herczog, Ph.D., Sociology, Chair and program director of Family, Child, Youth Association, (Hungary), and policy analyst at Institute of Human Services, (USA)
- 11:10-11:25 **Investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantages**
Julius op de Beke, European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Unit C3: Disability and Inclusion
- 11:25-11:40 **Results from Ex-post evaluation of National Family Policy**
Viola Korpa, Dr.sc.soc., researcher, Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia
- 11:40-11:55 **Results from the study in 5 EU countries on psycho-social wellbeing of small children**
Kristine Liepina, Researcher at Educational Initiative Centre (Latvia)
- 11:55-12:10 **The socio-economic preconditions for children’s development in Latvia**
Eliņa Ozoliņa, Researcher, Latvian Child Welfare network (Latvia)
- 12:10-12:30 **Questions and answers**
- 12:30-13:30 **Lunch break 1 hour**
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Interpreting channels: 0 – Floor; 1 – Latvian; 2 – English

The discussion will be broadcasted on the Saeima website www.saeima.lv

- 13:30-14:00 **A systemic approach for preventive early childhood interventions: learnings from Austria**
Marion Weigl, Deputy Director of the Austrian National Centre for Early Childhood Interventions (Austria)
- 14:00-14:30 **Early prevention programmes for families with children in Estonia within the program “Incredible Years”: outcomes, challenges and perspectives**
Ly Kasvandik, Head of the Family and Parenting Unit, National Institute for Health Development (Estonia)
- 14:30-14:50 **Programme “A safe and friendly kindergarten”**
Laila Balode, Member of the Board at the Centre Dardedze (Latvia)
- 14:50-15:10 **Programme “Support for new parents after childbirth”**
Ilze Paleja, Director of SOS Children’s Villages in Latvia (Latvia)
- 15:10-15:50 **Moderated Panel Discussion “Today’s reality and the way forward”**
Professor Baiba Bela, Head of Sociology Department, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Latvia;
Ruta Zilvere, social policy expert, blogger;
Jana Krūmiņa, Chair of the Board, Spina Bifida and Hydrocephaly Association of Latvia;
Guntis Libeks, Chair of the Municipal Council of Jaunpils, Chair of the Health and Social Committee of the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments;
Pēteris Leiškalns, social rights expert, Employers’ Confederation of Latvia
- 15:50-16:00 **Closing of the Conference**

Conference organised by the Saeima Human Rights and Public Affairs Committee,
Latvian Child Welfare Network and
EUROCHILD international children’s rights network

Conference supporters



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