

# B.E.C.A.N. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

## Inquiring child abuse and neglect in the Balkan and the world during crisis:

*Evidence-based Practice and Practice-based Evidence*

**13 / 14 September, 2012**

**President Hotel, Athens, Greece**

Information

[www.becan.eu](http://www.becan.eu) - [www.ich-mhsw.gr](http://www.ich-mhsw.gr)



### INVITED SPEAKERS

Prof. Marina Ajdukovic (Croatia), Dr. B. Bianchi (Italy),  
Prof. J. Brkic Smigoc (Bosnia Herzegovina), Prof.K.Browne (UK), Dr.E.Cenko (Albania),  
Prof. P.Durning (France), Dr.J.Fluke (USA), Prof.B. Gudbrandsson (Iceland),  
Dr.E.Haxhiymeri (Albania), Prof.V.Ispanovic (Serbia), Dr.B.Van Puysembroek (Belgium),  
Prof.M.Raleva (FYROM), Prof.M.Roth (Romania), Dr.Z.Sofuoğlu (Turkey),  
Prof.V.Stancheva (Bulgaria)

### PROGRAMME

## **WELCOME INVITATION**

The phenomenon of child abuse-neglect has undergone several phases in respect to its prevailing perspective employed by international scientific community and wider society's representation. In the initial phase of its recognition, the dominant paradigm was characterized by the medico-centric model; after also being influenced by human rights and gender movements this perspective has been gradually replaced by an approach governed by the principles of evidence-based practice. Contemporary approach's conceptual framework prioritizes the necessity of adequate qualitative and quantitative empirical evidence as an essential part of every child protection policy as well as any systematic clinical approach. In parallel, as a response but at the same time as a supplementary counterpart of evidence-based practice, a request for practice-based evidence also emerged internationally. Hence, this rising approach renders essential the accumulation of empirical data and evidence through "first line" clinicians' experience. The success in the convergence of these apparently incommensurable terms seems to be a touchstone of effectiveness and efficiency of services and policies for child protection. Furthermore, it represents a substantial challenge theoretically, epistemologically as well as in terms of applied practice, since it generates multiple levels of creative reflection concerning any data related to every scientific discipline as well as any potential field for their application. Especially, during a period of economic crisis the demand for maximization of cost-benefit ratio regarding intervention tools used as well as the ongoing update of applied knowledge and techniques are more than ever significant in order to achieve optimum utilization of human and material resources, which are always rare on the field of child protection services. On the grounds of the above, the B.E.C.A.N. research, one of the most significant primary research projects on the subject matter of child abuse and neglect, a research on a representative sample of general children's population in 9 Balkan countries with an initial sample of as much as over 60000 children and parents, a research that additionally has involved more than 1000 child protection agencies and organizations authoritative to regularly receive reports of child abuse and neglect cases, attempts to contribute on the inquiry regarding the extent and characteristics of the phenomenon in the Balkans. It essentially attempts to overcome a situation characterized by fragmentation, empiricism and parallel non-interactive scientific discourses and practices, contributing on the interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral dialogue, dissemination of information concerning the most up to date contemporary knowledge and practices on the field, promotion of capacities of the scientific community and respectful services on the acknowledgement and treatment of the phenomenon as well as raising awareness of public opinion and of decision makers, aiming at a highly coordinated, state of the art and most efficient protection of children from any form of abuse or victimization.

**George Nikolaidis**

**Psychiatrist,**

*MD, MA, MSc, PhD*

Director, Department of Mental Health & Social Welfare  
Centre for the Study & Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

Institute of Child Health

# Thursday 13 September 2012

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**08:30-09:00:** Registration

**09:00-10:00: Opening Lectures:**

*Andreas Lukourentzos, Minister of Health\**

*Antonis Roupakiotis, Minister of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights\*\**

*Konstantinos Arvanitopoulos, Minister of Education\**

*Theodoros Papatheodorou, Deputy Minister of Education\**

*Fotini Skopouli, Deputy Minister of Health\**

*Efthimia Bekou, General Secretariat of Welfare\**

*Athanasiос Kiriazis, General Secretariat of Education\**

*Christina Papanikolaou, General Secretariat of Health\**

*George Sourlas, General Secretariat of Transparency and Human Rights\**

*Sotiris Glavas, Special Secretariat of Primary and Secondary Education\**

*Political Parties' Representatives\**

*George Moschos, Deputy Ombudsman, Department of Children's Rights, Greece*

*Dr. George Nikolaidis, Institute of Child Health, Greece*

**10:00-11:30: Results of the B.E.C.A.N. study in Greece**

**Field study of self-reported child victimization experiences**

*Dr. Kiki Petroulaki, Institute of Child Health, Greece*

**Case-based surveillance study of children's victimization**

*Sakis Ntinapogias, Institute of Child Health, Greece*

**Chair-Commentary:**

*Dr. Rania Machaira, sc. as., Institute of Child Health, Greece*

**11:30-12:00: Coffee break**

**12:00-13:30: Chair: Prof. Em. Thanasis Tzavaras**

**Research into the prevalence of child abuse and neglect**

*Prof. Kevin Browne, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom*

**Ethics in research and practice in the perspective of the UN Convention on the child's rights**

*Dr. Donata Bianchi, Instituto degli Innocenti-UNICEF, Italy*

**Not even with a rose...**

*Prof. Em. Thanasis Tzavaras, University of Athens, Greece*

**13:30-14:30: Light lunch**

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*\*Invited*

## **Thursday 13 September 2012**

**14:30-16:00:** *Chair: Prof. Gerasimos Kolaitis*

**Child friendly justice: A model for multiagency response to child sexual abuse under one roof**

*Dr. Bragi Gudbrandsson, Governmental Agency for Child Protection, Iceland*

**Banning corporal punishments is not enough: One must promote alternative parenting**

*Prof. Paul Durning, University of Paris X Nanterre, France*

**Families in need and children at risk: Mental health promotion interventions**

*Prof. Gerasimos Kolaitis, Child Psychiatrist, Medical School, University of Athens, Greece*

**16:00-16:30:** *Coffee break*

**16:30-18:00:** *Chair: Prof. Christina Zarafonitou*

**A little knowledge is a dangerous thing: Remarks on policy research and research policy on violence against children**

*Dr. Bert Van Puyenbroeck, Child and Family Agency, Belgium*

**Child maltreatment surveillance and response systems:**

**Patterns of decisions**

*Dr. John Fluke, American Humane Association, Child Protection Services Research Center, USA*

**The utility of research-driven evidence-based social policy in tackling child abuse**

*Prof. Christina Zarafonitou, Panteion University, Greece*

## Friday 14 September 2012

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### 09:00-10:30: Field study of self-reported child victimization experiences

#### **Prevalence and correlates of child abuse in Croatia**

*Prof. Marina Ajdukovic, Ivan Rimac, Miroslav Rajter,  
Nika Sušac, University of Zagreb, Croatia*

#### **Prevalence and types of child abuse and neglect in the sample of school age children in Bulgaria**

*Prof. Vaska Stancheva-Popkostadinova, Stefka Chincheva, Stanislava  
Stoyanova, Jordan Kalcev, Victoria Sotirov, South-West University  
'Neofit Rilski', Bulgaria*

#### **B.E.C.A.N. Epidemiological study on child abuse and neglect among school children in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

*Prof. Marija Raleva, Izabela Filov, Liljana Trpchevska, Aleksandra Coneva,  
Dimitrinka Jordanova Peshevksa, Kadri Haxihamza, Florijan Naumov,  
University Clinic of Psychiatry, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*

### 10:30-11:00: Coffee break

### 11:00-12:30: Field study of self-reported child victimization experiences

#### **Lessons learnt from B.E.C.A.N. study in Serbia**

*Prof. Veronika Ispanovic-Radojkovic, Lazar Tenjovic, Natasa Hanak,  
Ana Vlajkovic, University of Belgrade, Serbia*

#### **Prevalence and incidence of child abuse and neglect in Bosnia & Herzegovina**

*Prof. Jelena Brkic Smigoc, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina*

#### **CAN prevalence data and their implications on child welfare Policies in Romania**

*Prof. Maria Roth, Imola Antal, Agnes David-Kacso, Elemer Mezei,  
Corina Voicu, Gabriella Tonk, Babes- Bolyai University, Romania*

### 12:30-14:00: Case-based surveillance study of children's victimization

#### **Croatian study of reported child abuse and neglect cases: What we have learned?**

*Prof. Marina Ajdukovic, Ivan Rimac, Jelena Ogreshta, Lea Skokandic,  
University of Zagreb, Croatia*

#### **Bulgarian experience in reporting child abuse and neglect**

*Prof. Vaska Stancheva - Popkostadinova, Ekaterina Mitova, South-West  
University 'Neofit Rilski', Bulgaria*

## **Friday 14 September 2012**

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### **Reporting child abuse and neglect in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Findings from a national data set of cases reported to the social and medical services**

*Prof. Marija Raleva, Izabela Filov, Liljana Trpchevska, Aleksandra Coneva, Dimitrinka Jordanova Peshevska, Kadri Haxhamza, Florijan Naumov, University Clinic of Psychiatry, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*

**14:00-15:00: Light lunch**

**15:00-17:00: Field study of self-reported child victimization experiences**

### **Turkish findings of the B.E.C.A.N. project**

*Dr. Zeynep Sofuođlu, Ambulance and Emergency Physicians Association, Turkey*

### **Findings of the B.E.C.A.N. study in Albania**

*Dr. Enila Cenko, Prof. Dr. Edlira Haxhiymeri, Children's Human Rights Centre, Albania*

### **When children approach field researchers: Ethical and methodological issues**

*Giouli Papanikolaou, Maria Psarrakou, Institute of Child Health, Greece*

### **Diagnosis of child maltreatment: Shedding light in the dark side of a social problem**

*Katia Hatzigeorgiou, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Greece*

**17:00-17:30: Coffee break**

**17:30-18:00: Closing / Conclusions**

*Dr. George Nikolaidis, Institute of Child Health, Greece*

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Date:** 13-14 September 2012

**Conference venue:** President Hotel, Athens

**Web site:** [www.president.gr](http://www.president.gr)

### **Official Language**

The official language of the Conference will be Greek. There will be translation into the English language simultaneously.

### **Congress Secretariat**

**Triaena Tours & Congress S.A.**

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