

EURYLAIID NEWSLETTER NUMBER 7: FEBRUARY 2016

Dear EURYLAIID members

1. New project for children with disabilities who are educated at home

The EURYLAIID Board are pleased to announce a new project that EURYLAIID is participating in (with partners from Turkey, the Netherlands, Germany and Austria). The project commenced in November, 2015 and is called:

MY SCHOOL IS MY HOME NOW

The project has been designed to provide access to education for students who cannot go to school because of their handicaps. The main basis of our project is to enable the students with disabilities who cannot attend school lessons to follow their lessons along with the other students through remote access and the digital services. Thus, the effect of inequality which disabled students have experienced when they are deprived of education will be reduced to a minimum and will be helped them to have the same educational outcomes with their peers.

The inaugural meeting for the project was held in Ankara in December, 2015



Further details and updates about the project can be found on the project website <http://www.evdeegitim.eu/> which will be available to view in Turkish, German and English.

EURLAID will be involved in the project in a number of ways including attending meetings, promoting the project, reviewing and contributing to project materials and talking about the project at conferences.

Board members who attended the initial meetings said:

The meeting was well organized. We were supported and transported with much hospitality and kindness. We were invited for a very tasteful lunch in a traditional Turkish restaurant.

The meeting was held in the institute (see picture below) of the coordinating partner in Ankara: a state institute where children are assessed (on demand) on cognitive aspects, hearing, vision and sensory skills by professionals. On the bases of the outcome child, parents and school are entitled to get (financial and practical) support. Once in the system they will be assessed on a regular bases. In the institute all files of all children are kept and checked.



Further project meetings are as follows:

The second meeting will be held in Utrecht as the office of BOSK is situated in that city on 26-27 May, 2016.

The third meeting will be held in Hamburg at the University conference room on 1st and 2nd of December, 2016.

Although all foreign project partners lack a system of homeschooling as this project wishes to develop and implement in Turkey, there is enough valuable information and expertise to contribute to the project.



2. International Society on Early Intervention Conference: Children’s Rights and Early Intervention, June 8-10, 2016, Stockholm

The rights of all children to develop to their full potential and to participate without barriers in all aspects of society constitute the overarching themes of this conference. Encouraging and supporting the inclusion of children with developmental delays and disabilities in natural environments, including family settings, child care, and preschool programs, is at the core of maximizing children’s rights. Indeed, the concept of full

participation is consistent with two United Nations treaties that address these rights: Convention on the Rights of the Child and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Ulf Janson, to whom this conference is dedicated, devoted much of his professional life to promoting the rights of young children with disabilities, understanding the nature of social inclusion, and advocating for the full inclusion of all children and their families. In this conference, early intervention is proposed as a basic right of all vulnerable children, and will be explored from many perspectives. Issues related to access, equity, quality, and accountability are paramount. Strengthening families, training professional personnel, promoting social-emotional development, conducting reliable, valid, and culturally appropriate assessments, exploring issues related to institutional care and deinstitutionalization, examining the impact, prevention, and treatment of trauma, abuse, and neglect, testing and evaluating new strategies and techniques to promote a child's development to the fullest, and developing approaches to enhance social inclusion will be among the topics included in our program. The development and evaluation of policies in individual countries or regions within countries to ensure that early intervention is among the rights of young children will provide an important context for our program.

Several members of EURYLAIID will be presenting papers at the conference including a symposium and parallel sessions from EURYLAIID Board members as shown below:

SYMPOSIUM: EURYLAIID was founded in 1989, the year of the ratification of the "Convention on the Rights of the Child". EURYLAIID is engaged in the development of EI practice, services and professional training for enhancing child development and promoting support in the natural environments including the family. Presenters begin with the ethical background; will continue with results of a survey of ECI in Europe and finish by analyzing ECI in Central and Eastern Europe.

SYMPOSIUM PAPER 1:

TITLE Why do we need UN Conventions on the Rights of Children and Persons with Disabilities? **AUTHORS** Jürgen Kühle, MD

SYMPOSIUM PAPER 2:

TITLE Survey of Early Childhood Intervention Practice in 15 Countries in Europe. **AUTHORS** Ana Maria Serrano, PhD; Noor van Loen, ; Jürgen Kühle, MD; Jean Jacques Detraux, PhD; Monica Ingemarsoon,

SYMPOSIUM PAPER 3:

TITLE: THE RIGHT TO EARLY INTERVENTION IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE: IMPROVING PUBLIC POLICIES AND SYSTEMS **AUTHORS** Natasha Dobrova-Krol, PhD; Darija Udovičić Mahmuljin, PhD

PARALLEL SESSIONS: Carolyn Blackburn will also be presenting two parallel papers on YOUNG CHILDREN'S USE OF PRIVATE SPEECH and RELATIONSHIP BASED EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES.

Registration for the conference is now open <http://depts.washington.edu/isei/>

3. Collaboration with EASPD

During the Paris conference, October 2015, all Eurlyaid members present accepted the proposal from the EURYLAIID Board to collaborate and cooperate with European Association of Service Providers for persons with Disabilities (EASPD). Details about the cooperation will be studied and decided upon in the first months of 2016. Members of EURYLAIID will be presenting at their forthcoming conference in Moldova in April, 2016. The theme of the conference is on the state of play of early childhood intervention in Europe. Registration for the conference is now open <http://easpd.eu/>.