



**Conference Programme**  
**High Level Global Conference**

# Towards Childhoods free from Corporal Punishment

**bmfj**

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF  
FAMILIES AND YOUTH

**Vienna, 1 – 2 June 2016 · Schloss Wilhelminenberg**

# The Long and Winding Road ...

## Towards Childhoods free from Corporal Punishment

**High Level Global Conference  
Vienna, 1 – 2 June 2016**

**Schloss Wilhelminenberg  
Savoyenstrasse 2, 1160 Wien  
T +43 1 4858503**

## Preface

Welcome to this High Level Global Conference “Towards childhoods free from corporal punishment!”, hosted in Vienna by the Government of Austria.

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the presentation of the report of the UN Study on Violence against Children to the General Assembly in 2006. At that time only 16 states had laws clearly prohibiting all corporal punishment of children. Today, this number has tripled: now 48 states – many of them represented at this High Level Global Conference – have reformed their laws to protect children from being hit and hurt by parents and others entrusted with their upbringing. We have much to celebrate!

But the purpose of this gathering is not solely celebration – it is also to build momentum for further reform. The journey to universal prohibition of corporal punishment – to ensuring that all children, no matter where they live, fully enjoy their fundamental right to respect for their physical integrity and human dignity – has in many ways barely begun.

Still only 10 % of the children globally live in states where the law says it is wrong for them to be violently punished in the guise of discipline; 150 states have yet to meet their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights treaties to prohibit corporal punishment, including in the family home. The number of

states where governments are openly committed to prohibiting corporal punishment is growing rapidly – now at least 53 have done so and representatives from many of these are participating in Vienna.

This High Level Global Conference – following on from the inaugural conference hosted by the Government of Sweden in 2014 – aims to inspire all of us to work together to build a world where respect for children’s human dignity is the norm rather than the exception.

Tuesday,  
31 May 2016

**18.00 – 21.00**

Informal meeting

Wednesday,  
1 June 2016

The High Level Global Conference „Towards Childhoods free from Corporal Punishment“ is taking place under the auspices of

**Heinz FISCHER**

President of Austria

**10.00 – 10.45**

Registration

## MORNING SESSION **11.00 – 12.15**

**H.M. the Queen SILVIA of Sweden**

**Sophie KARMASIN**

Austrian Federal Minister of Families and Youth

**Wolfgang BRANDSTETTER**

Austrian Federal Minister of Justice

**Wolfgang SOBOTKA**

Austrian Federal Minister of the Interior

**Marta SANTOS PAIS**

Special Representative of The United Nations Secretary-General On Violence Against Children

**Paulo Sérgio PINHEIRO**

Independent Expert who led the UN Secretary General's Study on Violence against Children

**Michael O'FLAHERTY**

Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights

Wednesday,  
1 June 2016

## AFTERNOON SESSION **14.00 – 16.00**

### **FULFILLING CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO A CHILDHOOD FREE FROM CORPORAL PUNISHMENT: ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS**

#### **PLENARY 1**

Prohibiting all corporal punishment of children involves drafting clear legislation, ensuring its successful passage through parliament and planning for its implementation. Ministers and other high level representatives of states where corporal punishment of children is prohibited in all settings, including the home, share their experiences of achieving law reform.

Plenary 1:

**Marie Louise COLEIRO PRECA**

President of the Republic of Malta

**Xavier ESPOT ZAMORA**

Minister of Social Affairs, Justice and Interior, Andorra

**Awut Deng ACUIL**

Minister for Gender, Child and Social Welfare, South Sudan

**Georgios KATROUGALOS**

Minister of Labor, Social Security & Social Solidarity, Greece

**Bernardica JURETIC**

Minister of Social Policy and Youth, Croatia

**Solveig HORNE**

Minister of Children and Equality, Norway

**Michael FARRUGIA**

Minister for the Family and Social Solidarity, Malta

**Hijran HUSEYNOVA**

Minister, Azerbaijan

**Gabriela COMAN**

State Secretary, National Authority for the protection of Children Rights and Adoption, Romania

**Jari PARTANEN**

State Secretary, Ministry for Social Affairs and Health, Finland

**Åsa REGNÉR**

Minister of Health and Social Affairs, Sweden

**15.45 – 16.15**

**Coffee break**

**16.15 – 17.30**

**AWARD CEREMONY "FEELING GOOD – FEELIN' BAD"**

For further information click here: [International contest for live action and animated video spots](#)

**20.00 – 22.00**

**RECEPTION**

Thursday,  
2 June 2016

## MORNING SESSION **9.00 – 12.15**

**9.00 – 9.10**      **Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI**      Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

**9.10 – 9.30**      **Elizabeth T. GERSHOFF**      University of Texas at Austin  
The harmful effects of corporal punishment on the development of children with corresponding consequences for their adult lives.

### **9.30 – 10.30**      **PARALLEL SESSIONS**

**Round Table 1**      Nothing can justify withholding children's fundamental right to respect for their human dignity – but still, too many UN member states are hesitating.

**Round Table 2**      Message of the award winners of the International Contest for live action and animated video spots "FEELING GOOD – FEELIN' BAD" to the Heads of States who are still sceptical about prohibiting corporal punishment of children.

**Round Table 3**      Overcoming outdated educational patterns, prohibiting corporal punishment of children in all settings and thus implementing human rights standards.

**Round Table 4**      Who's afraid of bringing up children without the right to exercise corporal punishment?

**Round Table 5**      Promoting the prohibition and elimination of corporal punishment in the context of international development aid

### **10.30 – 11.00**      **Coffee break**

### **11.00 – 11.30**      **Plenary discussion: Summary of the Round Tables**

### **11.30 – 12.00**      **Panel of International Organisations and Experts**

**Renate WINTER**      UN Committee on the Rights of the Child  
**Regina JENSDOTTIR**      Council of Europe  
**Chris DODD**      Global Initiative to End all Corporal Punishment of Children

Thursday,  
2 June 2016

## AFTERNOON SESSION **13.30 – 16.00**

**Geneviève AVENARD**, Défenseur des enfants, Vice-Présidente du Collège chargé de la Défense et de la Promotion des Droits de l'Enfant

Are we facing a lack of scientifically validated knowledge about the negative consequences of violence against children – or is it just a sense of indifference?

### WHO'S NEXT?

### PLENARY 2

More than a quarter of UN member states are now openly committed to ending violent punishment of children; many others are positively considering how to fulfil this human rights obligation. Ministers and other high level representatives of states which have not yet achieved law reform describe their journey so far towards prohibition and share their plans, challenges and commitments to prohibiting all corporal punishment of children.

Plenary 2:

**Laurence ROSSIGNOL**

Minister for Families, Children and Women's Rights, France

**Michaela MARKSOVÁ**

Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Czech Republic

**Thea TSULUKIANI**

Minister of Justice of Georgia, Georgia

**Abdul-Muttaleb AL-HINAWI**

Minister of Youth and Sports, Lebanon

**Chandrani BANDARA**

Minister of Women's and Child Affairs, Sri Lanka

**Zafarullah KHAN**

Minister of Law and Justice, Pakistan

**Nkandu LUO**

Minister, Zambia

**Afroze MEHER**

Minister of State, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Bangladesh

**Della SOWAH**

Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ghana

**Yohana Susana YEMBISE**

Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, Indonesia

**Mahmoud ABBASI**

State Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Iran

**Abdulrahman BIN NUH**

State Secretary of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**Kirsys FERNÁNDEZ**

State Secretary, National Council for Childhood and Adolescence, Dominican Republic

### **RESOLUTION of the Vienna Conference "Towards childhoods free from corporal punishment!"**

Comments, discussion and future-oriented deliberations

### **Announcement of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Conference against Corporal Punishment, 2018**

Closing remarks: **Sophie KARMASIN**

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[www.high-level-global-conference-2016.com](http://www.high-level-global-conference-2016.com)

