



International Conference Innovation in Working with Children at Risk and Their Families

Prague 13–14 December 2018

Contributions of members of expert teams
and speakers



Evropská unie
Evropský sociální fond
Operační program Zaměstnanost



PRÁVO NA DĚTSTVÍ

Moderators

Mgr. Bohumil Kartous, Ph.D.



He is a teacher, a media theorist and a practitioner. He acts as a communications manager and analyst of the EDUin think tank. He publishes topics related to education, media, politics, civic identity and social issues in a number of Czech media. He acts as an editor of „Britské listy“, a Czech-language critical internet daily. He has been cooperating on a long-term basis with the University of Economics and Management, the DOX Centre of Contemporary Art, the South Moravian Region etc. He gives speeches (TEDx, Colours of Ostrava, Jihlava, Aspen Annual, etc.). He moderates round-table discussions, debates, conferences (e.g. about issues of children in institutional care, networking services), etc.

Mgr. Radka Michelová



She is a social worker. Since 2017, she has been a part of the regional network for the Ústí nad Labem Region in the MPSV System Development and Support Tool for Social and Legal Protection of Children. As part of project activities, she focuses on the topic of Gatekeeping (controlled passage of the child by the SPOD system). She also acts as a supervisor, a coach and a social worker.

Martina Kubátová



She is a student of the first year of the JABOK – Academy of Social Pedagogy and Theology in Prague. For the second year, she has cooperated with a young group of Lumos. Her greatest contribution to the group is in sharing her personal experience. She believes that her voice can help change the situation of children and young people living in children's homes. Together with other self-advocates, she joined the focus groups of the MoLSA project, where she commented on the following topics: Children in a problematic situation demonstrated by truancy, prevention and early identification of childhood threats at school, children and youth with a high-risk manifestations of behaviour, esp. children aged 12+, children with specific mental health needs, children threatened by drug abuse, children of long-term placement in institutional care and work with the biological family of a child growing up in a substitute family care.

Mgr. Petra Štětková



She is a special educator. She works at the MoLSA as a methodologist in the Child Rights Protection Department. She draws on her 20 years of experience in working with vulnerable children and their families. In the past, she participated in the development of alternative family care, has experience in educating workers in the social and legal protection of children and facilitating case conferences.



Representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) and the System Development and Support of Tools for Social and Legal Protection of Children project

Dipl.-Pol. Jana Maláčová, MSc.



She has been the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs since July 2018. Since June 2015, she has been the director of the Family Policy and Ageing Policy Department at the MoLSA. Between 2007 and 2011, she worked at the Ministry of Regional Development of the Czech Republic as an EU funds analyst, between 2012 and 2014 she was a representative of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic at the European Parliament. Less than a year later, she led the Department of EU Institutional Communication of the EU Affairs Section at the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.

Mgr. David Pospíšil



He started his professional career as a social worker in a shelter house working with HIV/AIDS positive clients and asylum seekers. He was involved in implementation of quality standards for social services, and also helped to create an accredited volunteer service program. He continued his work at Central Bohemian Region Office, where he was responsible, among others, for social services planning. Since 2014, he has been working at the MoLSA, now in the position of the Director of the Department of Social Services, Social Work and Social Housing and the Deputy Director of the Child Rights Protection Department. He is co-author of several key national and regional strategic documents, actively advocating the development and professionalisation of social work

Mgr. Zuzana Jentschke Stöcklová



She works as the Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Affairs. She has been at the MoLSA since 2014, she was the head of the Department of Analysis and Information and Deputy Director for Social and Family Policy. In the years 2009–2012, she worked as a councillor of the Central Bohemian Region for the social area.

Mgr. Jana Hanzlíková



She is the Deputy Head of Division for Administrative and Social Policy. At the MoLSA, she has acted as the Deputy Minister for the Protection of Children's Rights and Social Inclusion since 2014, and she has been the Deputy Minister for the Department of Appeals and Administrative Activities of Non-Insurance Benefits since 2015. She is the author and reviewer of publications and methodologies in the field of social and special pedagogical services for children and adults with disabilities and in the field of education of children with disabilities.

Mgr. Kristýna Jůzová Kotalová



She is a social worker by profession. Since 2005, she has worked at the MoLSA, Department of Child Rights Protection. Her main focus was mainly on the methodical management of the bodies of social and legal protection of children, case work and inter-ministerial cooperation, individual planning and structured evaluation of the child's situation. Since 2006, she has been actively involved in transforming the care system for children and families at risk. Other professional activities include social inclusion, community planning, lecturing and mediation. Since 2017, she has been responsible for the management of the System Development and Support of Children's Social and Legal Protection Tools as the Head of the Transformation Service for Families and Children.

Bc. Pavel Houška



He is a social worker by profession. Since 2016, he has worked in the MoLSA project System Development and Support of Tools for the Social and Legal Protection of Children as a part of local network, later as a professional methodology of activities focused at innovation services for families and children. In the past, he worked as a social worker and service leader of: Social Rehabilitation, Personal Assistance, Low-threshold Day Centres, and Reception Centres.



Child as an Individual and in a Group (peer group)

Children at Risk of Substance Abuse

Mgr. Tomáš Jandáč



He is an addictologist by profession. Since 2015, he has worked as addictologist and therapist in the Therapeutic community of Karlov within the non-profit organisation SANANIM. Since 2018, he is responsible for a program for juveniles and young adults. He is also studying the postgraduate programme of addictology at the First Faculty of Medicine of Charles University, where he deals with child and adolescent addictology.

Mgr. Lenka Richterová



She is an addictologist by profession. Since 2015, she has worked at the Addictology Surgery of the Clinic of Addictology of the First Faculty of Medicine of Charles University and the General Faculty Hospital in Prague, where she specialises in counselling and treatment of addictions. While she previously worked with children and adolescents, she is currently focusing mainly on adults.

PhDr. Petr Vácha



He is an addictologist, psychotherapist, supervisor and special educator by profession. Since 1998, he has worked in the addictological services of the non-profit organisation SANANIM, where he currently works as addictologist, psychotherapist and family counsellor. He is primarily concerned with working with the family. Until 2018, he led here the Therapeutic Community of Karlov, which deals with residential treatment of addicted juveniles and addicted mothers with children. He also operates private psychotherapeutic and supervising practice.

Mgr. Zuzana Mačičková



She is a social worker by profession. Since 2016, she has worked as a part of regional network for the Karlovy Vary Region as part of the MoLSA project System Development and Support of Tools for the Social and Legal Protection of Children. She primarily focuses on networking services for vulnerable families with children and drug issues.



Children with specific mental health needs

Mgr. Zuzana Hrivíková



She is a psychologist and a researcher by profession. Since 2016, she has worked at the National Institute of Mental Health, where she works as a researcher. She is currently working on a project aimed at developing and enhancing the psychosocial competencies of children in elementary schools. It mainly focuses on the development of prevention and support of mental health in children and youth and work with children at risk. Since 2017, she is currently working in the non-profit organisation SOS Children's Villages, a facility for children requiring immediate psychological help.

MUDr. Michal Goetz, Ph.D.



He is a child psychiatrist. He leads the diagnostic Department of Paediatric Psychiatry at the Motol University Hospital in Prague. He teaches at the 2nd Medical Faculty of Charles University. He is Vice President of the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP) and also the main organiser and chair of the IACAPAP 2018 World Congress, which took place in July 2018 in Prague.

Mgr. Radka Michelová

See the contribution in the introductory section of moderators.

Children and youth with high-risk manifestations of behaviour

Mgr. Jiří Horák



He is a social worker and social educator. Since 2004, he has worked in low-threshold social services and follow-up programmes at YMCA Prague, where he gradually worked as a social worker, head of the low-threshold club and then as a coordinator of the low-threshold section. He devoted himself to children and young people at endangered of high-risk behaviour and struggling with the difficult life situation. He worked in outpatient and field form of low-threshold services as well as in related services, such as residential events, tutoring or personal development programmes.

doc. PhDr. & Mgr. Petra Potměšilová, Ph.D.



She is a special educator, a psychologist and an art therapist by profession. Since 2009, she has worked at the St Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology at Palacký University in Olomouc, where she is Associate Professor and at the same time head of the Department of Christian Education. She deals mainly with the issues of hearing impairment, social pathological phenomena, psychology of individuals with disabilities, art therapy and artefletics.

Mgr. Tomáš Klumpar



He is a social worker by profession. Since 2008, he has worked in "DDM Praha 3 - Ulita", where he leads the preventive department of Beztlže and works in social services: NZDM and field programmes focused on the high-risk youth. In the "Letní dům", he runs stays for young people leaving institutional care, he also devotes himself to preventive programmes in schools.

Mgr. Jiří Dvořák



He is a social worker by profession. Since 2016, he has been a part of the regional network for the Moravian-Silesian Region in the MoLSA project System Development and Support of Tools for Social and Legal Protection of Children. He primarily focuses on networking in the field of cooperation of experts working with children with a high-risk manifestation of behaviour.

Child in the Family, at School and during Truancy

Strengthening parental competencies

Věra Bechyňová, DiS.



She is a social worker, a lecturer and a consultant by profession. She works as a director, methodologist and social worker in the non-profit organisation STŘEP – The Czech Centre for the Improvement of the Family Life, which she founded in 1995. She mainly focuses on direct work with highly vulnerable children and their families, introducing improvement of the family life into application practice, methodical procedures and legislation. She is also the author of many professional texts.

Mgr. Alžběta Candia Muñoz



She is a psychotherapist and a social worker by profession. Since 2000, she has been actively working at Home-Start International and HoSt Home-Start Czech Republic, focusing on working with a family at risk. Currently, she works as a director, a therapist and a specialist in social and legal protection of children and assisted contacts. In her therapeutic practice, she focuses on working with trauma, working with children, and individual or paired therapy. Since 2018 she is also a member of the Professional Chamber of Social and Legal Protection of Children.

Mgr. Lucie Smutková, Ph.D.



She is a social worker and a university lecturer by profession. Since 2007, she has been teaching at the University of Hradec Králové. She is primarily concerned with the topic of social work with the family. In the past, she worked as a probation worker specialising in children and youth, or as a counsellor at the Intervention Centre for Persons at Risk of Domestic Violence. She also acts as a part of regional network for the Hradec Králové Region within the framework of the MoLSA project System Development and Support of Tools for Social and Legal Protection of Children.



Minimising the effects of divorce or break up situation of parents on children

Mgr. Marta Konvičková



She is a social educator by profession. Since 2011, she has worked at the Prague 2 District Office as a head of the Department for Social and Legal Protection of Children. More than 10 years ago, she worked in the field of social services for vulnerable families with children.

Mgr. Dagmar Kubičková



She is a special educator by profession. Since 1994, she has worked as a Social Worker of the Children's Social Protection Authority, and for the last four years she has been in charge of the Department of Social and Legal Protection of Children at the Prague 8 District Office. She is engaged in the search for innovative work practices in the field of social and legal protection of children, and many of them present in their department successfully and in practice.

doc. PhDr. Oldřich Matoušek



By profession, he is a psychologist and a university lecturer in the field of social work. He also works for guardianship courts as an expert in divorce disputes. He has long-time experience of a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist. He is the author of a number of professional articles, monographs and textbooks. He is also the author of books "Děti a rodiče v rozvodu" and "Dítě traumatizované v blízkých vztazích" and a co-author of the book "Státní orgány sociálně-právní ochrany dětí".

Mgr. Matěj Karas



He is a social anthropologist by profession. Since 2017, he has acted as a part of the regional network for the Pardubice Region in the MoLSA project System Development and Support of Tools for Social and Legal Protection of Children. He also deals with Roma settlements and social exclusion in Slovakia. Previously, he worked as a volunteer at Sopre Day and Children's Centre, and in the non-profit organisation "Šance pro Tebe ve službě Streetwork".

Prevention and timely identification of risks for the child at school

Mgr. Alexandra Petřů



She is a university teacher by profession. Since 2011, she has worked at the Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem, Department of Social Work, where she deals with the topic of establishing social school work. She also participates in the project System Development and Support of Children's Social and Legal Protection Instruments as a regional expert for the Ústí nad Labem Region. Previously she worked as a director of elementary school and kindergarten.

Mgr. Eva Hurychová



She is a special educator specialising in school social work. She is currently devoting herself to her dissertation theses and is teaching at a lower secondary school. She also initiated the establishment of the "Association of School Social Work" in the Czech Republic, which seeks to a return of school social work to our education system, including its legislative anchoring.

doc. PaedDr. Tatiana Matulayová, Ph.D.



She is a university teacher by profession. Since 2015, she has worked at Palacký University in Olomouc as the head of the Department of Christian Social Work at St Cyril and Metodius Faculty of Theology. He is primarily concerned with working with the family, school social work and volunteering in social work.

Children in a problematic situation demonstrated by truancy

PhDr. Lenka Felcmanová, Ph.D.



She is a university teacher by profession. She works at the Department of Special Education at the Faculty of Education of Charles University, where she focuses on pedagogical diagnostics and counselling, the support of pupils with specific learning and behavioural disorders, inclusive pedagogy etc. She also works as a lecturer in lifelong education courses for pedagogical staff in the area of school legislation, diagnostics and counselling and inclusive pedagogy. She is also Vice-Chairwoman of the Czech Society for Inclusive Education.

Mgr. Lucie Macků



She is a university teacher by profession. She is currently working in the Czech Society for Inclusive Education. She has more than 15 years of experience in the areas of social inclusion, inclusive education and work with vulnerable children. In the past, she worked for the government's "Agency for Social Inclusion" or non-profit organisations supporting children in a difficult family situation. She has experience with working with disadvantaged or disabled clients abroad (USA, Ukraine, Georgia or Morocco).

Bc. Zdeňka Mannová



She is a social worker by profession. Since 2016, she has worked as a regional networker for the Olomouc Region as a part of the MoLSA project System Development and Support of Tools for the Social and Legal Protection of Children. She previously worked as a social worker in a home for the elderly and a curator and a social worker at the Department of Social and Legal Protection of Children.

Mgr. Alexandra Petřů

For contribution, see the topic Prevention and Timely Identification of Risks for the Child at School.



Child out of the Family

Parents whose children have been repeatedly taken from their care

Mgr. Šárka Dršková



She is a social worker and a therapist by profession. Since 2014, she has been running a home violence and human trafficking counselling centre on social services and services focused at families with children under the social and legal protection of children. She teaches innovative methods of social work and performs primary prevention focused on domestic violence. She previously worked for several years in a reception centre for mothers with children.

Mgr. Ondřej Výborný



She is a teacher and a special educator by profession. Since 2003, he has worked in the Holic Children's Home, where he has been the director and head of the intensive social activation service „Spolu!“. Both services are aimed at helping children and their families in times of crisis, the transition from institutional care back to the family, or the integration of young adults into society.

doc. PhDr. Eva Mydlíková, PhD.



She is a psychologist and a university lecturer by profession. Since 2015, she has worked at the Faculty of Health and Social Work of Trnava University, now as the head of the Department of Social Work. She devotes herself to the methodologies of the work of social workers and as a specialist participates in the creation of social legislation. She worked previously at the Counselling and Psychological Services Centre, where she primarily focused on work with the family. Since 1996, she has been one of the Ashoka fellow social innovators.

Mgr. Gabriela Šťastová



She is a social educator by profession. Since 2016, she has worked as a regional networker for the Zlín Region as a part of the MoLSA project System Development and Support of Tools for the Social and Legal Protection of Children. She also deals with the issue of interdepartmental cooperation between the bodies of social and legal protection of children and elementary schools. She previously worked for several years as a social worker in the home for the elderly and in the hospice.

Working with the biological family of a child growing up in foster care

Mgr. Jana Hrazdilová



She is a social worker and a psychotherapist by profession. Since 2013, she has acted as a leader of services for families in the non-profit organisation Letní dům, where she runs a project focused at supporting families in a difficult situation. She is primarily concerned with supporting the relationship and communication in the family system and also with supporting activities for foster families. She also operates private therapeutic practice in Prague with a focus on individual and family psychotherapy and trauma treatment.

Mgr. Jana Horáková



She is a social worker and a therapist by profession. Since 2005, she has worked in the non-profit organisation Letní dům, where she works as accompanying foster social worker. Prior to that, she focused on social-therapeutic stays and community events for children from children's homes, and then to accompany young people before and after leaving the children's home in Letní dům.

Bc. Darina Nudni



She is a social worker by profession. Since 2017, she has worked as a regional specialist for the Zlín Region as a part of the MoLSA project System Development and Support of Tools for the Social and Legal Protection of Children. She focuses on children and their families who find themselves in a difficult situation. She is primarily concerned with working with the family to minimize the effects of divorce or break up situations of parents on children.

Mgr. Alena Svobodová



She is a social worker by profession. Since 2010, she has worked for Lumos organisation which focuses on transforming and unifying the care system for vulnerable children, as a project manager and a social worker. She previously worked on social counselling and led the social activation service for families with children.



Mgr. Gabriela Lockerová



She is a social worker by profession. She works in the non-profit organisation "TRIADA-Poradenské centrum", where, since 2006, she has led the Family program focused on the social and legal protection of children. She is primarily concerned with working with the family, over the past two years with a focus on families with children placed outside of parenting care.



Addressing the situation of children placed in long-term institutional care

Mgr. Cyril Zákora



He is a social worker and a therapist by profession. He is currently devoting to accompanying the fosters and education, especially in the field of alternative family care. He also leads private psychotherapeutic practice. In social services, especially in the non-profit sector, he has worked since 1999. For more than a decade, he has developed and provided various programs for children and young adults in institutional care and led also the Prague non-profit organisation "Letní dům".

Mgr. Jitka Navrátilová, Ph.D.



She is a university teacher by profession. She is currently working at Masaryk University in Brno, Department of Social Policy and Social Work. She focuses on the development of the functioning of families with children, specialising in well-being of children and young people. She is also a professional supervisor and a coach. For many years, she has also acted in the expert role in the community planning of social services for families with children.

Mgr. Terezie Hradilková



She is a special educator specialising in social services. Since 2010, she has dealt with deinstitutionalisation of the system and management of changes in social services. Previously, she devoted herself to the establishment and development of a field social care service for families of children with visual impairment. As a lecturer and a consultant, she devotes herself to support families of children with health disabilities and developing community services.

Mgr. Ing. Martina Cirbusová, Ph.D.



She is a lawyer with a focus on family law and protection of vulnerable children. Since 2016, she has worked as a regional networker for the South Moravian Region within the MoLSA project System Development and Support of the Tools of Social and Legal Protection of Children, which focuses mainly on the extension of the so-called Cochem Model and the further influence of social activation services in the region. She also acts as a mediator and a facilitator of case conferences.



Mgr. Tereza Jandová



She is a psychotherapist and a social worker by profession. Since 2006, she has worked in the field of institutional education. She is primarily devoted to working with the family of children who are placed in a children's home, and she has been also devoted to accompanying fosters since 2014. In the past, she worked also as the director of the children's home.



Participation of children and young adults

Mgr. Ingrid Hanzlíková, DiS.



She is a social educator and a special educator by profession. Since 2013, she has worked in the Lumos international organisation, where she works as a methodist for involving disadvantaged children. He leads a group of young people, who combines the interest to change the situation of children and young people living in an institution. She focuses on the topic of involving children in the matters that concern them and the discovery of their opinions. She has many years of experience with children and young adults with autistic spectrum disorders and their families. She also deals with the facilitation of interactive case conferences with the active participation of children and young adults.

Jiří Brussmann



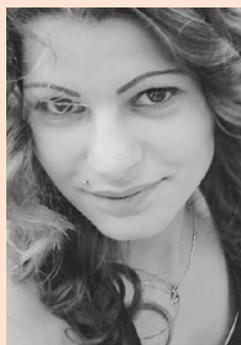
He is at the secondary school in Holice, major of Auto Electrician. For half a year, he has cooperated with a group of young Lumos. Therefore, he has joined the focus group of the MoLSA project, because he has personal experience with these topics. He likes to share his views with them and tells what could change. The themes are: Working with the biological family of a child growing up in an alternative family care.

Kateřina Drápelová



She is now studying in Třebíč. She has been a member of the group of young Lumos for one year. For several years, she has dealt with the topic of participation, especially concerning children. For, they are often not regarded as equal partners by the society in matters directly related to them. For several years, she has worked in various student self-governments. She is a member of the focus groups of the MoLSA project, where she contributes mainly to the topic children and youth with a high-risk manifestation of behaviour which she has something to say with her own experience.

Blanka Gaborová



Now she is working in the gastronomy industry. For the second year, she has cooperated with a young group of Lumos. Within the group's activities, she participated in interactive workshops for elementary schools whose aim was giving the second-year pupils an idea of the life of children and young adults in children's homes. Together with others self-advocates she joined the focus groups of the MoLSA project, where she commented on the following topics: Children in a problematic situation demonstrated by truancy, prevention and early identification of childhood threats at school, children and youth with a high-risk manifestation of behaviour, esp. children aged 12+ and children long-term placement in institutional care.

Daniel Červinka



He attends the first year of high school in Prague. With the group of young Lumos, he is co-operating in various international campaigns. Together with other self-advocates, he joined the focus groups of the MoLSA project. Topics that he had the most to say were: Minimizing the Impact of Parent's Divorce or Separation Status on Children and Preventing and Early Identification of Children's Threats at School.

Jakub Horák



He is in the second year of high school in Pardubice. As a self-advocate, he has worked with the Lumos Czech Republic for three years. He is also a member of the focus groups that have been set up in cooperation with the MoLSA. The topics he has expressed so far have been: Children and youth with high-risk manifestations of behaviour and working with the biological family of a child growing up in foster care.

Pavel Hájek



He studies at the Higher Pedagogical and Secondary Pedagogical School in Litomyšl, the major of Special Education. He has worked in the group of young Lumos since June 2017. He himself went through institutional upbringing, and he wanted to change certain things. He deals with the following themes: Children and youth with a high-risk manifestation of behaviour, prevention and early identification of childhood threats at school, children in a problematic situation demonstrated by truancy, strengthening parental competencies, children long-term placement in institutional care, and parents with experience of repeated removal of a child in their care.

Jan Hýsek



He is at the Church Grammar School of the German Order in Olomouc. He works in the parliaments of children and youth, where he actively participates in public affairs. He cooperates with Lumos organisation, which is a part of the focus group of the MoLSA project. With his comments and opinions, he is trying to contribute to better conditions for children whose normal life has disturbed the divorce management of their parents.

Martina Kubátová

See the contribution in the introductory section of moderators.

Nathalia Hubková



She is on maternity leave. A couple of years ago, she was through a harsh period – taking drugs. As a part of involvement in focus groups the MoLSA project she was given the opportunity to talk about it openly and realized that she could help someone by telling and sharing her experiences. To someone who is going to be like she was. Together with other self-advocates, she spoke about the following topics: Children threatened by high-risk drug abuse; and children and young people with high-risk manifestations of behaviour, esp. children aged 12+.

Anna Murková



She graduated from Masaryk Grammar School in Příbor and she is currently studying at Charles University, major of Social Pedagogy. Since primary school, she has been involved in parliaments of children and youth at all levels – school, city and national. Through these youth authorities she got into the Young Lumos Group. In the spring of 2018, she joined the focus groups of the MoLSA, where she commented on the topics: Children in a problematic situation demonstrated by truancy and Prevention and early identification of a child's risk at school. These topics will be represented also at the conference in Prague.

Eliška Petrusová



She visits a high school in Pardubice. She has been actively involved in Young Lumos group since April 2017. She has cooperated with the focus group of the MoLSA project since the first half of 2018. She deals with the topic: Minimising the effects of divorce or the process of parents going through a divorce on children.

Adam Zavacký



He studied the branch of General Mechanical Engineering at Kopřivnice Industrial School. He has experience with the life in a children's home. With the Young Lumos group, he worked in a focus group in the MoLSA project. Topics that he had the most to say about included: Prevention and early identification of children's threats at school and children long-term placement in institutional education.

Veronika Odvářková



She is a third-grade student of high school in Pardubice. For the fourth year, she has been cooperating with a group of young Lumos. As part of the group's activities, she has participated in several national and international conferences, where she advocated children's rights and better conditions for foster families with disabled children. Together with others self-advocates she joined the focus groups of the MoLSA project, where she commented on the following topics: Children in a problematic situation demonstrated by truancy, prevention and early identification of childhood threats at school, children and youth with a high-risk manifestations of behaviour, esp. children aged 12+, children with specific mental health needs and work with the biological family of a child growing up in substitute family care.

Veronika Peštová



She is at the elementary school Svítání in Pardubice. For the fourth year, she has been cooperating with a group of young Lumos. As part of the group's activities, she has participated in several national and international conferences, where she advocated children's rights and better conditions for foster families with disabled children. Together with others self-advocates she joined the focus groups of the MoLSA project, where she commented on the following topics: Children with specific needs in the field of mental health and work with the biological family of a child growing up in substitute family care.

Magdaléna Tichavská



She is studying at the Masaryk University in Brno, Faculty of Economics and Administration. For the second year, she has been a member of the Young Lumos group. She also worked as a member of student self-governments, from school up to the national level – always supporting the idea of youth participation. She participated in the focus groups of the MoLSA project, in which she participated in the discussions mainly on the following topics: Children in a problematic situation demonstrated by truancy and Prevention and early identification of a child's risk at school.



Speakers from partner organizations from foreign countries

Netherlands:

Mariska Klein Velderman



Mariska is a senior researcher. She works in the Netherlands Organization for applied scientific research at the Department of Child Health at TNO. She manages the knowledge program within TNO on psychosocial aspects of growing up healthy, safely, promising and happy. Main focus in Mariska's work is on family relations and child health. Main subjects in her work are children of divorce or separation, preventive family support, attachment, child abuse and neglect. Mariska is leader of the projects on the Children of Divorce Intervention Program for Dutch children of divorce.

Sweden:

Monique Denkelaar



Monique works at marketing and development department in the activity center for young people in Stockholm Fryshuset, where is responsible for international relations and advisory and coordination for Global Funding. She is well experienced in the fields of education, training and youth. Since 2014 she has also been actively involved in the internationalization of Fryshuset through networks and collaborative projects with focus on education and youth. After the major refugee influx in 2015, she initiated a European research project to enhance the education of refugee and asylum seeking youth in Europe.

Wendy van Vliet



Wendy is a social worker. She works as a project leader of the knowledge center child and divorce in the The Hague region. In the past she worked as a probation worker in addiction care and planner in childcare. In addition, she works at youth care organization Schoolformaat, where she focuses on primary education with her role as attention officer child abuse and neglect. Wendy was also one of the first CODIP-NL group leaders. She was closely involved in the development of CODIP-NL for toddlers and updating the version for 6–8-year-olds.

Slovakia:

Mgr. Dana Pukancová



Dana works as a special pedagogue and a social worker. She is currently working in Bratislava in a nonprofit Organisation „Spoločnosť priateľov detí z detských domovov Úsmev ako dar“. For the third year, she has worked as a mentor for social workers and psychologists as a part of the DEI 2 project, focusing on issues of alternative family care, educational measures etc. She is also a coach of the PRIDE programme, which is devoted to the preparation of substitute parents and adoptive parents.

Poland:

Mgr. Maria Banaszak



Maria is a therapist and a social researcher. She works as a Certified Addiction Therapy Specialist in the oldest therapeutic community in Poland - Center for Treatment, Therapy and Rehabilitation of Addiction in organization MONAR in Głogów. She focuses on treatment for psychoactive substances addiction. Currently is also a PhD student of the last year at the Faculty of Pedagogy of University of Warsaw, conducting a research project focused on life after addiction therapy and its successes, relapses and conditions.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

Ellen Marks



Ellen is a social worker and play therapist. She works as a Director of Practice and Learning at Pause - Creating Space for Change in United Kingdom. She has more than twenty years' experience of working with children and families including managing services for looked after children, frontline child protection and families involved in court proceedings. She also worked as a former Principal Social Worker for an inner London Borough.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

Rosanna Thomasoo



Rosanna is a knowledge and an evaluation consultant. She works as a Knowledge and Evaluation Lead at Pause - Creating Space for Change in United Kingdom. She is focused on working with people and data to inform practice and drive impact. She tends to improve outcomes for society's vulnerable, specifically children living in, or on the edge of care and promotes collaborative approaches to change that value. She also holds a volunteer role supporting a very talented young person living in local authority foster care.

Kelly Wilkesová



Kelly is a practice Lead in Pause West Sussex. Kelly's first degree is International Relations and Development. She worked as a social worker with looked after children and court work, then as senior practitioner in the Adoption Team with a lead for family finding, and as the county's panel advisor. This is a statutory role, which involves managing the adoption panel and being the lead for quality assuring all adoption plans before they were approved by the agency decision maker as well as being involved with broader service development. She is passionate and determined about local authority services getting it right for every child and their family.



For more details on the project of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the System Development and Support of Tools for Social and Legal Protection of Children, visit www.pravonadetstvi.cz.