

Workshop 15: 'Rights and Educational Needs of Sick Children and Adolescents'

MINUTES

MARCH 18, 2016

18:00 CET

ONLINE

MEETING CALLED BY	Addie Sierksma
TYPE OF MEETING	Meeting (online) the new members and discussing next steps
NOTE TAKER	Theodora Armenkova
TIMEKEEPER	Addie Sierksma
INVITED	Monika Almássy, Theodora Armenkova, Ivanka Gregurinčić, Jan Haverkate, Anja de Jong, and Gerd Falk, guest of this on-line meeting
ATTENDEES	Addie Sierksma, Monika Almássy, Theodora Armenkova
ABSENTS	Jan Haverkate and Anja de Jong – have warned in advance that they will not be able to attend Ivanka Gregurinčić and Gerd Falk – had some technical problems

Agenda topics

18:05 – 18:10 WHO IS WHO

DISCUSSION	Everyone introduced herself – job, situation in her own country, reason why she is interested of Workshop 15
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18:10 – 18:25 HISTORY OF WORKSHOP 15 ADDIE SIERKSMA

DISCUSSION	
Addie presented the history of making the Charter and the Standard as Gerd Falk forwarded the information previously via e-mail correspondence. She presented her idea to have the Charter in all Hope members' languages in the HOPE website and it is already done in 11 languages.	

18:25 – 18:40 THE CHARTER AND THE STANDARD ADDIE SIERKSMA

DISCUSSION	Discussing idea of Gerd and the need of changing the Charter or not
Addie presented Gerd's ideas for the Charter:	
<p><i>"1. Every sick child and adolescent has the right to tuition within hospital or at home. Also when from other country than own. At first this ensued from a discussion I had with a Swedish governmental officer. He was totally against us teaching children from other countries. Uppsala already received pupils from other countries who came for special radiation for their brain tumours. Since then a very big clinic has opened for the same purpose. After HOPE met in Bucharest, migrants have entered Europe and so many children from soon all over the world have come to our countries. From being a fight to raise with our governments for the educational rights for children/adolescents from abroad it has become a necessary statement to prove that the focus of hospital teachers still stays with the children who suffer from an ailment wherever they come from.</i></p> <p><i>2. Siblings. Can we somehow fit them into point 9? To be discussed. This same Swedish officer was also negative towards having siblings in the hospital school. Not that we ever cared. Sweden is such a long country. With one member of a family (could also be a parent?) having a severe illness that needs treatment at a university hospital a pretty long way from home, they do not always have a social network where a relative or a friend can step in to take care of the other siblings or the children."</i></p> <p>All three of us feared that although these are reasonable points it is very hard to make changes. Of course we can propose Gerd's ideas to the CM.</p> <p>Teddy suggested to think about how to make the Charter into an official document, approved by EU Commission and all countries.</p>	

18:40 – 19:55 PLANS AND AMES

DISCUSSION	What actions can be taken
Teddy talked about that besides the Charter and the Standard we should think about how to persuade the local government, especially in Eastern European countries, to ensure access to education for sick children. Monika agreed that there is a big difference between Western and Eastern countries.	

The discussion continued with some ideas who we could contact and how to accomplish it. Addie was not sure what to do first - to contact local governments or EU Parliament. Moni and Teddy are not optimistic about local help from politics in their countries. Addie told us about the Children's Ombudsman and his intention to invite Jan Haverkate to the next Ombudsmen's Meeting, but Addie was not sure whether it would happen or not, because there would be a new Ombudsman in The Netherlands. Moni suggested to contact UNICEF, EPA – a parent organization, and other international organization. Addie proposed to contact them.

During the discussion we checked who is in the European Commission of Culture and Education and we discovered that two of the vice-chair members are from Romania and Hungary.

Teddy suggested to think about if every one of the HOPE members can try to contact the Member of EU Parliament who can help us to promote the right to education for every sick child and to advise us what measures can be taken.

Addie recalled that Gerd had written to her that the Standard was never accepted by the General Assembly and we should think about getting that done, but the most important priority is to contact responsible people in Europe to ensure the right of sick children.

Teddy suggested, as there is not enough official researches on hospital education, to think about opportunity of international EU project (Erasmus or other) dedicated on research about the impact and importance of school for sick children. If there is an official research we can use it as an argument in contact with responsible institutions.

Addie suggested - as she is not a Committee Member and will not participate in the Committee-member-meeting of the HOPE-Congress, in the afternoon on Monday the 9th May - that one of us will give a short summary of our Workshop at this Committee-member-meeting.

CONCLUSIONS

To present Workshop 15 and the ideas, discussed on this meeting during Committee-member-meeting in Vienna

To contact International parents organization and those who protect children rights

To contact Members of EU Parliament and other politicians

To contact Health and Education Commissions in the EU

To start regular meeting in regard to plan steps and report things that have been done

To encourage all HOPE members to give ideas

To ask Gerd to help us and give us ideas how to act

18:55 – 19:00

CLOSING

CONCLUSIONS

Next meeting will take place at the HOPE Congress in May 2016 in Vienna, there we will plan future activities