

Presentation of Workshop 15 during the HOPE Congress in Poznan - May 2018

(at the Meeting of the Committee Members and a short summary of that at the General Assembly)

About the Charter of HOPE: 'The rights and educational needs of sick children and adolescents'

Hello, my name is Addie Sierksma – I am from The Netherlands – and I am the coordinator of the Workshop 15, about 'The rights and educational needs of sick children and adolescents'.

These rights and educational needs are described in 10 articles of the so-called 'Charter of HOPE'. At the last HOPE-Congress in Vienna the General Assembly voted in favour of an addition to article no. 1 of the Charter. This made it necessary to alter all available translations of the Charter of HOPE; at the same time it also gave us the opportunity to give all translated Charters the same lay-out (same background, same font, current-logo, etc.)
[Old and new ones are shown].

I am really happy with the result, which you can see now on the website of HOPE [website is shown on the screen].

So, a lot of thanks to all Committee Members and Contact Persons of different countries, who were willing to do the translating. And of course a very big 'thank you' to Fabrizio Mencarini, who managed to get them all like this on the website, and in time, before this Congress started!

Next to the English version we now have 25 translations and we only need seven more to make it complete for Europe! These seven are the translations of Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Iceland and Serbia.

For as far as I know, these countries don't have HOPE-members (except from Lithuania).

So, if you know someone from one of these countries, who might be willing to do the translation for us, please, tell me about this person, so I can try to get in touch with him or her.

If you think about it, it is quite surprising to realize that a large part of the whole world can use our Charter, since these parts of the world speak English, Spanish, French, Portuguese or German e.g. Speaking about "using" our Charter, just lately a new point of discussion came up: it is the question, whether our Charter needs copy-right? I believe it is on the Agenda of this meeting, so it will be discussed here later on!

Copy-right has the purpose to protect the Charter from mis-using it, sharing it with others in another, maybe even altered version. HOPE wants to spread the Charter as much as we can, but of course by using the right version, which has been developed by us all together.

So, if someone from outside of HOPE wants to use the Charter, we would like him or her to use our version of course, maybe even with our given permission.

Important is our aim to spread the Charter of HOPE throughout Europe and especially to people who are in the lead (people from our governments, or children's ombudspersons or even people from the European Union).

During this Congress we will have a meeting with the members of Workshop 15. We will discuss then, what will be the next step in reaching our aim – to spread the Charter – and how we are going to get in touch with people who are in the lead.

Another issue that will be discussed is the Standard and what we want to do with it. Are we going to offer it to the General Assembly (which will be held at the HOPE Congress in 2020), to discuss whether it should be accepted or not as a formal document, providing additional explanation? Or are we just going to keep it as an 'addendum' to the Charter, an underlying explanation of all 10 articles of the Charter, which can be found on the website.

For now: so far, so good!

I hope I have given you some idea of what we are working on with Workshop 15, about the Charter. But if anything isn't clear, please ask!

Thank you very much!

[the coordinator of the Workshop: Addie Sierksma]