

## Children in Europe: Joint efforts are the key to reduce child poverty

### Eurochild's Annual Conference presents arguments for the need for more investment in children and shows how effective partnerships can improve the lives of children

2010 is the European Year against poverty and social exclusion and child poverty is on the top of the political agenda. Eurochild and its member, the Regional Development Authority of Örebro, take the opportunity of our 7th Annual Conference "Brighter Futures: Building Effective Partnerships To End Child Poverty" from the 3rd to 5th November 2010 in Örebro to look at how all stakeholders can work together to end child poverty.

This conference has three overarching objectives:

- **highlight the importance of EU efforts** in helping member states fight child poverty and social exclusion,
- demonstrate why **investment in children and families must remain a top political priority**, even in times of scarce public finances,
- show practical examples of **working together to end child poverty** and how this leads to better outcomes for children.

Workshops and study visits will showcase good practice examples of how municipalities, NGOs, families & children and researchers are working together to end child poverty. They will focus specifically on governance and coordination and how their approach has led to better outcomes for children and families.

Amongst the speakers are:

- **Maria Larsson**, Swedish Minister for Children and the Elderly
- **Philippe Courard**, Belgian Secretary of State for Social Integration and the Fight Against Poverty
- **Lena Holm**, Secretary General, The Mayflower Charity Foundation & Ambassador of the European Year 2010

The conference gathers some 180 participants from 26 countries including policy makers, NGOs, service providers, local authorities, academics and young people themselves.

Child poverty needs to be a No 1 priority across the European Union. Poverty in childhood can have lifelong consequences. It is therefore **a huge cost to society in the long-term**. Especially during this period of economic crisis, politicians need to think long-term and boost investment in children – in particular in education including early years services, health, housing, culture & leisure, social services.

The conference focuses on building effective partnerships at the level of service delivery to families and children. An outcome of this conference will be to **share good practice** on how different sectors and different professions work together and how this impacts on policy making.

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Press Release

## Notes for the editors

- Find [here](#) our conference website.
- Find out more about Eurochild's End Child Poverty Campaign: [www.endchildpoverty.eu](http://www.endchildpoverty.eu)
- Eurochild is an international network of organisations working in and across Europe to improve the quality of life of children and young people. Eurochild's work is underpinned by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC). We aim to involve children and youth organisations from across Europe in the EU's social inclusion strategy and to facilitate the exchange of good practice. Eurochild's main focus is the fight against child poverty and social exclusion.
- Örebro Regional Development Council is responsible for regional development issues and for priorities regarding infrastructural projects. The organization brings together the work of the county's 12 municipalities and Örebro county council, with a mission to gather resources and to work towards sustainable growth, development and good quality of life in the entire region. ÖRDC aim to engage the business world, municipalities, county councils, NGOs and the general population in order to jointly build a strong and attractive region.

### More information

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