

# UNHCR NEWSLETTER

## Separated Children in Europe Programme

### June-July 2002

### Issue N°11

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\*\*\*This summary has been prepared from publicly available sources. It does not necessarily reflect UNHCR's views, nor can UNHCR vouch for its accuracy.

### **News on Separated Children**

#### **-Belgium: NEW CHANGES TO THE ASYLUM POLICY**

The federal government adopted the following changes in the asylum policy:

- Office des Etrangers : personnel members will be specially trained in intercultural communication and in dealing with vulnerable groups like women and children.
- Commissioner General for Refugees (CGRA): a code of conduct for staff members will be developed as well as for interpreters. Asylum-seekers can ask for assistance from an attorney or to a 'person of confidence', most likely someone of a refugee organisation.

The CGRA is now obliged to interview every asylum-seeker. CGRA already interviewed 90 percent of the asylum-seekers while examining a file. When an appeal is lodged at the State Council, the expulsion is suspended.

- Closed centres : under the protection of the Centre for Equal Opportunities and Combatting Racism, a commission for individual complaints will be created. The government also created 80 extra places in

the reception centre of Merksplas.  
*De Standaard, 22 July*  
*Le Soir, 20-21 July*

#### **- Croatia: PROJECT TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN CHILDREN**

Save the Children is going to implement an 18 month project in the region around Tirana designed to develop best practice in the areas of assistance and integration of trafficked children. UNHCR and Save the Children will co-operate on separated children issues and arrange the sharing of information in the future. As the number of recorded trafficked cases in Croatia remains limited, UNHCR is interested in receiving information on the experience of other countries in the region. UNHCR's capacity-building activities are already focussing on supporting the establishment of procedures for reception and treatment of separated asylum-seeking children in Croatia.

**- France: REPATRIATION OF CHILDREN**  
Romania and France agreed upon the repatriation of 200 handicapped Roma, exploited by human traffickers. Since the abolition on 1 January 2002 of the visa for Romanians travelling in the Schengen

countries, the number of victims of traffickers in human beings, especially women and children, has risen, the majority being of Roma origin.

*Le Soir, 19 June*

**- Greece: DISCUSSION ON SEPARATED CHILDREN PROBLEMS**

On 24 May UNHCR Athens held a joint meeting with the Public Prosecutor for Children and the Ministry of Health and Welfare (the section dealing with reception of separated children) to introduce the SCEP and discuss existing problems in addressing the needs of asylum-seeking separated children, particularly the legal gaps with regard to guardianship issues.

Like NGOs assisting such children, the Ministry of Health and Welfare has also encountered a number of practical problems with separated children.

According to the Greek Asylum Law, the Public Prosecutor is the responsible guardian as far as the asylum procedure is concerned. However, for the child's general welfare, interim care and social issues, the Public Prosecutor made it clear that these guardianship responsibilities do not fall under the authority of its Office, since it does not even have any social workers to undertake case assessments and assist the children. At times it has acted beyond its formal capacity, signing authorisation papers for social/ medical welfare issues of children to pragmatically resolve urgent issues. This has created the impression that they are responsible. However, the Public Prosecutor's Office does not want to continue assuming such functions which are beyond its competence and expertise.

The problem is not the existing legal framework but rather that the responsible social service units under the first instance courts, which are foreseen by law to exercise guardianship/ appoint guardians, have not yet been established through the issuance of a Presidential Decree (PD) by the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Health and Welfare. This PD is still pending (since the law was passed in 1996) and the interim arrangement foreseen by the law is not functional due to staffing problems of the specified agency.

The Public Prosecutor had internally raised the need for this PD to be issued and the problems created by the existing lacunae but had not received any response. It was

agreed that the Ministry of Health should play a more active role in the preparation of the PD, to assess the involvement of various sections of the Ministry and to lobby the Ministry of Justice for the PD.

**- The Netherlands : REPATRIATION OF SEPARATED CHILDREN**

The Immigration and Naturalisation Department (IND) repatriated two separated children from Congo back to their home country. It is the first time that separated children are expelled. Until now, this only happened on a voluntary basis or when during the procedure it is found out that the persons were determined not to be adults.

The expulsion to Congo was possible because the country is co-operating with the reception of minors of Congolese origin. In this case, it was even possible to find the parents and to involve them in the reception.

IND expects to repatriate more child asylum seekers in the future when the negotiations with China and Angola are finalised. At the moment, the number of Angolan separated children staying in the Netherlands is fixed at 4500 who are receiving education and training geared towards repatriation. The government plans to finance "homes" in Angola for the reception of these children and is also planning to assist them with further education or a job once they are back in their home country.

*NRC, 27 June / De Volkskrant, 2 July*

**- The Netherlands: RESTRICTION ON CHILD RIGHTS IN NEW ASYLUM POLICY**

The coalition Government (LPF, VVD and CDA) have agreed on the following changes, among others, to the asylum legislation:

- Communes may no longer give reception to rejected asylum-seekers or illegals;
- The child allowance for children living in countries outside of the EU is reduced to 10 percent of the present amount;
- The minimum age for family reunion rises from 18 to 21 years. The maximum age will be lowered and put in line with the neighbouring countries(although age not specified);
- Integration courses become compulsory for newcomers, who have to pay themselves for the course. This, however, does not

apply to separated children. If finalised successfully, half of the amount is reimbursed. A successful finalisation is also the prerequisite for obtaining a permanent residence permit.;

- Schools have to give priority to the Dutch language. Education in the native language will be discontinued;

The new proposal will also make it virtually impossible for undocumented persons to enter the country. There is concern that this more restrictive police will negatively affect separated children's right to access the territory and seek asylum.

*NRC, 3 July.*

#### **- Slovakia: GUARDIANSHIP SYSTEM FOR SEPARATED CHILDREN**

A joint project for guardianship of separated children has been established between the Migration Office, UNHCR and the Slovak Humanitarian Council (NGO). The project follows the principles of the CRC and is based in three main principles:

- the best interests of the child;
- non-discrimination;
- the right to participation

All separated children shall be registered upon entry to the territory and the guardian, who will be appointed from Slovak Humanitarian Council experts, must ensure that a legal representative is appointed and that the best interest of the child is taken into consideration in every decision concerning him/her. Furthermore, the guardian shall ensure that children have access to health-care and education, support them in daily life and assist them with integration, in co-operation with the relevant authorities.

#### **- UK: BID TO ALLEVIATE CRISIS OF RECEPTION AND CARE FOR SEPARATED CHILDREN IN KENT**

Separated asylum seeking children may be dispersed from Kent to other parts of the UK as part of a new government agreement with local authorities.

The scheme being negotiated with 10 different local authorities is expected to come into effect at the end of July, following discussions between Kent County Council and the Home Office.

The new plans for separated children followed a warning from Kent that its services were in crisis: the Council is struggling to cope with 1,700 children from

73 other authorities placed in private care in Kent on top of its own 1,400 children in statutory care.

Kent has now warned that it would have to increase its own use of private sector children's homes and hostels, which costs four times as much as Council-run accommodation, if other local authorities did not share the costs and responsibilities for separated asylum-seeking children.

The Council is currently caring for 2,000 kids and another 150 arrive every month. Already 400 of the older children, mainly 17- to 18-year-old boys, were being cared for in private hostel accommodation.

Mr Gilroy, Kent's Director of Social Services, said their arrival was putting further pressure on children's services which were already being stretched to the limit because of the continuing historic trend of other local authorities sending their children for reception and care in Kent. Kent is a traditional location for private children's homes because of the cheap housing available. It has also been a pioneer county in foster-care.

Mike Leadbetter, the president of the Association of the Directors of Social Services, welcomed the Home Office initiative for UK separated kids: "It seems an eminently sensible idea to get some agreement about protocols and assessments for these children."

Home Office Minister for Immigration and Asylum, Beverley Hughes, accepted that Kent and other councils in the Southeast had a disproportionate responsibility for giving support to separated children.

*Guardian Unlimited*

*10 July 2002*

#### **- Sweden: REPORT ON SEPARATED CHILDREN**

On request by the Government the Swedish Migration Board and the National Swedish Board of Health and Welfare have produced a report on how to improve the situation for separated foreign children arriving in Sweden. A number of recommendations are made to the Government in the areas of: statistics and follow-up; guardianship; responsibilities and co-ordination of reception; costs of reception; information; the right for separated children to seek asylum in their own right. A key recommendation is to transfer the responsibility of reception and care for

separated children from the Migration Board to the local authorities (*Kommune*). The Migration Board should make agreements with selected municipalities on the reception arrangements and pay the local authorities for the costs of reception during a transition period; while their main task in the future will be refugee status determination of the kids. At the local level the local social authorities will be an important actor in setting up and running the various reception facilities and arrangements. Detailed recommendations are furthermore, given on how to improve guardianship by improving the recruitment, educate/train guardians, provide advice on what should be included in their terms of reference, increase and decide the compensation rate (payment) to guardians. Statistics should be improved to include all kids and more variables. Information material about reception of separated children should be developed and disseminated. The questions of whether or not a separated children should be able to apply for asylum in his/her own right was touched upon, but recommended as subject for further and separate study.

- Australia: **CHILDREN ASYLUM CLAIMS REFUSED BY BRITISH CONSULATE**

Two young brothers who escaped from a detention centre in central Australia after spending 18 months behind bars walked into the British Consulate in Melbourne on 18 July and applied for asylum. Hours later, however, British Foreign Minister Jack Straw refused to accept their application and British officials handed the boys, aged 12 and 14, over to Australian authorities. Eric Vadarlis, an attorney representing the boys, criticised the British government's decision not to consider their asylum application. He charged that by doing so Britain had endorsed Australia's policy of "locking up children who have done nothing wrong." The Bakhtiari family's case is unusual because Ali was granted permission to live in Australia in August 2000 while his wife, Roqia, and their five children were denied asylum when they arrived on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2001. Earlier this year, Immigration Minister Philip Ruddock denied a request to release Roqia and the children on humanitarian grounds. He insists that

Australian Law does not provide for asylum seekers' families to be reunited.

*Los Angeles Times, 21 July*

- Honduras: **PROGRAM ON RETURN OF SEXUALLY EXPLOITED GIRLS**

Honduras has announced the launch of a program to repatriate 300 Honduran girls who are reportedly sexually exploited in Guatemala, Mexico, Canada and the United States.

With support from the United Nations, Casa Alianza, Save the Children and Interpol, the government aims to repatriate these children as soon as possible. Responding to claims made by Casa Alianza in May of an extensive international network involved in the trafficking of people and the sexual exploitation of children, government officials said they would assess the situation within the country and assist the victims.

General prosecutor in Tegucigalpa, Roy Medina, said staff would also be sent abroad to investigate these cases and recover the children.

*Associated Press, June 24*

- Sierra Leone: **CHILD SOLDIERS REINTEGRATING**

Kicking a soccer ball in a bustling street, 12-year-old Moses is indistinguishable from the other ragged children. Just over a year ago, he was part of the rebel movement. Now he is back with his family, trying to reclaim a childhood torn apart by bloodshed and fear. Some 7,000 children left the battlefields when combatants started turning in their guns last year. Asked about the months he spent with the rebels, his face clouds. "What I saw in the bush is too terrible to explain," he whispers. Abducted and forced to fight by all sides, they demonstrated little fear in combat and committed some of the worst atrocities of a grisly war. "We were given drugs and told to attack, burn houses, rape women and take what you like," says Boyzie, 15. He pulls up a grimy sleeve to reveal scars from where rebels cut his arm to insert cocaine and other drugs. Under their influence, "a person just looks like any chicken," he says.

UNICEF says many child soldiers find it difficult to stay with their families. Some are rejected by their communities because of the atrocities they were forced to commit. UNICEF and other agencies strive to keep

in touch with former child soldiers. Social workers meet regularly with the children, families, teachers and community members to provide counselling and mediation. But with tens of thousands of Sierra Leoneans on the move, returning to areas from which they were displaced by the war, UNICEF concedes it is difficult to keep track of the children. It can also be hard to break the youngsters' links with former commanders. Rebels formed a political party to contest recent elections, and Boyzie says he was approached by some of his former friends to help campaign. This time, at least, he said no. "I suffered a lot with the gun," he explains. "I am at work now ... I am capable of doing better."

*Associated Press, 26 June*

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## **European Asylum and Immigration Harmonisation**

### **COMMISSION RE-DRAFT ON MINIMUM STANDARDS ON ASYLUM PROCEDURES**

Following the request of Member States in the Laeken Declaration, the Commission issued on 18 June an amended proposal on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status.

Despite the introduction of a clause by which Member States may introduce or adopt more favourable provisions, the new proposal is in general more restrictive than the former draft. With regard to separated children, a new definition was created, the one of "representative", replacing the expression of "legal representative or guardian", as "a person or organisation representing an unaccompanied minor as legal guardian, a national organisation which is responsible for his/her care and well-being, or any other appropriate representation appointed to ensure his/her best interests".

The new version also permits that Member States determine the cases in which a child cannot make an application in his own behalf and the cases where it is up to the appointed representative to lodge the child's application.

The article on separated children (art. 15) has been slightly modified and is now more vague. The main change is related to age assessment and the part stating that age assessment methods should be safe and respect human dignity has been deleted.

The new proposal also stipulates that Member States may provide that children below a certain age need not be interviewed. Furthermore, the provision on communication with asylum-seekers was rephrased now stating that it may take place in a language that the asylum-seeker "may reasonably be supposed to understand", instead of "in a language which they understand".

### **COUNCIL ADOPTS FRAMEWORK DECISION FOR COMBATTING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS**

On 19 July, the Council formally adopted the framework decision on the trade in human beings.

This Framework Decision gives a common definition of the trade in human beings and a common minimum level of sanctions.

For offences in any of the following circumstances punishment in terms of imprisonment should be with a maximum penalty that is not less than 8 years:

- the offence has deliberately or by gross negligence endangered the life of the victim;
  - the offence has been committed against a victim who was particularly vulnerable. A victim shall be considered vulnerable at least when the victim was under the age of majority under national law and the offence has been committed for the purpose of the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, including pornography;
  - the offence has been committed by use of severe violence or has caused particularly serious harm to the victim;
  - the offence has been committed within the framework of a criminal organisation.
- In the other cases, the Member States must ensure that the infringements linked to the trafficking of human beings are liable to effective penal sanctions, that are proportionate to the crime and dissuasive, likely to entail extradition. Legal persons involved must also be penalised.

The Decision defines trafficking of human as being the recruitment,

transportation, transfer, harbouring, subsequent reception of a person, including exchange or transfer of control over that person where: a) use is made of coercion, force or threat, including abduction or b) use is made of deceit or fraud, or c) when there is an abuse of authority or of a position of vulnerability, which is such that the person has no real and acceptable alternative but to submit to the abuse involved, or d) payments or benefits are given or received to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation of that person's labour or services, including at least forced or compulsory labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery or servitude, or for the purpose of the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, including pornography.

The text specifies that the consent of a victim of trafficking in human beings to the exploitation, intended or actual, shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in this paragraph have been used. Furthermore, when the above conduct **concerns a child**, it shall be a punishable trafficking offence even if none of the means set forth above have been used.

*Agence Europe, 24 July*

#### **COMMISSION GREEN PAPER ON A COMMUNITY RETURN POLICY ON ILLEGAL RESIDENTS**

UNHCR's Comments issued on the above mentioned document are available by request to [belbru@unhcr.ch](mailto:belbru@unhcr.ch), by specifying the title of the document.

Save the Children attended the European Commission Hearing on a Community Returns Policy, which was held on July 16 and the statement can be ordered from [savechildbru@skynet.be](mailto:savechildbru@skynet.be)

#### **COMMISSION'S COMMUNICATION ON A COMMON POLICY ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION**

UNHCR's observations issued on the above mentioned document are available by request to [belbru@unhcr.ch](mailto:belbru@unhcr.ch), by specifying the title of the document.

#### **- International Congress on Child Migration**

The Child Migrant Trust is organising the First International Congress on Child Migration on 27- 31 October, in New Orleans, United States. This is a long awaited development to discuss and debate the many implications of child migration and its contemporary resonance in local and global communities and it is meant to be a multi-disciplinary event.

For more information, please contact:

Child Migrants Trust,  
International Association of Former Child Migrants and their Families,  
28a Musters Road,  
West Bridgford,  
Nottinghamshire,  
UK. NG2 7PL

Tel: 00 44 115 982 2811

Email: [sue@sjaques.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:sue@sjaques.fsworld.co.uk)

Website: [www.nottsc.gov.uk/child\\_migrants/congress/Index.htm](http://www.nottsc.gov.uk/child_migrants/congress/Index.htm)

- Greece: A training on separated asylum seeking children for staff of all reception/children's centres accommodating them is tentatively planned for September. A training for a larger group of NGOs is planned to follow thereafter.

- Romania: On 23 May Save the Children Romania held a first session of a training programme intended for future legal guardians. Participants were potential guardians selected from among psychology, sociology and law students, all volunteers. The agenda focused on the appointment and responsibilities of legal guardians; national legislation on protection of separated children; and basics of adolescent psychology.

- Slovakia: On 17 -18 July UNHCR organised a Training of Trainers on separated children issues with the participation of the Migration Office, the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, the Ministry of Education, the Aliens Police, UNICEF, IOM and NGO representatives.

#### **- IOM/UNIFEM CAMPAIGN ON TRAFFICKING**

## **Meetings/Events**

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with UNIFEM (the United Nations Development Fund for Women), launched in June an information campaign to combat trafficking in women and girls in Nigeria. The campaign will feature radio and TV jingles and disseminate information on trafficking through strategically placed posters, billboards and leaflets.

IOM has established a hotline for parents and girls, arranged protocols with the police so that trafficking victims in police custody will be treated in accordance with a set of guidelines, and is providing basic necessities and transportation for the young women back to their home state. In the state of Edo, IOM and the State Government set up a large shelter to provide continuing counselling and vocational training. UNIFEM has been providing technical support to IOM on gender analysis and women's human rights issues.

It is estimated that 45,000 young women and girls are trafficked annually out of Nigeria. Italy estimates that 80% of the 18,000 foreign prostitutes in Italy are Nigerian.

For more information, please contact Florence Butegwa, UNIFEM Regional Programme Director for English-speaking West Africa, at [florence.butegwa@undp.org](mailto:florence.butegwa@undp.org)

#### **- Conference on the Prevention of and Fighting Against Trafficking in Human Beings**

Within the framework of the STOP programme, IOM (the International Organisation for Migration) in co-operation with the European Commission, the European Parliament and the candidate countries will hold a conference on 18-20 September in the European Parliament in Brussels.

The conference will address prevention and combating trafficking in human beings with a focus on enhancing co-operation with the candidate countries.

For more information, please contact Katia Wu, IOM Brussels, at [kwu@iom.int](mailto:kwu@iom.int)

#### **- “Meeting the rights and protection needs of refugee children”**

UNHCR's Evaluation and Policy Analysis Unit issued on 6 May an independent evaluation of the impact of UNHCR's activities in meeting the rights and protection needs of refugee children.

The report can be found at: [www.unhcr.ch](http://www.unhcr.ch)

- Spain: SCEP, UNHCR, Save the Children and CEAR are shortly to launch a leaflet on Separated Children in Need of Protection in Spain” in order to raise awareness to particular problems and difficulties of these children.

#### **- UNICEF / OSCE/ HCHR REPORT ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE**

On 23 July, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (HCHR) and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) issued a joint report on human trafficking in south-eastern Europe, which estimates that 90 percent of foreign migrant sex workers in the Balkans are victims of trafficking.

After years of denial, governments are now giving priority to anti-trafficking initiatives, but, the report argues, some obstacles remain, including lack of access to reliable data, no clear human rights standards for the treatment of trafficked women and children, and inadequate prevention measures in terms of focus on the root causes of trafficking.

As the report puts it, “The attempts to come to grips with the problem of human trafficking have so far been toothless and without much success.”

#### **- “See me now”**

Save the Children Norway and other local NGO's published a book on vulnerable children's experiences, including asylum seeking separated children.

The publication is produced for politicians and administrative bodies who have the possibility to affect the daily life of these children through decisions at all levels of administration.

For more information, please contact: [rettighetssenteret@reddbarna.no](mailto:rettighetssenteret@reddbarna.no)

- Australia: Submissions available on children in detention centres

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## **Publications and Websites**

Further submissions for the National Inquiry into Children in Detention are now available from the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. These submissions were made by individual lawyers and by bodies representing lawyers and the judiciary as well as organisations and individuals whose submissions dealt mainly with legal issues raised by the Inquiry.

Among other things, the submissions address:

- whether or not the detention of children breaches the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international treaties, as well as domestic laws on guardianship and juvenile detention;
- comparison of Australia's system of detention of child asylum seekers to policies in other countries e.g. Sweden, United Kingdom, Canada and the United States (some detail specific alternatives adopted by other countries);
- temporary protection visa scheme;
- separated children;
- alternatives to detention;
- access to legal advice;
- deprivation of liberty ;
- guardianship ;
- relationship between detention centre operators and State child welfare agencies.

Most of the submissions criticise the Australian policy of immediate detention for all asylum-seekers, including separated children. Standards of accommodation and care are as well among the most higher preoccupations.

Copies of the submissions are available at:  
[http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human\\_rights/children\\_detention/submissions/index.html#legal](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human_rights/children_detention/submissions/index.html#legal)

Terms of reference for the Inquiry are available at:

[http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human\\_rights/children\\_detention/terms.html](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human_rights/children_detention/terms.html)

Background Papers outlining international standards, particularly the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Guidelines of the UNHCR on refugee and asylum seeking children are available at:

[http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human\\_rights/children\\_detention/background.html](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human_rights/children_detention/background.html)

For other information about the Inquiry, see:

[http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human\\_rights/children\\_detention/index.html](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human_rights/children_detention/index.html)

*Unity, June 2002*

#### **- Australia: 'Damaging Kids' in detention centres**

The Catholic Commission for Justice Development and Peace and the Western Young People's Independent Network launched on May 21 a report detailing the experiences of young people held in Immigration Detention Centres in Australia. The report concludes that widespread psychological and emotional abuse of children and young people is occurring as a result of being incarcerated in Immigration Detention Centres administered by the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

For more information, contact:

[Dorian@melbourne.catholic.org.au](mailto:Dorian@melbourne.catholic.org.au)

*Unity, June 2002*

#### **- Child Asylum Seekers: Living in Limbo**

*Child Asylum Seekers: Living in Limbo* by Katherine Goode, was launched in Adelaide on July 23. Commissioned and published by Action for Children SA; Australian Refugee Association; Children and the Law Committee of The Law Society of South Australia, the booklet not only demonstrates the destructive and traumatising effects of detention but also shows that it does not have to be this way. There are alternatives; alternatives that respect the dignity and unique potential of every child.

For more information, please call:

Kevin Liston, Australian Refugee Association, Tel: (08) 8354 2951

*Unity, 26 July*

#### **- Migration News Sheet**

**Some of the information collected in these UNHCR newsletters are from the Migration News Sheet (MNS), a monthly publication produced by the Migration Policy Group which gathers relevant information on immigration and asylum issues.**

**For more information, please contact Antonio Cruz at: [acruz@migpolgroup.com](mailto:acruz@migpolgroup.com)**

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**Statistics**

- The Netherlands: During the four first months of this year, the number of separated children arriving in the Netherlands went down with 36%. In June, there was a decrease of 41% : 242, compared to 379 last year June.

- 2-5 October: A SCEP joint seminar is planned in conjunction with a Save the Children Denmark conference called "Child Rights in Europe" on 3 October in Copenhagen.

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## Programme Update

- SCEP's Evaluation Report was finalised in the end of June.

- The Russian version of the Statement of Good Practice was finalized in June and is now available on the website

- On 4 June the Senior Regional Policy Advisor and the Programme Assistant visited the CADE - a reception centre for separated children in Brussels and met with the co-ordinator of the project.

- On 11-13 June a Training of Trainers was organised in Munich, with the participation of Government, NGO and UNHCR staff members.

- On 17 June, the Senior Regional Policy Advisor went to Oslo for meetings.

- On 18-21 June, the Senior Regional Policy Advisor went on mission to Moscow to give a presentation and participate in a workshop on RSD procedures for child applicants.

- On 23- 29 July, the Senior Regional Policy Advisor went on mission to Germany Austria and Hungary to focus on the reception of separated children, in particular in view of the establishment of the first specialised centre in CEBS (central European and Baltic States), which is being planned in Hungary.

This Newsletter has been produced by Kate Halvorsen and Mafalda Leal for the Separated Children in Europe Programme. For more information please contact:

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## Calendar