



## FICE International

### Mission, vision and strategic targets

*Established by the Conseil Federal in Bucharest on the 6 of October 2011*

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#### Introduction

During the Conseil Federal of FICE International in April 2011 in Prague, it was agreed that a working group consisting of Spain, Austria, USA, Romania and the Netherlands would prepare a discussion paper about the (future) vision and mission of FICE International. The members of the CF indicated that it is important to find ways to regularly reassess the current vision. The main purpose of (the reassessment of) the vision would be to formulate a concrete mission for the coming years.

On the 6 of October 2011 the working group ended her work by presenting a discussion paper.

The CF established the following mission, vision and strategic targets for the coming years and thanks the working group for her energy.

This document forms the basis for a strategic year plan of FICE International and for her internal and external communications.

#### Background

The basis for the current vision is formed by the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The members of FICE International wants that their mission and vision give them guidance and a framework to formulate and realise ambitions.

An important starting point for FICE is that children, all over the world, have a right to grow up in a safe, stable and caring environment. They need reliable adults to love and guide them. FICE believes that for every child a family of your own is needed to grow up. If the family is not able or present, caretakers support family- or community systems, so they can raise and take care of the child. If there is no family- of community system available, the youth care provides a safe and caring environment.

FICE believes that we need all the experience and knowledge in the world available to develop an excellent and professional performance. Not only knowledge from professionals, but also from children, parents and communities. Because children have a right to the best care we can provide!

FICE believes that an international network is an indispensable source of inspiration, knowledge and political power in the world today. The current globalization implies an increasingly cosmopolitan attitude of every citizen. This includes professionals and young people in youth care.

**Mission:** FICE improves – worldwide - the lives of children in care or in need of care

**Vision:** FICE forms a worldwide community to stimulate excellent care for children and their communities through worldwide exchange of professional and academic knowledge with the participation of the children involved.

FICE forms an active community of members, national sections or individual organisations. FICE contributes to the quality of care for juveniles in FICE countries, according to the International Convention. FICE does this by offering directors, professionals and young people in (need of) care the opportunity to look beyond borders:

- by stimulating international exchange within the community
- by facilitating (digital) exchange of innovative knowledge between organisations.

To bundle knowledge and make knowledge visible for everyone; so initiatives and campaigns can be expanded and reinforced easier and more effectively.

Issues and interests are trans boundary and the development of expertise of professionals has to be put in an international perspective. Indeed: Globalization and internationalisation has become an essential part of the education task in youth care. This makes cross-border dimensions and encounters not only a need but also a necessity in childcare, both for professionals and young people.

## Strategic targets for the coming years

### 1. Facilitator of an international (youth) network

FICE International facilitates for and with her member states meetings, workshops, congresses and a digital network. The aim is to bundle knowledge and expertise of child- and youth care professionals, to provide a means for members to exchange knowledge about (innovative) projects, debate and offer a framework for international and global campaigns. The focus is emphatically that the FICE network is used to let the voice of young people in care sound.

*International activities 2011-2012:*

- Building an digital network, connected to FICE website  
Project group: Netherlands, Spain, Austria, Bulgaria, USA, South Africa, Switzerland.
- Organizing structural or additional project funds for the international FICE organisation and her activities.  
Project group: Spain, Switzerland, USA, Netherland

### 2. Public and political debate

FICE international wants to influence the public and political opinion regarding (cross-border) issues concerning the care of young people . FICE international and the regional sections keep active contacts with interest groups and government agencies for that reason.

FICE develops professional and modern communication strategies.

*International activities 2011-2012:*

- .. later on to determine ..

### **3. Worldwide**

FICE International aims to realize a worldwide network.

*International activities 2011-2012:*

- Special effort will be made to connect South America (FICE Spain) and more states in Africa and Asia.

### **4. Broad delegations**

FICE International is a community that connects countries and their youth care organisations, knowledge institutes and interest groups. FICE will encourage its member states to organise their national network as wide as possible, including youth delegations.

*International activities 2011-2012:*

- .. later on to determine ..

### **5. Collective Focus**

Once every three years there will be an international congress. During this congress a central issue will be raised and each member state will contribute to this congress. One of the member states organises the congress. During a specified period the chosen issue will form a framework for debate and knowledge exchange for the FICE member states.

*International activities 2011-2012:*

- Central theme 2011-2013 is inclusion, separation and exclusion in the juvenile system for youth (congress Bern 2013)
- Other theme's are:
  - Building a consultative position for NGO's treating traumatised children in Libya and offering consultation on the job
  - (to be completed)