CHILD REFUGEES WELCOME?

Working together to meet the challenges of the Immigration Acts 2014 & 2016

Thursday, 24 November 2016, 09.30-16.30
University of Kent, Canterbury campus

A free one-day conference, jointly sponsored by the Migrant and Refugee Children’s Legal Unit (MiCLU) at Islington Law Centre and Kent Law Clinic, University of Kent.
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The number of displaced children around the world has reached historic levels and according to the latest figures from UNICEF, nearly 50 million children have been “uprooted” worldwide – with 28 million forcibly displaced by conflict and violence within and across borders. Children are fleeing to the EU for protection with little, if any, choice. Last year, Eurostat recorded 88,265 claims for asylum having been lodged by unaccompanied children across the EU, of which only 3.4% (3,045) were in the UK. The UK government has promised to protect more children and yet many continue to arrive on our shores through life-threatening means.

The conference aims to bring together professionals from a range of sectors including social care, legal, health and education to discuss the challenges they face in meeting the complex care, support and legal needs of unaccompanied and separated children seeking international protection in the UK. We hope to share knowledge and expertise and consider what, together, can be achieved to meet some of the future challenges posed by the Immigration Acts 2014 and 2016.

Confirmed speakers include:
- The Lord Dubs, sponsor of the ‘Dubs Amendment’ on child refugees
- Baljeet Sandhu, MiCLU, Islington Law Centre: Understanding child-specific persecution and harm
- Zoe Given-Wilson, Centre for the Study of Emotion in Law: Trauma and mental health of separated children and young people
- Ana Draper, UASC project in Kent Reception Centres: The physical and mental health needs of unaccompanied and separated young people arriving in Kent
- Catriona MacSween, Scottish Guardianship Service: Guardianship of separated and trafficked young people
- Shu Shin Luh, barrister, Garden Court Chambers: Care and support of separated young people after the Immigration Act 2016
- Polly Brendon, solicitor, Public Law Project: Access to Justice and legal aid
- Kathryn Cronin, barrister, Garden Court Chambers: Understanding complex legal definitions and barriers to protection and support
- Daniel Rourke, Migrant Law Project, Islington Law Centre: Dublin III and family reunion for child refugees
- George Gabriel, Citizens UK: Reflections and audience discussion

For more information and to register please visit www.kent.ac.uk/law/clinic/child-refugees-welcome-workshop.html

Any questions, please contact Jennifer Ang at jennifera@islingtonlaw.org.uk;
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