

Protection of Unaccompanied Minors and Separated Children in Ireland and Europe

27 November 2014 | Bedford Hall, Dublin Castle

Conference Agenda

09:00	Arrival and Registration
09:30	Welcome & Opening address: Frances Ruane, Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)
09:40	Standards & Guidance in Working with Unaccompanied Minors & Separated Children in Europe Chair: Peter Power, UNICEF <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unaccompanied Minors in the EU – European Policy Responses and Research Valeria Setti, Directorate-General Home Affairs, European Commission• Introducing Safe and Sound: What States can do to respect the Best Interests of unaccompanied and separated children in Europe Andrea Vonkeman, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Bureau for Europe• EASO's Activities on Children: working towards a common approach at European level Killian O'Brien, European Asylum Support Office
10:40	Questions and Answers Discussion
11:00	Coffee break
11:30	Challenges, Gaps and Practice in Working with Unaccompanied Minors & Separated Children in Ireland Chair: Senator Jillian van Turnhout <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unaccompanied Minors in Ireland, 2014: Data, Policies and Practices Emma Quinn, EMN Ireland / Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)• Separated Children: An ORAC Overview Paraic O'Carroll, Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner (ORAC)• Conceptualising Child Refugees: A review of child-specific forms of persecution considering developments in the international children's rights law and refugee law frameworks Samantha Arnold, Trinity College Dublin and Irish Refugee Council• The Irish Model of Care & Protection for Unaccompanied Minors Seeking Asylum Thomas Dunning, TUSLA - Child and Family Agency• Monitoring, oversight and the best interests principle Manus de Barra, Ombudsman for Children's Office
12:45	Questions and Answers Discussion
13:05	Closing Remarks: Sophie Magennis, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Ireland
13:15	Lunch