



*International Janusz Korczak
Association*

*Międzynarodowe Stowarzyszenie
im. Janusza Korczaka*



*Korczak and the Rights of Children
100 Years of Inspiration
1912 – 2012*

Report of the Meeting of IKA Leading Members – Manchester 10 – 13. 11. 2011

Present:

Batia Gilad - Chairperson, Malgorzata Kmita - General Secretary, Joop Berding - Vice General Secretary, Jonathan Levy - French Association Consultant, Kelvin Ravenscroft - UK Association Consultant.

1. Our Chosen **Theme Header** for the Korczak year is:

***Korczak and the Rights of Children - 100 Years of Inspiration
1912 – 2012***

2. **Geneva Seminar Annual Seminar and the interface with the Korczak Year**

The Seminar in 2012 will spread over 2 days and the first day will be devoted to activities with Young people from different countries, Members of the UN Committee on Children's Rights and Korczak Associations. This has already been agreed with the Polish Mission to the UN in Geneva.

During the second day we will deal with the third paragraph of the Convention on Children Rights which addresses the "best interest of the Child"

The Plan is:

On the first day:

- mutual session with the children and the members of the Committee on Children Rights who will deal with one of the points that the Committee is currently addressing
- A workshop dealing with the interests of children as expressed by themselves
- The play "Ten matchboxes", children from Geneva will join us for this session
- The guest children will visit the palace of the UN

On the second day:

- A seminar held by the members of the UN Committee on Children Rights and Korczakians dealing with the significance of the Third Article of the Convention
- Sharing the outcomes of the Young People's Workshop

Invitations for the event will be sent by the Polish Embassies from all over the world and by the national Korczak Associations.

Further information about dates, costs etc. will be sent to you as soon as possible.

We expect all the Korczak Associations to take part with the young people in support of this event. We hope to have at least one adult and one young representative from each country.

We are asking for the submission of papers on the connection between Korczak and the **Third Article** of the Convention.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child - Article 3

1. In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.



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2. States Parties undertake to ensure the child such protection and care as is necessary for his or her well-being, taking into account the rights and duties of his or her parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for him or her, and, to this end, shall take all appropriate legislative and administrative measures.

3. States Parties shall ensure that the institutions, services and facilities responsible for the care or protection of children shall conform with the standards established by competent authorities, particularly in the areas of safety, health, in the number and suitability of their staff, as well as competent supervision.

3. Korczak vacations

We have discussed the proposal of Dr Cezary Lusinski to hold “Korczak vacations” in Broniszow Castle, Poland. This was met with great enthusiasm and we wrote a project proposal to identify the resource for this initiative. The idea is to have six day seminar addressing teachers and those involved with children’s lives and are responsible for educating them as citizens of the world.

We defined three aims for this “Educational Moments” seminar that will become an annual event.

Education as the challenge for the future:

- a. Challenges of education today
- b. Challenges in Learning
- c. Educational challenges

This seminar will be joined with the summer camp in Korczakowo.

4. Belgium

Belgian Korczak Association will celebrate its 10th year anniversary and they wish to hold a conference in Ghent together with the University of Ghent in 2013.

We are very excited with this proposition and we would like them to chose the main theme of the conference as soon as possible. We are offering them help with the lectures and workshops and ask them to check the possibility of visiting schools and different educational projects.

5. The Burundi project

The initiative for this project was raised by Joel Hakizimana in Caux 2010 together with Ula Markowska, Jonathan and Batia. The idea is to bring together youth leaders, teachers, policy makers from all over Africa, African Diaspora from Europe and Korczakians for one week of seminar in Bujumbura, capital city of Burundi. The main theme will be Janusz Korczak’s legacy and children’s rights. We are applying to UNESCO as a partner for this Project. The outcomes of this seminar will be to train young leaders and develop a framework for future cooperation in the field of Children’s Rights, Academic excellence and empowerment. We were discussing our contribution to this project by delivering lectures and giving workshops on Korczak and Children’s Rights. We will keep you informed about future progress.

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6. Seminar in Caux 2013

Due to the success of the day on children's rights during the conference on "Living together in a multicultural world in 2010 in Caux Switzerland (Residential conference centre of the NGO Initiatives of Change), I am making a proposition to hold a 6 day conference in the summer of 2013 on the theme "Children as global citizens" The idea would be to bring together different pedagogical movements, NGO, intergovernmental organisations and child professionals to have workshops, panels, discussion groups and cultural events. Also to have groups of children working in parallel to the adults in order to prepare their messages and vision for creating a more just society. Batia has agreed to be part of the organising committee and any contributions will be very welcome.

7. Planes for Korczak year in different Associations

*** France**

- Friends of Yad Layed – Janusz Korczak prize for Children's literature. Jonathan Levi will follow up in France and send us an email, this prize applies to France only, there will be further information. We will try to expand this to other French speaking countries. The possibility this may be included in the International Caux conference in 2013 .
- the French association is proposing a contribution to the year of Korczak based on the story of King Matt, working with children working on theatre and journalism on the theme of children's rights.

*** Israel**

The new Israeli Korczak Association named "The Korczak Educational Institute of Israel" has already planned a yearly calendar for the Korczak year 2012 with cooperation of the Polish Embassy in Tel Aviv and the Polish Institute, the Ministry of Education and other relevant establishments. During the year they will have seminars all over the country, Remembrance Day on the 27th of January and the 5th of August and different activities are planned with children and youth leaders. If you wish to obtain a full plan please contact Batia Gilad.

*** Poland**

- New editorial and promotional editions of the last volumes of Korczak's publications.
 - A publication by Olga Medyedieva "So that their Lives could be Easier" and from Janusz Korczak Orphanage – Leon Guzman; Biographical Essay Poland/Korczak Inspirations.
 - Project by Z. Rudnicki – Polish Competition for Pupils, "Little and Big – a Matter of Friendship"- dedicated to Janusz Korczak. The results of the competition will be announced during the 11th International Trade Gatherings for Children and Young People in Poznan. During the Poznan events there will be readings of Korczak's books
- In the majority of these projects we expect the involvement of children and young people and underline the importance of theatrical, artistic and active participation.

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8. **Letter of invitation** from Zbigniew Rudnicki Ph.D Faculty of Education Studies, Poznan, Poland, he is inviting us to send papers to him on the theme of the Diary and other themes also. The chosen themes must be sent to him by the 20th November 2011 and the complete papers by March 2012. Please see his letter in attachments. It is very important that Korczakians are visible in this publication. We think that you still can send your proposals.

9. The development of IKA Web Site

We discussed the aim of the web site and our conclusion was that we would like to put together all the activities of all associations throughout the world.

We discussed the structure of the web site and concluded that we would like to have all Korczak Associations web sites in the "House Style" and we found that the Polish web site is the most suitable for us.

The name of the Web site will be "Korczak International"

We have requested that the Polish Korczak Association to let us use their format, we are exploring the cost of this initiative.

Costs connected with setting up a full page website of IKA

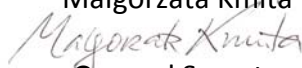
Completion of the website pages;	Polish Złoty 700	159	Euro
Costs connected with running and upkeep of the server/ annual subscription;	Polish Złoty 151.29	34.38	Euro
Costs of the Domain/Address of the website page annual payment;	Polish Złoty 92.95	20.00	Euro
Update of website pages per month;	Polish Złoty 50.00	11.00	Euro

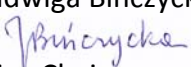
The next meeting of the Leading Group will take place in Paris 20 – 22 of January 2012.

Please comment on this report and send you views, observations, suggestions and plans for 2012 to Batia Gilad.

Batia Gilad

Chairperson

Małgorzata Kmita

General Secretary

Jadwiga Binczycka

Vice Chairperson

Joop Berding

Vice General Secretary,