

# IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF CHILDHOOD IN EUROPE

draft  
**INVITATION**

**Working Group on the Quality of Childhood at the European Parliament (QoC)**

**MEP Anna Hedh  
MEP Kostas Chrysogonos  
MEP Deirdre Clune  
MEP Arne Gericke  
MEP Nathalie Griesbeck  
MEP Karin Kadenbach  
MEP József Nagy  
MEP Evelyn Regner  
MEP Julie Ward**

This QoC Talk will be hosted by:

**MEP Julie Ward  
(Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European  
Parliament, UK)**

62nd QoC Talk:

## **Children with imprisoned parents: How to support children to cope with their parent's imprisonment and enhance their potential to lead safe, included, happy, achieving lives?**

The presentation will be given by **Kate Philbrick** and **Hannah Lynn** of **Children of Prisoners Europe (COPE)**, with which this session has been organised.

**Time:** Tuesday 10 January 2017 from 10.30 until 12.30 hours.

**Location:** European Parliament, Rue Wiertz 60, Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, Room number A7F387.

**Entrance:** We will gather at the Entrance at Place Luxembourg at 10.00 hours. Please be in time. It is obligatory to take your passport and/or ID Card with you.

The text below was drafted by the team of COPE.

*“All responsible parents want their children to have the best possible childhood and the best preparation for their adult life. A good quality childhood means safety, health, play, learning and the feeling of belonging. This is only possible in a social context that embraces diversity and ready to use it as a leverage to provide for a quality childhood.”*

So started the introduction to the last Alliance for Childhood seminar, on 8 November 2016. Prisoners may in their own terms be responsible parents, as may their partners in the community. Imprisonment adds to the difficulties and complexities of their family lives, and always changes the child-parent relationship. Across the European Union, some 800,000 children are estimated to be separated from a parent in prison on any given day. These children frequently experience multiple emotional and social difficulties associated with their parent’s incarceration. They not only have to cope with the parent’s absence and the disruption of the child-parent bond, but are also vulnerable to social exclusion, financial hardship, discrimination and shame. Children can see this separation as abandonment. School performance can slip.

### Protective factors

Recent [EU-funded research](#) indicates that 25 per cent of prisoners’ children are at **greater risk of mental health difficulties**, and studies<sup>1</sup> demonstrate how, among other factors, **regular, direct contact with an imprisoned parent helps promote resilience** in children. A 2007 transnational study in the UK and Sweden highlighted how **prison policies** and **more sympathetic public attitudes** towards crime and punishment may serve as “protective factors” for children with imprisoned parents.<sup>2</sup>

### Some ethical questions

- In order to support children affected by parental imprisonment, we need to know who and where they are. We need to identify them. Some children may not necessarily want to be identified. How can we balance this?
- Once children have been identified, how should assessments of their well-being and the impact of parental incarceration on them be conducted?
- How can the risks to the security of society be responsibly weighed against the risks of harm caused to a child by imprisoning their parent?
- Do children also need to be heard in decisions that affect them, such as the incarceration of a parent? How can this happen without children explicitly feeling discriminated against, given that they are involved in this because of their parent’s actions? How can children be given the opportunity to provide statements without being manipulated or influenced in any way?
- Intention to do the right thing is not sufficient: *“Aligning oneself with a just cause does not guarantee just action.”*

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<sup>1</sup> In addition to the COPING study linked above, see for example: Poehlmann, J., Dallaire, D., Loper, A. B., Shear, L. D. (2010). Children's contact with their incarcerated parents: Research findings and recommendations. *American Psychologist*, 65(6), 575.

<sup>2</sup> Crime in Adult Offspring of Prisoners: A Cross-National Comparison of Two Longitudinal Samples *Criminal Justice and Behavior* January 2007 34: 133-149,

### Children's rights versus parents' rights

The 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) introduced a universal obligation in all countries ratifying the Convention to consider the impact on children in decisions about parental incarceration, detailing rights based on agreed ethical principles for making decisions which affect a child's well-being, created on the basis of identified needs (in particular articles 2, 3, 5, 6.2, 9.1, 9.3, 12). The question of rights is complex and culturally defined. How do we balance the child's rights with those of his or her parents, with those of the wider public? In certain situations, child-parent contact may not be in the child's best interests. How are "best interests" assessed, and how can we best support the child in this separation?

### The children's needs

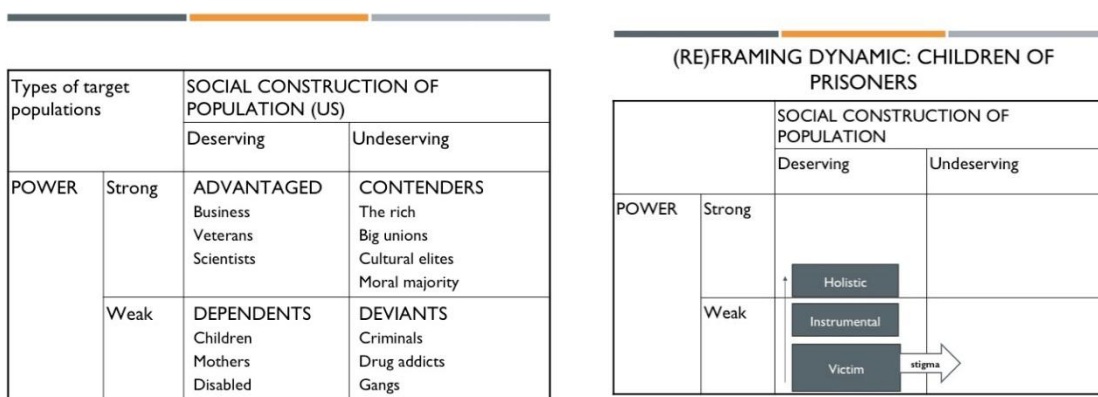
Children separated from a parent in prison have varying needs. The situation varies from child to child; some visit their parents, while many do not. Children respond differently to similar situations. How do we avoid generalising and discriminating when attempting to speak for all children? COPE's video "800,000 Voices" shows the diversity of children's responses and the importance (when feasible) for case-by-case analysis of their needs.

### Cultural approaches

Just as children's needs vary, so do cultural practices and approaches. The COPE network benefits from the cultural and geographic diversity of its members. Approaches vary in terms of child support mechanisms, approaches to parenting, support for family life, attitudes to prison and offending, approaches to governmental interventions and civil society participation.

### Frame-reflective advocacy

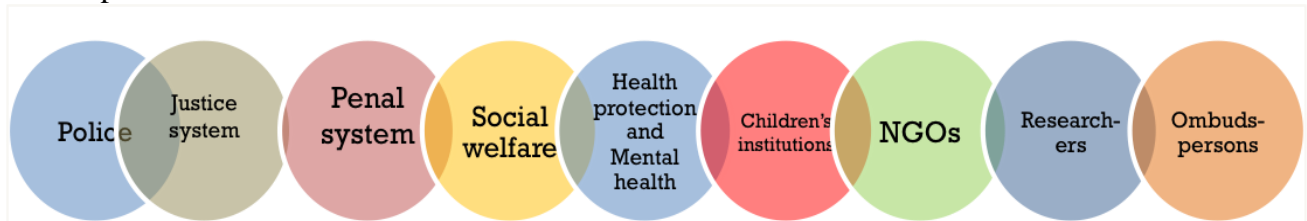
Framing an issue in a way as to resonate best with a given target audience is an integral part of COPE's current work. COPE has been exploring how the complex and challenging issue of parental incarceration might best be communicated, and the ways we identify, represent and give legitimacy to the issue of prisoners' children. COPE aims to address whether, and how, contending "frames" might be "re-framed" for maximum impact. Framing itself can promote attitudinal change vital to reduce stigmatisation of and for children of prisoners.



Source: Schneider and Ingram, 1993:336

### A multi-sectoral issue

- Areas where changes in policy, practice and attitude can positively affect children of prisoners:



- Need for integrated support systems
- Potential positive impact of school staff (teachers, nurses, librarians and other) in looking out for children of imprisoned parents: offering support if/when needed, understanding the child's perspective, reducing bullying and discrimination, boosting resilience and school performance.
- Value of process: capitalizing on this in working towards goals, to enhance individual—e.g., reading scheme that reinforces parent's literacy skills, child's educational, emotional and developmental skills, child's link to community (selects book from library, introduce books into home), community's image of child/imprisoned parent
- Prison as resource: Françoise Dolto  
Inherent risks as challenges: prison becomes a domestic satellite; risk of institutionalisation of family life (e.g., home arrest)
- Examples of good practice

### Looking forward

In 2014, COPE's Italian member Bambinisenzasbarre signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding on prisoners' children, with the Italian Minister for Justice, and Italian Ombudsman for Childhood and Adolescence. This pioneering document draws on cross-agency recommendations stemming from research studies in which COPE participated. COPE is advocating for this text to be replicated in other member states (refined according to the national context) and adopted at the European level as an overarching transnational model.

### What is COPE doing for children with imprisoned parents?

Children of Prisoners Europe (COPE), a reflective network with 84 members and affiliates across 21 European countries (and some further 6 countries worldwide), is working to maximise and enhance service provision for children, shift attitudes, and impact policies that benefit them. Based in Paris, COPE encourages innovative perspectives and practice to ensure that the rights of children with parents who are in conflict with the law are fully respected and that action is taken to secure their well-being and healthy development.

Raising awareness among child-related agencies, prison services, and policymakers to the needs of children of prisoners and promoting initiatives that take these into account, COPE seeks to: expand programmes that **support the child-parent bond**; help **minimise violence for children** with an imprisoned parent; introduce the **child's perspective** throughout the criminal justice process; foster **cross-sectoral collaboration**; obtain **greater visibility** for children of prisoners and **influence policy** on their behalf; promote the **exchange of initiatives, expertise, and good practice**; and, enhance and promote integrated child-support systems.

**Overall objectives of the QoC Talks:**

- To gain a better understanding of the Quality of Childhood in the EU Member States. This time we will focus on 'Children with imprisoned parents: How to support children to cope with their parent's imprisonment and enhance their potential to lead safe, included, happy, achieving lives?'
- To reflect on the role that the European institutions can play to improve the situation.
- To get to grips with the values, principles and approaches that could lead to improvements for children both in Europe and around the world.
- To form an effective working group and to get a sense of how to move on.

We take pleasure in inviting you for the 62nd session on 10 January 2017.

With best regards,

Michiel Matthes  
Chairman  
Alliance for Childhood European Network Group

### Programme Outline for Tuesday 10 January 2017

Time	Subject	Speaker / facilitator
10.30	Opening	MEP Julie Ward
10.35	A reflection about the theme from the point of view of the Learning for Well-being community	A representative of the Learning for Well-being Community (TBC)
10.40	A reflection about the theme from the point of view from the Alliance for Childhood	Christopher Clouder, one of the co-founders of the Alliance for Childhood (TBC)
10.45	Children with imprisoned parents: 'How to support children to cope with their parent's imprisonment and enhance their potential to lead safe, included, happy, achieving lives?'	Kate Philbrick, OBE, member of the Board of COPE and Hannah Lynn, Assistant Director of COPE
11.30	Link to the event on 30 November 2016 in the European Parliament on the same topic.	MEP Caterina Chinnici or MEP Patrizia Toia (TBC)
11.40	Discussion	Michiel Matthes, Chairman of the Alliance for Childhood European Network Group
12.20-12.30	Closing remarks	MEP Julie Ward

#### Disclaimer:

The organisers organise this session on a best effort basis. However changes in parts of the programme or in the entire programme may occur due to unforeseen circumstances and the organisers cannot be held liable for that.

#### Secretariat for this session:

Michiel Matthes

Tel: +32.2.762 2557

E-mail: [michiel.matthes@allianceforchildhood.eu](mailto:michiel.matthes@allianceforchildhood.eu)

Internet: [www.allianceforchildhood.eu](http://www.allianceforchildhood.eu)

With the support of the following organisations:



For background information please visit our respective websites:

[www.allianceforchildhood.eu](http://www.allianceforchildhood.eu)

[www.learningforwellbeing.org](http://www.learningforwellbeing.org)

This programme was developed in cooperation with the **Alliance for Childhood European Network Group**, whose members are:

Alliance ELIANT, Brussels	representative to be assigned
ARGE-Erziehungsberatung, Austria	Dr. Martina Leibovici
Beweeg.nl	Elise Sijthoff
Centre for Relational Competence, Denmark	Claes Solborg Pedersen
Christopher Clouder, UK	Founding Member of the Alliance for Childhood
Paulina Dabrowska, Luxembourg	
Dr. René Diekstra, The Netherlands	
European Council for Steiner	
Waldorf Education	Dr. Richard Landl and Georg Jürgens
European Foundation for the Care of Newborn Infants (EFCNI)	Silke Mader
EPA (European Parents Association)	Eszter Salamon
Experiential Education Project, Belgium	Professor Dr. Ferre Laevers
Familylab International, Switzerland	Jesper Juul
Familienforum Havelhöhe GmbH und Emmi-Pikler-Haus e.V., Germany	Dr. med. Christoph K. Meinecke
FEMI, The Netherlands	Ruud Bakhuizen
Haukkala Foundation, Finland	Professor Dr. Lea Pulkkinen
Higher Institute for Family Sciences, Belgium	Dr. Hans van Crombrugge
International Association for Steiner / Waldorf Early Childhood Education (Sweden)	Clara Aerts
Idee Kids vzw, Belgium	Björn Accoe
Kompan A/S	Jeanette Fich Jespersen
Legambiente, Italy	Vanessa Pallucchi
Janusz Korczak International Society	Theo Cappon and Helma Brouwers
Le Furet, France	Marie-Nicole Rubio
Movium and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Alnarp	Petter Åkerblom and Maria Nordström
NIVOZ (The Netherlands)	Professor Dr. Luc Stevens / Nickel van der Vorm
Saharan & North African Toy and Play Cultures, Belgium	Dr. Jean-Pierre Rossie
Professor Dr. Anthony Staines, Ireland	
Stichting Universele Ontwikkeling (NL)	Marijke Sluijter
Universal Education Foundation, Brussels	Daniel Kropf
Briony Vanden Bussche, Belgium	
Dr. Jan van Gils, Belgium	
Verein mit Kindern Wachsen, Germany	Lienhard Valentin/Sabine Heggemann



**QoC Talks held / to be held in the period 2006-2017:**

<b>QoC Talk in 2006</b>	
5 December 2006	1. 'The Toxic Childhood Syndrome and the Quality of Childhood' with Christopher Clouder (UK) and Professor Hans van Crombrugge (Belgium). Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
<b>QoC Talks in 2007</b>	
9 January 2007	2. 'Really Improving the Education in the European Union requires Systemic Changes' with professor Luc Stevens (Netherlands) and Professor Ferre Laevers (Belgium). Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
6 March 2007	3. 'The Quality of Child-Adult Relationships in Families and School' with Jesper Juul (Denmark). Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
15 May 2007	4. 'The Child: his/her Networks and Neighbourhood' with René Diekstra. Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
September 20 2007	5. 'How can we improve in the European Union the Early Childhood Educational Systems' with John Bennett, the author of the OECD Study Starting Strong. Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
November 6 2007	6. 'How to let children and adolescents acquire key competences for the world of the 21st century?' with Dr. Martina Leibovici-Mühlberger from Austria and Geseke Lundgren from Sweden. Host: MEP Karin Resetarits
<b>QoC Talks in 2008</b>	
January 8, 2008	7. 'Attachment, what it is, why it is important and what we can do about it to help young children acquire a secure attachment?' with Sir Richard Bowlby. Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
March 4, 2008	8. 'A vision on children and childhood in the European Union' by Michiel Matthes. Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
May 14, 2008	9. Professor René Diekstra about 'The Changing Face of Adolescence. Accounting for changes in adolescent development and their effects on education and social policies'. Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
July 1, 2008	10. Professor Steen Hildebrandt (University of Aarhus, Denmark) about the 'Multiple intelligences in the knowledge-based society'. Host: MEP Rovana Plumb.
September 16, 2008	11. Presentation of the report of the Fundación Marcelino Botín entitled 'Social and Emotional Education, An International Analysis' by Christopher Clouder and Fátima Sánchez Santiago. Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
November 12, 2008	12. Professor Boris Cyrulnik from France: 'What measures can we take to improve the quality of childhood in the European Union?' Host: MEP Rovana Plumb.
November 17, 2008	13. Organisation of a Symposium in Bucharest, Romania at the request of MEP Mrs Rovana Plumb: 'A European Policy Agenda for the Quality of Childhood with special emphasis on the case of the children of Romanian migrant workers'.
<b>QoC Talks in 2009</b>	
January 27, 2009	14. Dr. Michel Vandenbroeck (University of Ghent, Belgium) about 'Diversity and Equity in Early Childhood Services'. Host: MEP Karin Resetarits.
March 3, 2009	15. 'Taking stock of what has been achieved with the Working Group since December 2006 and looking forward' with Michiel Matthes, Secretary-General of the Alliance for Childhood European Network. Host: MEP Karin

	Resetarits.
April 28, 2009	16. Professor Peter Moss (University of London) about young children and their services: developing a European approach. Host: MEP Rovana Plumb.
September 8, 2009	17. 'Continuing to work on improving the Quality of Childhood in the European Union during the present economic downturn' with Professor Emeritus Richard Wilkinson, co-author of the book 'The Spirit Level, Why More Equal Societies Almost Always do Better'. Host: MEP Rovana Plumb.
November 17, 2009	18. The Technical University of Dortmund won the tender issued by the European Commission to execute a Research Project to identify the key research questions regarding families and family policies. The leader of this project, Professor Dr. Uwe Uhlendorff gave a briefing on this Project and spoke about 'Developing a European Research Agenda for Families and Family Policies'. Host: MEP Livia Járóka.
December 8, 2009	19. Why Love Matters: How Affection Shapes a Baby's Brain, and the policy requirements in this respect with Sue Gerhardt, author of the book with the similar title. Host: MEP Evelyn Regner.
<b>QoC Talks in 2010</b>	
January 12, 2010	20. The PISA Study and lessons learned regarding the Quality of Childhood with Andreas Schleicher, Head of the Indicators and Analysis Division of the OECD Directorate for Education. Host: MEP Evelyn Regner.
March 2, 2010	21. 'Improving the Quality of Childhood in the European Union: the Case of Roma Children' with Ivan Ivanov, Executive Director of the European Roma Information Office (ERIO) and Bernard Rorke, Director of the Roma Initiative Programs of the Open Society Institute (OSI). Host: MEP Gerald Häfner.
April 13, 2010	22. Improving the Quality of Childhood in the European Union: the Aspect of Parental Leave Policies by Professor Peter Moss of the Thomas Coram Research Unit, Institute of Education, University of London. Host: MEP Gerald Häfner.
June 8, 2010	23. 'The City for the Children'. Key-note speaker: Vanessa Pallucchi, Director for Education of Legambiente, Rome, Italy. Host: MEP Vittorio Prodi and MEP Karin Kadenbach.
August 31, 2010	24. 'The impact of television and screen media on the Quality of Childhood and what are good policies in this respect on the level of the family, on the level of the country and on the EU level?' with Dr. Aric Sigman, author of the book 'Remotely controlled, how television is damaging our lives'. Host: MEP Karin Kadenbach.
November 17, 2010	25. 'The proposed research agenda for the European Commission re families and family policies' with Professor Dr. Uwe Uhlendorff of the Technical University Dortmund, Germany. Host: MEP Mr Gerald Häfner
<b>QoC Talks in 2011</b>	
January 11, 2011	26. 'The Quality of the Physical Environment of the Child, the Current Problems in this area, and what needs to be done?' together with the Health and Environment Alliance and the INCHEs Network. Host: MEP Gerald Häfner.
March 1, 2011	27. 'Educating the Art of Life: Resilience and Creativity in Contemporary Education' with David Brierley, Associate Professor at the Rudolf Steiner University College, Oslo Norway. Host: MEP Evelyn Regner.
March 29,	28. 'A reflection on the European Commission's High Level Group on

2011	Literacy' with emeritus Professor Margaret Clark from the UK. Host: MEP Lambert van Nistelrooij.
May 31, 2011	29. 'Learning to move and moving to learn. Why physical development in the early years supports later learning, behaviour and achievement' with Sally Goddard Blythe, Director of The Institute for Neuro-Physiological Psychology in the UK. Hosted by MEP Edward McMillan-Scott.
September 6, 2011	30. Presentation of the report 'Learning for Well-being: a Policy Priority for Children and Youth in Europe, A Movement for Change' by Professor Ilona Kickbusch, Director of the Global Health Programme at the Graduate Institute of International Development Studies in Geneva. Host: MEP Karin Kadenbach.
November 8, 2011	31. Alcohol Nation, How to protect our children from today's drinking culture' with Dr. Aric Sigman. Host: MEP Gerald Häfner.
<b>QoC Talks in 2012</b>	
January 10, 2012	32. Presentation of a Proposal to set up a European Academy for Complementary Pedagogy by Jesper Juul. Host: MEP Judith Merkies.
March 6, 2012	33. 'What Contribution can the Digital Environment make to the Improvement of the Quality of Childhood?' with Professor Martine Delfos from the Netherlands and Thibaut Kleiner of the Cabinet of Euro-commissioner Neelie Kroes. Host: MEP Evelyn Regner.
April 11, 2012	34. 'Improving the Quality of Childhood as a challenge to European institutions: Reflections from the Ombudsmen for Children' with Maria Kaisa Aula, the Finnish Ombudsman for Children. Host: MEP Liisa Jaakonsaari.
5 June 2012	35. The State of Affairs of the Child in the City, and What Needs To Be Done? with Dr. Jan van Gils, President and founder of the European Network of Child Friendly Cities and President of the International Council for Children's Play. Host: MEP Karin Kadenbach
4 September 2012	36. '500,000 Preterm Births in Europe Each Year. What are the Dangers, and What are the Main Components of a Successful Strategy to Address this Challenge?' with Professor Luc Zimmermann (Belgium / Netherlands), Professor Dominique Haumont (Belgium) and Silke Mader (Germany), all working with the European Foundation for the Care of Newborn Infants (EFCNI). Host: MEP Peter Liese.
13 November 2012	37. 'How can we help children to reach their unique potential and how can we support the parents, caregivers and teachers in their role vis-à-vis children' with Dr. Gordon Neufeld from Vancouver, Canada. Host: MEP Gerald Häfner.
<b>QoC Talks in 2013</b>	
9 January 2013	38. 'Children and their connection with nature: why it is important and how can it be stimulated?' with Tim Gill from the UK. Host: MEP Judith Merkies and MEP Gerald Häfner.
5 March 2013	39. 'IFFD's Family Enrichment Courses: the Case Study Method applied to Family Settings. What it is and how to provide it to more families?' with Marina Robben, President of the International Federation For Family Development (IFFD). Host: MEP Anneli Jäätteenmäki and MEP Anna Záborská.
9 April 2013	40. Finland has the best literacy score in the European Union. What are the main elements of its strategy and to what extent can it be copied by other countries? with Professor Heikki Lyytinen. Host: MEP Liisa Jaakonsaari.

4 June 2013	41. 'The commercialisation of childhood in the USA: what is the current situation, to what extent is it harmful for children, what needs to be done and what are the lessons for the European Union?' with Susan Linn, Founder and Director of the 'Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood'. Host: MEP Anna Záborská.
3 September 2013	42. 'The Human Biotechnology Revolution is opening the door to the creation of genetically modified 'designer babies': what is the current situation?, what is at stake at the moment?, what needs to be done?, and what role could the European Union play in this respect?' with Enola Aird, Founder and Director of 'Mothers for a Human Future'. Host: MEP Anna Záborská.
12 November 2013	43. 'Positive human development: a spontaneous or guided process?' 45 years of experience with longitudinal research and the policy lessons that can be drawn from it' with Professor Lea Pulkkinen. Host: MEP Anneli Jäätteenmäki.
<b>QoC Talks in 2014</b>	
7 January 2014	44. 'Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Systems in Europe: what are the current trends and what needs to be done?' with Professor Dr. Mathias Urban, Professor of Early Childhood and Director of the Early Childhood Research Centre, University of Roehampton, London, Great Britain. Host: MEP Gerald Häfner.
4 March 2014	45. Parents' partnership stability and quality as a context for child development. What are the challenges, and what policies and programmes are in place? Some insights from Germany' with Professor Dr. Sabine Walper, Research Director of the German Youth Institute in Munich, Germany. Host: MEP Jürgen Klute.
18 June 2014	46. 'Make the European Parliament a global Child Rights Champion'. The presentations will be given by members of the Child Rights Action Group (CRAG) a.o. Jana Hainsworth of Eurochild, Deirdre de Burca of World Vision and Lilana Keith of PICUM. Host: MEP Gerald Häfner.
8 July 2014	47. 'Youth employment in the EU member states: what is the current situation?, and what is the role of the European Commission in the domain of the Youth Initiative and the Youth Guarantee? Discussion of the Commission's Country Specific Recommendations' with Jeroen Jutte of the European Commission, Head of Unit, DG EMPL, Unit C1 European Employment Strategy and Governance. Host: MEP Julie Ward.
9 September 2014	48. 'Developing inclusive systems across Education, Health and Social sectors for early school leaving prevention' with Dr. Paul Downes of Saint Patrick's College, Dublin City University. Host: MEP Julie Ward.
18 November 2014	49. 'The Mental Health Situation of Children and Young People in the European Union: What is the Current Situation and What could be done?' with Professor Ulrike Ravens-Sieberer and Dr. Veronika Ottova-Jordan. Host: MEP Anna Hedh.
<b>QoC Talks in 2015</b>	
6 January 2015	50. 'The effect of the Great Recession on Southern European Children's and Adolescents' Adaptation and Wellbeing: Risks and Resilience Processes. What is necessary at this moment?' with Professor Frosso Motti-Stefanidi, PhD. Host: MEP Kostas Chrysogonos.
3 March 2015	51. '4000 City Councils for Children in France: how do they operate and what makes them successful?' with Jonathan Lévy. Host: MEP

	József Nagy.
13 May 2015	52. 'Children's Well-Being Indicators: a Powerful Tool to Improve the Well-Being of Children. Launch of the European Report of Children's Worlds' with Professor Ferran Casas, Professor Sabine Andresen and Professor Jonathan Bradshaw. Host: MEP Nathalie Griesbeck
2 June 2015	53. 'Health Assets for Young People's Health and Well-being. A New Basis for a set of Indicators for Policy and Practice?' with Dr Antony Morgan from the Glasgow Caledonian University, London Campus, UK Host: MEP Marie Arena and MEP Jana Zitnanska
1 September 2015	54. 'Elham Palestine: a multisector national partnership towards making schools more conducive to children's well-being. What is the philosophy and approach of Elham? What positive outcomes have resulted? In which way can we apply the same approach in a European context?' with Professor Dr. Marwan Awartani. Host: Julie Ward.
17 November 2015	55. 'Prosperity without growth: a vision of a lasting prosperity for all' with Professor dr. Tim Jackson from the University of Surrey, UK. Host: MEP Molly Scott Cato.
<b>QoC Talks in 2016</b>	
12 January 2016	56. 'Curious Minds: The English approach to offer rich educational and cultural programmes to all children and young people' with Derri Burdon. Host: MEP Julie Ward.
1 March 2016	57. 'Refugee and immigrant children and youngsters: some reflections on the successful integration of them in the receiving societies' with Professor Frosso Motti-Stefanidi, PhD and Lilana Keith. Host: MEP Caterina Chinnici.
26 April 2016	58. 'What constitutes good education and what are the roles of measurement and evaluation in it?' with Professor Dr. Gert Biesta. Host: MEP Liisa Jaakonsaari.
14 June 2016	59. What we can do to establish a good education and which new pedagogical approach we may propose? with Martine Reicherts, Director-General for Education and Culture in the European Commission. Host: MEP Julie Ward.
6 September 2016	60. 'Toward media literacy or media addiction?', contours of good governance for healthy childhood in the digital world' with Professor Dr. Paula Bleckmann. Host: MEP Julie Ward.
8 November 2016	61. 'How to empower parents for a better Quality of Childhood?' with Professor Ramón Flecha. Host: MEP István Ujhelyi
<b>QoC Talks in 2017</b>	
10 January 2017	62. Children with imprisoned parents: 'How to support children to cope with their parent's imprisonment and enhance their potential to lead safe, included, happy, achieving lives?' with Kate Philbrick and Hannah Lynn from 'Children of Prisoners Europe' (COPE) network. Host: MEP: Julie Ward.

**Five yearbooks were published with the reports of these sessions:**

session 1-16: Improving the Quality of Childhood in the European Union: Current Perspectives.  
 session 17-23: Improving the Quality of Childhood in Europe 2011, Volume 2.  
 session 24-30: Improving the Quality of Childhood in Europe 2012, Volume 3.  
 session 31-37: Improving the Quality of Childhood in Europe 2013, Volume 4.  
 session 28-44: Improving the Quality of Childhood in Europe 2014, Volume 5.  
 session 45-49: Improving the Quality of Childhood in Europe, Volume 6.

Volume 1-5 can be downloaded free of charge from: [www.allianceforchildhood.eu/publications](http://www.allianceforchildhood.eu/publications)  
or ordered at [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk) .