

Child Rights in Action

Our international forum gives children a voice so they can be actors and take a part in the necessary changes of our society. Child Rights in Action, born from the CATS experience, promotes children-adults collaboration by nurturing the idea and the tools of "DOING WITH" rather than "doing for" the children.

Make Children's Rights a reality

Why this project?

Participation is a fundamental human right for children and young people. Moreover, it is one of the pillars of the UN Convention on Rights of the Child (UNCRC articles 12-15 and 17). In reality, it is not common for children to have the opportunity to express themselves on topics that concern them and that are close to their hearts. Yet, children have the resources, the knowledge and the ideas to answer better the present challenges. To be held in France in 2019, the international forum Child Rights in Action is **a unique collaborative experience** between children and adults acting together to ensure the respect of every fundamental rights, that in order to build a fairer society.

- Participation is the central pillar of democracy. Yet, children (-18 yo) represent a third of the global population and are not listened to.
- Participation is a fundamental right written in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Many professionals and organization do not know how to put into practice this fundamental right.



Building the foundation of a culture of children's participation

- ✓ Move forward children's participation in their day to day environment: inspire, equip.
- ✓ Connect: promote cross-sectoral partnerships.
- ✓ Guide adults and structures related to childhood so they understand the value of this participation and to train them so they can make it more effective.
- ✓ Be recognize as an international model of children's participation.

2

International and regional forums

1

Week of forum to work together

45

Nationalities represented

50%

of children amongst the participants

60

workshops on average



A special event for the 30th anniversary of the UNCRC

This week-long forum will gather **200 participants**, half of them being children/young people. About **30 nationalities** will be represented. More than an annual event, Child Rights in Action is a learning community composed of children and adults working together. For the 2019 forum the theme will be "**Children as Human Rights Defenders**" in order to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the UNCRC.

Save the date: Monday July 29th morning, to Friday August 2nd afternoon, Relais Le Bocage, Pontmain 53220, France.



Learning tools

Tangible results

Participant testimony

Human Library 

Peer-to-peer training

Role play

Board game

Debate

Quiz

- French national event of CATS on school dropout
- Youth Council with M. Michalak, Polish Children Ombudsman
- Youth Council in South-African schools
- *Les Apprentis d'Auteil* using the tools learnt to enhance child participation



"My experience here changed me; no word can describe the impact this week had on me, on life."

#Mohamed, 16, Tunisia



They share the adventure

Personalities: Julie Ward, Kesz Valdez, Marek Michalak, Gerison Lansdown...

NGOs: Eurochild, Association Janusz Korczak, Caritas,...

The organization

Initiatives et Changement France

Created in 1952, *Initiatives et Changement France* is a non-profit organisation. Its mission is to develop **active citizens** to **better live together** and improve **social cohesion**. It contributes to a more fair, peaceful and confident society where everyone is actor and citizen.

Member of the international network of Initiatives of Change, Initiative of Change France is a secular and

A network of **1 000** people



Peace Education Workshops

11 000 students and **530** teachers trained since 2005

Citizen dialogue

More than 100 conferences, debates, workshops, cafés organized since 2005



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