Educo’s 1st International Congress
THE WELLBEING AND RIGHTS OF CHILDREN
Child Protection in debate

@EducoActua
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We are a global development NGO with over 25 years’ experience defending children and their rights, and especially the right to an equitable and quality education.

We work with children and their communities to promote just and equitable societies that guarantee their rights and wellbeing.

We envision a world where all children fully enjoy their rights and lead a life of dignity.

We are active in 16 counties and count on a support base in Spain of over 100,000 people. In order to strengthen our action in favor of children, we engage in networked efforts at all levels—from international to local—and we firmly promote this model as an effective tool for transforming the lives of millions of people through education.

For this reason, we form part of ChildFund Alliance, one of the foremost international children’s development networks working in 58 countries in the area of child protection. (https://www.childfund.org/)
Greetings from Educo

As the Executive Director of Educo, it is my great pleasure to present Educo's 1st International Congress, “The wellbeing and rights of children: Child Protection in debate”. This title reflects the essence of our work and our commitment to children in Spain and around the world.

The Congress aims to contribute, both quantitatively and qualitatively, to the social debate on the wellbeing and rights of children, with special emphasis on their protection. Within the context of the New International Development Agenda framework, the Congress is based on a new paradigm for interpreting the Child Rights-Based Approach: a three-dimensional approach to child wellbeing (material, relational and subjective).

This paradigm explores not only “individual wellbeing”, but also “collective wellbeing”, in line with the philosophy of the Sustainable Development Goals, which are currently under debate in the United Nations and which, like the Millennium Development Goals before them, have the aim of eradicating extreme poverty around the world.

At Educo, we are convinced that in order to eradicate child poverty it is essential to guarantee universal quality education to all children and to establish the necessary mechanisms for guaranteeing their protection. Moreover, we believe it is fundamental to regard children as full citizens, with all of the rights and responsibilities that this entails, and to facilitate the mechanisms for participation which enable them to form part of the change.
This Congress is the first international academic gathering in Spain based on this three-dimensional approach to wellbeing. As such, we propose an event that draws connections between this perspective and other important issues such as child poverty, the right to education and the so-called “forgotten children”.

This Congress counts on the participation of a prestigious Academic Committee formed by distinguished experts in several fields. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to them for their voluntary involvement and the dedication, commitment and passion they have demonstrated throughout the entire process. Without them this Congress would not have been possible.

Nor would it be without all of those entities, organizations and people who have shared their success stories. Educo firmly believes in networked efforts and shared learning, which is why I want to highlight how important Good Practices are for the Congress and to encourage all entities and organizations working with children to present theirs for inclusion in the event.

We are thrilled to be able to share three days of learning, debate and proposals in favor of children in CaixaForum Madrid, which has joined in this initiative by providing the perfect setting for the Congress. I encourage you to reserve October 22-24 in your agendas so that I may greet you personally on this momentous occasion.

Sincerely,

José M. Faura Messa
Executive Director of Educo
Why a congress on children’s wellbeing?

- There are 2.1 billion children in the world, representing 36% of the entire population.
- One in every four children lives in a situation of extreme poverty.
- In Spain, 1 in every 3 children is at risk of poverty and/or social exclusion.
- Child poverty is a broad and complex phenomenon that encompasses various dimensions that go beyond material scarcity.
- In over 47 cultures, many of them non-Western, the most important values are health and wellbeing.

Educo’s 1st International Congress will be held in the fourth quarter of 2015, just as the international community is taking stock of the goals and targets achieved by the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and—more importantly—in the same year that world leaders must define the next set of global priorities to guide the agenda for development and the eradication of extreme poverty over the next 15 years. Moreover, within the national context, the Congress coincides with the Spanish electoral period, making it the ideal time to voice opinions, ideas and solutions regarding the situation of vulnerability in which millions of children in our country live.

In order to promote sustainable social change in the promotion and defense of Child Rights—and especially the right to education and protection—we are organizing Educo’s 1st International Congress to:

- Explore the state of Child Rights in Spain and around the world, and to evaluate progress and setbacks within a new paradigm for analyzing children’s wellbeing.
- Stimulate debate among professional groups of social and development organizations, public administrations and academia regarding the most important challenges for fulfilling these rights.
- Present good practices and the impact that these have on children’s effective fulfillment of their rights in specific contexts.
- Share with national and international academics and researchers the reflections and impacts of studies and practices that contribute to children’s full participation in building and shaping the world around them.
- Give visibility to children—society’s most prized asset—as active citizens of both the present and future.
To achieve the above, Educo proposes three GOALS for the Congress:

1. Contribute to the debate about the need to delve deeper into the exercise of Child Rights around the world—based on a new approach to child wellbeing—by presenting concrete proposals for improvement.
2. Help to guide the work of international development organizations and social entities that address Child Rights from a wellbeing perspective.
3. Divulge the work of social organizations in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Spain in the area of Child Rights, as well as the efforts of international networks of children and adolescents.

THEMES of the 1st International Congress:

**Child wellbeing** as a new paradigm for interpreting the Child Rights-Based Approach. The analysis based on this paradigm is three dimensional (3D):

- Material wellbeing - What you have: resources, surroundings, capabilities, etc.
- Relational wellbeing – What you can do with what you have.
- Subjective wellbeing - How you feel about what you can and cannot do with what you have.

**The Right to Education**, understood as children’s right to exercise and enjoy an equitable, transformative and quality education throughout their lives.

**The Right to Protection**, understood as children’s right to live in a healthy environment that is free from any kind of violence, abuse, exploitation, negligence, discrimination and/or degrading punishment.

**The Right to Participation**, understood as children’s right to actively participate in public spaces to express their ideas, claim their rights and influence those decisions that concern them.
Academic Committee

The Academic Committee is formed by prestigious international experts from diverse fields who voluntarily offer their knowledge and experience in support of the Congress’ programming and planning. They are responsible for ensuring the coherence of the Congress’ issues and contents, and participate actively in the event itself.
Ferran Casas (Girona)

Senior Professor of Social Psychology in the Faculty of Education and Psychology at the University of Girona. He currently acts as Director of Studies for the doctoral program in Psychology and Quality of Life and for the postgraduate studies program in Education and Health Sciences, and is Director of the Research Institute on Quality of Life.

From 1990 to 1993 he was the Director of the Centro de Estudios de la Infancia (Center for Children's Studies) in Madrid, and from 1992 to 1996 he was Chair of the Experts Committee on Childhood Policies of the Council of Europe. He is also the Coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Network of Catalan Researchers on Children’s Rights and Quality of Life.

He has published several books, in addition to numerous journal articles and book chapters.
Pepa Horno (Madrid)


She currently works as a consultant on childhood, affection and protection as a member of Espirales, a consulting firm on children’s issues.

For over 15 years she has coordinated national and international campaigns for the prevention and eradication of violence against children, especially physical and psychological punishment at home and the sexual abuse and exploitation of children. She has worked in coordination with entities like FAPMI, Save the Children and Unicef, among others. She has organized trainings and advised intervention programs in more than twenty countries in Latin America, South and Southeast Asia, Europe and the Maghreb, in addition to acting as an advising member of institutions and promoting the development of action protocols in the educational, social and health spheres.

She is the author of various books on emotional and social development and has coordinated several studies and research projects on child protection.
Laura Camfield (London)

PhD in Social Anthropology from Goldsmith’s College

Masters in the Anthropology and Development from SOAS.

Currently she is Senior Lecturer in the School of International Development of the University of East Anglia.

Specialist in research on child wellbeing and poverty, with a particular emphasis on subjective aspects and developing measures that reflect local priorities. She has conducted research and published works on Ethiopia, Thailand, Vietnam, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Peru, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda and the United Kingdom.

Before joining the School of International Development in 2010 she was a Research Fellow with Young Lives (2007-2010), at Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford, and prior to that with Wellbeing in Developing Countries ESRC Research Group in Bath (2002-2007).

She is co-editor of the European Journal of Development and the Anthropology, Change and Development book series. She also acts as Vice-President for Education and Training for the European Association of Research and Training Institutes, a member of the Development Studies Association Council and co-convener of the EADI/DSA multidimensional poverty and poverty dynamics group.
Alberto Minujin (Buenos Aires)

Mathematician and statistician specialized in demographics and social policy.

Currently he is Professor of International Affairs at the New School in New York, USA, with a special focus on issues related to social policy and children’s rights.

He provides consulting services on issues related to social policy, design and development of projects for child wellbeing, and statistical analysis and monitoring and evaluation. He serves various functions in Unicef (Regional Officer for Latin America, Unicef Argentina, Unicef Headquarters) related to social policy and policies for child poverty reduction.

He is Director of the website equitforchildren.org, and is an active member of the Latin American Observatory (OLA). Since 2003, he has coordinated several international conferences co-sponsored by GPIA and Unicef. He is also professor at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University in New York. He has published several books, numerous articles and papers.

In 2010 he was awarded the Bicentennial Medal from the Provincia of Buenos Aires of Argentina in recognition of his contributions to the fields of child rights and social policy.
Jorge Cardona (Valencia)

Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child for 2015-2020 (elected in 2010 and re-elected in 2014).

He is currently Professor of Public International Law of the University of Valencia.

Expert in human rights, with special emphasis on children’s rights, as reflected in his teaching, research and international development activities. Since 2010, when he was elected member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, his efforts have been widely recognized. His candidacy to re-election in 2014 was presented by the Spanish Government after a broad consultancy, having received strong unanimous support by civil society organizations working with children in Spain, Latin America and the Caribbean.

He is author of numerous papers on children with different capacities, with a focus on the right to participation and the application of guarantees as active rights holders.

He has written more than 100 scientific papers on Public International Law, especially on the Law of Treaties, the law of international responsibility, the law of international organizations, human rights, peace maintenance and international security.
### PRE-PROGRAM FOR EDUÇO’S 1st INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

**“THE WELLBEING AND RIGHTS OF CHILDREN: CHILD PROTECTION IN DEBATE”**

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2015**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:00</td>
<td>Registration and welcome pack</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-10:30</td>
<td>Inauguration</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-10:45</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45-12:15</td>
<td>Opening Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15-14:15</td>
<td>PLENARY SESSION 1: Poverty and wellbeing in the 21st century</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:15-15:45</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
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<td>15:45-18:45</td>
<td>Presentation of Good Practices</td>
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**Francesco Tonucci**, teacher, pedagogue and illustrator who has studied children’s thinking and behavior throughout his career. In 1991 he created a project called “The city of children” to readapt public spaces for children and to listen to their opinions in this regard.

**Alberto Minujin**: Inequity and inequality as key factors in the generation of poverty and, consequently, children’s wellbeing.

**Jorge Cardona**: Poverty from the perspective of the Child Rights-Based Approach.
### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30-11:00</td>
<td>PLENARY SESSION 2: Human relations and public policies for children</td>
<td>Laura Camfield: The relational impact of poverty</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ferrán Casas: The subjective wellbeing of children: findings of social research</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00-11:15</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15-14:15</td>
<td>WORKSHOP 1</td>
<td>Sarah C. White y George Williams: Bringing child wellbeing into development practice</td>
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<tr>
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<td>WORKSHOP 2</td>
<td>Pepa Horno: Key emotional factors of resilience: Subjective wellbeing</td>
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<td>14:15-15:45</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:45-16:30</td>
<td>Presentation of Good Practices</td>
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<td>16:30-18:30</td>
<td>Roundtable debate: The education we want for Spain in the 21st century</td>
<td>With the participation of teachers, proponents of new teaching methods, students, parents and Spanish public administration representatives.</td>
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<td>18:30-18:45</td>
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### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:30</td>
<td>Conclusions and proposals from the seminars</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-11:15</td>
<td>Children’s opinion about the Congress: Presentation of conclusions.</td>
<td>Participants of the program “Cybercorrespondents” of the POI (platform for children’s organizations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00-11:15</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30-14:00</td>
<td>CLOSING CONFERENCE</td>
<td>Sarah C. White: Bringing child wellbeing into development practice</td>
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Program

The complete program for the Congress is available online at www.congresoeduco.org.

The main themes of the activities to take place during Educo’s first International Conference are the following:

1. Two keynote conferences: one opening and one closing.

2. Thematic plenary sessions, each with a panel of two experts:
   a. Poverty and wellbeing in the 21st century (Jorge Cardona and Alberto Minujin)
   b. Children’s wellbeing: material, relational and subjective (Laura Camfield and Ferran Casas)

3. Workshops to analyze how to promote the implementation of public policies for children and their wellbeing in different countries:
   a. Keys for analyzing human relations in projects for improving children’s wellbeing (Viviana Ramírez)
   b. Factors of childhood resilience (Pepa Horno)

4. Roundtable debate on challenges to the development agenda with respect to the right to education: from the global to the local, from the MDG to the SDG.

5. Presentation of good practices (five hours, in two afternoons): brief presentation of the top 12 good practices from the national and international levels—previously selected by the Organizing Committee and approved by the Academic Committee—followed by an open question and answer session. There will also be a poster board exposition of the top 30 good practices presented to the Congress. Additional information is available at www.congresoeduco.org.

6. Conclusions. After a plenary session to exchange the conclusions from the two workshop session, participants will agree on certain key ideas from the speakers’ presentations which will be presented as “clownclusions” to help the audience remember them.
Call for participation

Participants

• International development, human rights and social organizations, in particular those working with and for children.
• The academic sphere (university professors and students) working on issues related with international law, children and education.
• Primary and secondary school teachers.
• Educators working in the area of non-formal education.
• Opinion leaders on issues related with children and education, and the communication media.
• Members of the public administration who address education and child-related issues, both in Spain and in the other countries where Educo works.
• Social platforms, unions and teachers’ associations.
• Public donors, both Spanish and European.

Registration

• Date: October 22, 23 and 24.
• Location: CaixaForum of Madrid.
• Registration can be completed on the Congress website www.Congresoeduco.org.
• Price: Attendance in the Congress is free. In order to ensure the proper management of available spots, we request a €30 deposit which will be returned to participants upon conclusion of the event.
• The maximum capacity is 300 people, which is why spots will be reserved in the order they are reserved on the website.
Communication and divulgence

In order to achieve the maximum possible divulgation and monitoring of the Congress, we have habilitated the following digital supports:

- Congress website and news blog: www.congresoeduco.org
- Twitter: @EducoActua
- Social networks with hashtag #Congresoeduco
- Divulgation through conventional communication media channels

Presentation of Good Practices

- We invite all organizations and social movements, public administrations and other initiatives working with children to present their Good Practices with respect to Children’s Wellbeing and Rights.

- Good Practices can be submitted for review by the Academic Committee using the form available at www.congresoeduco.org.

- During the Congress, 12 Good Practices will be presented in the general assembly sessions, with each presentation lasting 12 minutes. Additionally, 30 Good Practices will be on exhibition, in posterboard format, in the lobby of the CaixaForum.