



Janusz Korczak and Children's Rights in Contemporary Perspective

PROGRAM OF THE SEMINAR

9.30 – 9.45 am – Welcoming remarks by **Ms. Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka**, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in New York

9.45 – 10.00 – Opening remarks by **Mr. Witold Sobków**, Ambassador, Head of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations

10.00 – 11.45 – **Panel Discussion**

Part I: *Janusz Korczak – a Pioneer in Defining and Protecting Children's Rights. Contribution of Poland to the Convention on the Rights of the Child*

Moderator – Dr. Natalia Aleksion, Institute of History, Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw and Pearl Resnick Postdoctoral Fellow, USHMM in Washington D. C.

- **Mr. Thomas Hammarberg**, Honorary Patron of the Janusz Korczak Year, Former Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Mr. Witold Sobków**, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the UN, *Contribution of Poland to the Convention on the Rights of the Child*
- **Ms. Mariola Strahlberg**, Founder of the *Shining Mountain Center for Peaceful Childhood*, Inc. and the Chair of the Janusz Korczak Association of the USA *Theory and methods of J. Korczak in the pedagogical practices today specifically in reference to the Article 29 of the UN Convention of Children's Rights with the potential for the development of Quiet Spaces to promote children's well-being*

- **Dr. Olga Medvedeva-Nathoo**, The Janusz Korczak Association of Canada, *The Home for Orphans as the Children's Republic*
- **Dr. Natalia Aleksiu**n, *Janusz Korczak and his Work in the Jewish and Polish Contexts*

11.45 – 12.15 – Q&A session

12.15 – 12.30 – Coffee break

12.30 – 1.45 – **Panel Discussion**

Part II: Basic education and gender equality

- **Dr. Changu Mannathoko**, UNICEF Senior Education Advisor , Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, 2003, *There is no tool for development more effective than the education of girls*
- **Mr. Frederick Rendina** and **Mr. Oren Rudavsky**, filmmakers, authors of the documentary: *What does it take to educate a girl? Right to education and gender equality for all children*

1.45 – 2.15 – Q&A session

2.15 – 3.00 – Refreshments

3.00 – 4.30 – **Panel Discussion**

Part III: Child protection from violence, exploitation and abuse

- **Dr. Pawel Jaros**, former Ombudsman for Children, Poland, *From Korczak's children's rights to ban on corporal punishment of children*
- **Dr. Susan Bissell**, Chief of Child Protection, Program Division, UNICEF, *Protection of Children on the Move including in the context of trafficking*
- **Ms. Jo Becker**, Children's Rights Advocacy Director, Human Rights Watch, *Recent progress and new challenges in protecting children from violence and exploitation*
- **Dr. Yvonne Rafferty**, Professor of Psychology, NY/NGO Representative to the UN, *Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation: A Review of Promising Prevention Policies and Programs*
- **Ms. Raquel Evita Saraswati**, Muslim American activist and writer, *Women and Children in Arab Spring*

4.30 – 5.00 – Q&A session

5.00 – 5.15 – Closing remarks by the Consul General, **Ms. Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka**

5.15 – 6.00 pm – Reception