Dynamic Interpretation of Children's Rights by the Committee on the Rights of the Child and its Integration in Academic Education

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My paper aims to contribute to the Conference's goal of exchanging international good practices and experience in the areas of evidence generation with a focus on concrete examples of evidence-based policy making for children. I will focus on some recent recommendations and general comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child that illustrate how this treaty body appreciates the dynamic nature of children's rights and the need to reflect it in the children's rights education and training. The dynamic nature of children's rights is an issue for all professionals concerned with children's rights, and particularly for those in state institutions responsible for their implementation. Therefore, the shift from a catalogue to a value-based approach is an imperative for the modern higher education. This would enhance the role of universities as ideally positioned to promote the child rights agenda throughout society by engaging in multilevel activities —such as education, training, research, and knowledge generation— that significantly contribute to embedding a culture of child rights in society. I will engage with some thematic areas such as climate change, digital environment, war conflicts, etc. but will address also some current challenges created by the push backs to children's rights.

Another focus of my presentation is to discuss the main results of the Round Table "Modern Trends in Teaching of Children's Rights in Higher Education - challenges, and proposals", organized by UNICEF Bulgaria on 25 November 2024 at the New Bulgarian University. It illustrates the efforts of the national academia to overcome the fragmented nature of child rights education and the major needs to increase its effectiveness in the complex political and cultural context of Bulgaria.

Presentation language: English X Greek

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