



**WEBINAR SERIES**

# Access to *justice* & effective remedies for children whose identity rights have been *contravened*

The Identity Rights Working Group<sup>1</sup>, co-chaired by Child Identity Protection (CHIP) and the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI) is hosting a webinar series dedicated to access to justice and effective remedies for children whose identity rights have been contravened.

It is a follow-up of an expert meeting that brought together several members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC Committee), representatives of UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, academics and persons with lived experience.<sup>2</sup>

The central focus of the series will be to explore the various challenges that arise when Articles 7 and 8 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) are violated and the consequences for access to justice. The child's right to identity is an independent right and is also the gateway for accessing other rights, such as education and healthcare. When children

lack some or all elements of their identity, they are rendered legally invisible making them susceptible to severe forms of human rights violations and unable to enjoy basic rights such as education and healthcare. Relatedly, their ability to access justice and remedies is severely undermined, because their 'lack of (legal) existence' makes it impossible from them to establish legal personality, a basic concept that underscores access to justice. Four webinars each lasting 90 minutes will be held, mirroring the structure of the expert meeting with same themes and experts, where possible.

- 14 nov REGISTER
- 03 dec REGISTER
- 18 fev REGISTER
- 04 mar REGISTER

FURTHER INFORMATION AND SPEAKER BIOS



<sup>1</sup> The Identity Rights Working Group is comprised of several civil society organizations, UN agencies and grass roots organizations working on a plethora of identity rights issues affecting children including birth registration, documentation, nationality, statelessness, and family relations.  
<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.child-identity.org/expert-meeting-with-crc-committee-on-childs-right-to-identity-and-access-to-remedies/>

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WEBINAR 1

# 14 November

(13h00-14h30 CET)

## No justice without identity

(BIRTH REGISTRATION &amp; NATIONALITY)

Arts. 7-8 CRC

This opening webinar will focus on the profound implications imposed on children lacking birth registration, documentation, and access to nationality without discrimination, which came via direct testimony from persons with lived experience.

**MODERATOR** Valeriia Cherednichenko | UNHCR**SPEAKERS****Kirsten Di Martino**  
UNICEF**Terry Kiairie**  
ATD 4<sup>th</sup> World**Armando Augello Cupi**  
Unione Italiana Apolidi**Aleksandra Semeriak**  
European Network on  
Statelessness**Velina Todorova**  
CRC Committee member[REGISTER](#)**MODERATOR****Deneisha Moss**  
ISI**SPEAKERS****Bhaskar Mishra**  
UNICEF**Manito**  
Scalabrini Centre,  
Centre for Child Law**Mikiko Otani**  
CRC Committee member

WEBINAR 2

# 03 December

(13h00-14h30 CET)

## Speedily re-establishing missing elements of children's identity

Art.8 (2)

The second webinar outlines the specific challenges associated with establishing and re-establishing identity, when children are undocumented (e.g. lack legal identity) or deprived of nationality resulting in statelessness. Discussions will revolve around examples in place to facilitate late birth registration and documentation, as well as the key tenets necessary to ensure fair, accessible, child-friendly procedures to access justice.

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## Speedily re-establishing missing elements of children's identity in emergency situations

Art.8 (2) CRC

**SPEAKERS****Karin Heissler**  
UNICEF WCARO**Zoé Bertrand**  
Global Survivors Fund;  
UNHCR**Laura Echeverri**  
UNHCR Colombia**Georgios Kyriakos/Ersi Koi**  
METAdrasi, Family for Every  
Child member**Benoit Van Keirsbilck**  
CRC Committee member

WEBINAR 3

# 18 February 2025

(13h00-14h30 CET)

**MODERATOR** Bina Ramanand | Family Frontiers Malaysia

In this third webinar, discussions and recommendations will centre on challenges around destroyed or inaccessible civil registries and registry officials, births in territories under control of non-state actors, unaccompanied children in migratory contexts, etc. Solutions will focus on robust CRVS systems and international cooperation.

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WEBINAR 4

# 04 March 2025

(13h00-14h30 CET)

**SPEAKERS****Natalie Lewis,**  
Queensland  
Commissioner for  
Children**Lynelle Long**  
InterCountry Adoptee  
Voices**Boonyoung Han  
& Peter Møller**  
Danish Korean  
adoptees**Arthur & Audrey  
Kermalvezen**  
Origines Association**Ann Skelton**  
CRC Committee  
Chairperson

## Right to family relations and access to justice and effective remedies.

The final webinar will focus on the right to family relations against the backdrop of less regulated and emerging developments such as alternative care, adoption, assisted reproductive technologies and surrogacy. To prevent the need for access to justice for violations of right to identity in family relations, discussions will focus on the need to prohibit anonymous practices leading to gaps in information about origins – biological, gestational, legal and social. This requires systematic recording of all relevant elements of the child's identity.

**MODERATOR** Mia Dambach | CHIP