

# Children's and Young People's Rights in the Digital Age

Biographical notes of plenary speakers

## **Magdalena Aguilar**

Magdalena Aguilar is Head of Programme Development at Child Helpline International. Child Helpline International is one of the world's largest collective impact organisations, a network of 183 independent organisations that listen and help children and young people in 142 countries. Magdalena is responsible for managing and coordinating Child Helpline International's programme department with activities in five regions (Africa, America and the Caribbean, Asia Pacific, Europe and Middle East/North Africa). Her work involves programme management, oversight and development, as well as liaison with various key stakeholders. Magdalena has coordinated thematic programmes linked to gender equality, the work of child helplines in conflict zones and child online protection.

## **Susan Bissell**

Susan Bissell's career has focused on the rights of children. Having spent over twenty-five years working in various capacities for UNICEF, as of January 2016 she is leading an emerging [Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children](#). The primary purpose of the partnership is to "end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children." From 2009 to 2015, Dr. Bissell served as Chief of Child Protection in UNICEF's Program Division. Author of a number of research studies, she has worked with UNICEF in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India, Italy (at the Innocenti Research Centre), and New York City, and earned a PhD in public health and medical anthropology from the University of Melbourne in Australia. While completing her doctorate, she joined Trudie Styler and the Bangladeshi film team Catherine and Tareque Masud to produce the documentary "A Kind of Childhood," which has won awards and been screened widely. She holds a BA and MA from the University of Toronto. On behalf of her UNICEF Child Protection colleagues, Susan Bissell has accepted awards including an honorary professorship at Barnard College/Columbia University, the Dr. Jean Mayer Global Citizenship award from Tufts University, the Flambeau D'or from Panathlon International, and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. Last month she served as the week-long honorary Weissberg Chair in International Studies, at Beloit College.

### **Jasmina Byrne**

Jasmina Byrne, Child Protection Specialist, leads [UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti](#)'s work on children's rights in the digital age as well as research on family and parenting support. She has overseen and co-authored several UNICEF studies including family support policies and provision in a global context, child safety online, internet governance and children's rights. Currently, she is one of the leads of the Global Kids Online research initiative. Prior to joining Innocenti, Jasmina was head of UNICEF Child Protection programme in Indonesia. She has 20 years of international experience in managing complex child rights and protection programmes, including research, policy development, programme design and evaluation in South East Asia, Europe and Southern Africa with UNICEF, Save the Children, International Committee of the Red Cross and UN Women. Jasmina's academic background is in international relations, human rights, and social policy.

### **Eva Lievens**

Eva Lievens is an Assistant Professor of Law and Technology at the Law Faculty of Ghent University. From 2003 until 2015, she was a member of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Law & ICT of KU Leuven. She holds a law degree from the University of Ghent (2002), a Masters degree in Transnational Communications and Global Media from Goldsmiths College, London (2003) and a Phd in Law from KU Leuven (2009).

Her research focuses on legal challenges posed by new media and ICT phenomena, with a specific focus on protection of minors in digital media, human and children's rights in the media and information environment, and the use of alternative regulatory instruments, such as self- and co-regulation. She has been a guest professor in the Department of Communication Sciences of Ghent University where she teaches Media Law and Copyright Law since 2013, and at KU Leuven where she teaches Public Government and Cybercrime in the Master of Intellectual Property Rights and ICT Law.

### **Sonia Livingstone**

[Sonia Livingstone](#) is a professor in the [Department of Media and Communications](#) at LSE. Taking a comparative, critical and contextualised approach, her research examines how the changing conditions of mediation are reshaping everyday practices and possibilities for action. She has published twenty books, with a particular focus on online opportunities and

risks for children and young people, media literacy, regulation and children's rights in the digital age. Her new book is [The Class: living and learning in the digital age](#) (2016). Professor Livingstone has advised the UK government, European Commission, Council of Europe and others on children's rights and safety in the digital age. She was awarded the title of Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 2014. She leads the projects [Global Kids Online](#) and [Preparing for a Digital Future](#) and she directed the 33-country network, [EU Kids Online](#). See [www.sonialivingstone.net](http://www.sonialivingstone.net)

### **David Miles**

For the past 30 years, David has held a wide range of executive leadership roles in the technology industry and charitable sector. From international posts in IBM, Compaq and Motorola, to EMEA Director at the Family Online Safety Institute, David brings a unique multi-stakeholder perspective to his work.

He acts as an independent consultant for a number of organisations in the field of online child protection. These currently include Child Helpline International (CHI), as part of the WePROTECT Global Alliance to empower child helplines and better tackle online child sexual exploitation and abuse. David is also an advisor to the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) as part of the UK Governments consultation on the introduction of age verification for minors in relation to sexually explicit content online.

David currently chairs the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) Filtering Working Group which brings together the UK's leading ISPs, mobile operators and public Wi-Fi providers around the deployment of family-friendly network filters.

### **Richard Riley**

Richard Riley is presently Director/Serious and Organised Crime within the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism in the Home Office. He has spent some 23 years as a Home Office civil servant including stints covering immigration, policing and counter terrorism issues; postings as Private Secretary to the Police Minister and Private Secretary to the Home Office Permanent Secretary; and two periods of secondment, including to the Metropolitan Police Service as Director of Strategy.

**Fabio Senne**

Project Coordinator at the Regional Center for Studies on the Development of the Information Society (Cetic.br). Master's degree in Communication from University of Brasília (UnB), Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences from University of Sao Paulo (USP). Communication researcher, interested in the roles played by information and communication technologies within civil society, accountability of governments and public policies. Responsible for thematic media analysis conducted by News Agency for Children's Rights (ANDI). Collaborated with the Center for the Study on Media and Politics (NEMP) at University of Brasilia.

**Mariya Stoilova**

Post-doctoral Research Officer at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and a Lecturer in Psychosocial Studies at Birkbeck, University of London. With a strong focus on multi-method analyses, cross-country comparative approaches, and psychosocial research, Mariya's work covers the areas of digital technologies and the internet; citizenship, rights and social inequalities; well-being and family support; social change and transformations of intimate life. Some of the research projects she has been recently involved in include: Global Kids Online (2015-16, UNICEF); An Evaluation of Separated Parenting Information Programme (SPIP Plus) (2013-14, CAF/CASS); Living Apart Together: a Multi-Method Analysis (2011-13, ESRC), Gendered Citizenship in Multicultural Europe (FEMCIT) (2007-11, EU) and Gender and Generation: Women's Experiences of the Transition from Socialism in Bulgaria (2004-08, ORSAS and Open Society).

**Amanda Third**

Associate Professor Amanda Third (PhD) is Principal Research Fellow in the Institute for Culture and Society at the Western Sydney University, Australia. Amanda's research focuses on the socio-cultural dimensions of young people's technology use, with emphases on children's rights in the digital age, the intergenerational dynamics shaping technology practice, and vulnerable young people's technological engagements. Since 2010, Amanda has led a Research Program in the Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre ([youngandwellcrc.org.au](http://youngandwellcrc.org.au)), which investigates how to better connect vulnerable young people with their communities by enhancing and leveraging their technology practices and their creative engagements. In 2014, she led the Children's Rights in the Digital Age project. Amanda is also Chief Investigator

on an Australian Research Council project entitled 'Young People, Technology and Wellbeing Research Facility'. She has been a member of the Australian-based 'Technology and Wellbeing Cross-Sector Roundtable' since 2008.

### **Jenny Thomas**

Jenny Thomas, Head of Policy and Communications, has worked at Child Rights International Network (CRIN) for 10 years. She joined CRIN when it was part of Save the Children and supported its move to independence and subsequent growth. In particular she has helped shape CRIN's policy positions on difficult and sensitive areas of children's rights, including issues of consent and autonomy, and children's rights in the digital environment. She believes in the potential of networks - without ego, without hierarchy - for having a disproportionate impact. She speaks Spanish and Persian and previously worked in journalism and children's rights in Latin America.